

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

Minutes of a meeting of the Police Authority held at Leicestershire Police Headquarters, Enderby on Tuesday 3 November 2009

Present

Mr P Brown, Dr S Chowdhury, Mr U Dholakia, Mr B Greaves, Dr S Hill, Mrs W Martin, Mrs D Newton, Mr J Orson, Mr D Prince, Mr B Rhodes, Mrs A Roberts, Mr B Roper, Mr D Snartt and Mr M Sood.

Officers

Mrs A Perry (Deputy Chief Executive), Mr C Smith (Treasurer), Mrs S Hoare (Engagement and Communications Officer) and Mrs L Salmon (Members' Services Officer).

Representatives from the Constabulary

Mr C Eyre (Temporary Chief Constable, Mr M Goodwin (Temporary Deputy Chief Constable), Mr G Fraser (Assistant Chief Constable (Crime)), Ms W Yeadon (Temporary Assistant Chief Constable (Operations)) and Ms A Naylor (Director of Human Resources).

Mr B Rhodes – in the Chair

80/09. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr D Bill, Mr W Naylor, Mr T Render, Mr R Swinfield (Chief Executive) and Mr P Dawkins (Finance Director).

81/09. Items of Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.

82/09. Declarations of Code of Conduct Interests

The Chairman invited members who wished to do so to make declarations of any Code of Conduct interests in respect of items on the agenda for the meeting. No such declarations were made.

83/09. Minutes of Meetings held on 27 August 2009 and 13 October 2009

The minutes of the Special Police Authority meeting held on 13 October 2009 were tabled. Mr Greaves stated that in the Chairman's summing up at the meeting on 13 October 2009, reference was made to the desirability of restoring funding for the 101 service. With this amendment the minutes of the meeting on 13 October 2009 were agreed.

The minutes of the meetings held on 27 August 2009, distributed with the agenda, were agreed.

84/09. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

85/09. Performance Report 1 April 2009 – 30 September 2009

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Constable presenting Force performance against targets since 1 April 2009. A copy of the report marked 'A' is filed with the minutes.

The Temporary Chief Constable made the following comments on the performance report:-

- The Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) was addressing the South BCU's decline in satisfaction performance through service improvement.
- The CRAVE data for Force performance against the overarching confidence measure did not show the same trajectory of improvement as the British Crime Survey however the quarter April to June had seen an increase to 52%.
- The sanction detection rate for serious acquisitive crime was slightly down on last month however performance on all BCUs was below expected profile. A Detective Chief Inspector had been allocated to address this.
- Changes to Home Office classifications would impact on overall figures for knife crime as a number of offences had been removed from this category.
- The Constabulary was on target to achieve the six Local Objectives set for 2009/10.
- It was expected that the overall PURE score would be 3 and if so this would be an excellent achievement.

Members welcomed the achievements outlined in the report.

Members commented that information on the serious acquisitive crime rate provided in the report differed to information that had been provided at BCU level as there were 'hotspots' which were not easily identified when data was averaged across the whole BCU. The Temporary Chief Constable stated that BCUs examined figures on a daily basis to identify issues at local level and the Authority's Performance Panel would also receive data at LPU level.

In response to a query regarding the decline in the recruitment of BME officers, the Director of Human Resources informed members that work was being undertaken with communities to identify ways of supporting potential candidates as many were choosing alternative careers. She added that the future challenge for the Constabulary would be to have BME representation across all ranks in order to provide support and positive role models. The Temporary Chief Constable stated that the small number of recruits now coming in provided less opportunity to increase the percentage of BME officers.

Members queried whether there would be any implications arising from the 'Total Place' area of work. The Temporary Deputy Chief Constable stated that the aim was to improve service whilst saving money and had brought together representatives and resources from health, police, county, city and districts to examine the effect of drugs and alcohol on all public services and their relation to confidence and anti-social behaviour. He added that the final report was due to be submitted in February 2010 and it was too soon to identify specific outcomes. Mr Brown commented that there had been police opposition to investment in a 'wet centre' to reduce the number of people drinking around the railway station. The Temporary Deputy Chief Constable stated that he would look into this.

The Chairman informed members that he had been invited to join a Public Services Board for the city and county where the major theme to be addressed was alcohol. He added that the issue of drunks in the street in the city had been raised by City Councillors and he intended to take this forward at the Board.

Members commented that it would be useful to receive context around how the Constabulary's performance compared nationally and the action the Constabulary was taking in relation to issues highlighted in the report. The Temporary Chief Constable stated that this would be taken forward through the Authority's Performance Panel and members would be provided with data at BCU and LPU level.

Members raised the issue of having discussion with BCU and LPU Commanders on performance data from iQuanta and the difficulty this presented when BCU and LPU Commanders did not use data provided through the iQuanta site. The Temporary Chief Constable stated that the information supplied to BCU and LPU Commanders could also be provided to members to aid meaningful discussions and that the issue would be considered at the Performance Panel.

It was RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

Mr Orson left during consideration of this item.

86/09. Police Authority Council Tax Leaflet 2010/11

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Executive seeking approval for the proposed approach to the production of the Authority's Council Tax leaflet 2010/11. A copy of the report marked 'B' is filed with the minutes.

It was RESOLVED:

- (i) that a consultation questionnaire be included in the Authority's Council Tax Leaflet for 2010/11;
- (ii) the leaflet continue to be contained within the booklet produced by Leicester City Council and Rutland County Council for 2010/11, and thereafter if cost effective; and
- (iii) the leaflet be contained within a joint booklet produced in conjunction with Leicestershire County Council and the Fire Authority for 2010/11, and thereafter if cost effective.

87/09. Local Objectives 2010/11

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Executive outlining the process for setting the local objectives for the year 2010/11. A copy of the report marked 'C' is filed with the minutes.

The Deputy Chief Executive informed members that an additional Members' Discussion Day had been arranged for 14 January 2010.

It was RESOLVED to agree the timetable outlined in paragraph 4 of the report.

88/09. Member Development Interviews

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Executive providing an update on the Member Development Interview process and suggesting a new approach for 2010. A copy of the report marked 'D' is filed with the minutes.

The Chair of the Standards Committee stated that involvement in all 17 members' development interviews would be a heavy workload and would need to be shared with the other lay member of the Committee if this proposal was adopted.

Members commented that:

- The proposed new regime did not allow for members to identify areas in which their current skills were utilised and the contribution they could make to the work of the Authority.
- Whilst Member Development Interviews were important, the process needed to justify the resources required.

- The process for 2010 should include achievements and developments in the context of the Strategic Plan and the commitment to be more involved in BCU, LPU, CDRP activities and contact with the public and partners.

It was RESOLVED:

- (i) to continue with the current system for 2010 and include achievements and developments in relation to the Strategic Plan and partners; and
- (ii) to review the Scheme again next year and to take account of the outcome of the Derbyshire pilot regarding the proposed approach to underperformance and implementation.

89/09. Police Authority Inspection - Update

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Executive providing an update on the inspection of Leicestershire Police Authority by the Audit Committee and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC). A copy of the report marked 'E' is filed with the minutes.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated that the report was expected by the end of the week and would be forwarded to members as soon as received.

It was RESOLVED to note the current position.

*3.25 p.m. – the Head of Procurement and Support Services
and the Force Cleaning Manager joined the meeting.*

90/09. Flanagan Pilot Benefits Realisation

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Constable outlining the benefits realised by the Constabulary following participation in two pilots arising from Sir Ronnie Flanagan's Review of Policing. A copy of the report marked 'F' is filed with the minutes.

Members commented that community resolution did not count as a sanction detection. The Temporary Chief Constable stated that this approach allowed more resources to be directed towards detecting serious acquisitive crime and improving satisfaction. He stated that any increase in the level of reporting of minor crime would reduce the sanction detection rate.

It was RESOLVED to:

- (i) note the contents of the report; and
- (ii) provide a briefing to Members of Parliament outlining the benefits realised from the two pilots.

91/09. Chief Constable Recruitment

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Executive outlining the recruitment process for Leicestershire's next Chief Constable. A copy of the report marked 'G' is filed with the minutes.

The Deputy Chief Executive informed members that four applications had been received for the position of Chief Constable.

The Chairman of the Authority stated that he would be attending a meeting of the Senior Appointments Panel.

It was RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

92/09. Confidence/Prevent Briefings to Councillors

The Authority considered a joint report of the Chairman and Chief Executive informing members of briefings on 'Confidence' and 'Prevent' currently being provided to local Councillors by the Chairman of the Authority and Chief Superintendent Nixon. A copy of the report marked 'H' is filed with the minutes.

It was RESOLVED to note the contents of the report.

93/09. East Midlands Collaboration

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Executive outlining the latest position regarding regional collaboration projects and seeking confirmation of approval for the proposal for a Deputy Chief Constable to lead the Collaboration Programme Team. A copy of the report marked 'I' is filed with the minutes.

The Chairman of the Authority informed members that although Derbyshire Constabulary would be the employing body for the regional Deputy Chief Constable, all five authorities would be responsible for governance.

It was RESOLVED to adopt the proposal to appoint a Deputy Chief Constable to head the Regional Collaboration Programme Team.

94/09. Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was RESOLVED that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds specified on the agenda.

95/09. Exception to Contract Standing Orders – Acceptance of other than lowest quotation

(Exempt by virtue of para 3 of the Act – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person including the Authority)

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Constable seeking approval to accept a quotation for a new contract for the provision of cleaning services which was not the most competitive quotation received. A copy of the report marked 'J' is filed with the minutes.

It was RESOLVED to approve the dispensation as outlined in the report.

CHAIRMAN

2.00 p.m. – 3.58 p.m.
3 November 2009