

**Cumbria Police Authority**

**23 March 2010  
Agenda Item No 6**

Report by the Chief Executive

**POLICE AUTHORITY ISSUES**

**(a) Constabulary Boards**

At the meeting of the Authority on 19 January 2010 representatives and named substitutes were appointed to a number of Constabulary Boards, including the Sustainability and Excellence Board to which Elizabeth Barraclough was appointed as the representative with Andy Hampshire as substitute.

Ms Barraclough has now been offered a place on the Constabulary's Mobile Working Group. It is suggested that the Authority agrees to the appointment of Ms Barraclough to this Group and that this is balanced by a reversal of Ms Barraclough and Mr Hampshire's roles on the Sustainability and Excellence Board.

**Recommended:** That

1. Ms Barraclough be appointed to represent the Authority on the Constabulary's Mobile Working Group; and
2. Mr Hampshire be appointed as the Authority's representative on the Constabulary's Sustainability and Excellence Board with Miss Barraclough as substitute.

**(b) Police Authority Regulatory Reform**

Members will recall that at the January meeting of the Police Authority it was reported that the Home Office were conducting a short notice consultation, ending on 15 January, on a number of draft 'statutory instruments'. These 'statutory instruments' set out the proposed new requirements on police authorities following the Home Office's White Paper 'Protecting the Public: Supporting the Police to Succeed'. They defined how authorities operate in specific areas such as complaints received by the police force, ensuring value for money, obtaining the public's views and appointing its Members.

The new Regulations were subsequently laid by the Home Office and are due to come into effect on 17 March 2010. For Members' information they are –

The Policing Plan (Amendment) Regulations 2010  
The Police Authorities (Particular Functions and Transitional Provisions) (Amendment) Order 2010  
The Police Authority (Community Engagement and Membership) Regulations 2010

Copies were sent to all Members on 8 March by e-mail.

**Recommended:** That the report be noted.

Clive Alcock

15 March 2010

**Chief Executive.**

**Race, Diversity and Gender Implications:** None known.

**Human Rights Act Implications:** None known.

**Background documents:** Reports to, and Minutes of, the meeting of the Police Authority on 19 January.  
The Policing Plan (Amendment) Regulations 2010  
The Police Authorities (Particular Functions and Transitional Provisions) (Amendment) Order 2010  
The Police Authority (Community Engagement and Membership) Regulations 2010

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**(c) Embedded Governance**

Members will recall that at the Strategic Planning Event on 5 November 2009 there was an initial discussion with the Chief Constable about the principle of introducing embedded governance in Cumbria. This was further developed with a joint presentation to Members by the Chief Executive and the Chief Constable before the December meeting of the full Police Authority. The Chief Executive undertook further investigations and exploratory work on the proposal and Members were appointed to an Embedded Governance Working Group in January of this year. Also in January Members were appointed to key Constabulary Boards as follows –

- Senior Managers Forum
- Confidence Board
- People Board
- Sustainability and Excellence Board
- Strategic Training Board

The embedded governance proposal was further considered at the Inspections Working Group on 17 February 2010 (Agenda Item No.19). However, this time the proposal was considered in the context of the Authority's capacity to take forward the development following the retirement of the Chief Executive at the end of March, together with the need to review the benefits of Member involvement in the Constabulary's new Board structure based on experience over a number of meetings and any governance issues arising from the inspection of the Police Authority in June.

Members concluded that progression of the embedded governance proposal should be deferred to allow it to be re-assessed in the light of experience and any pertinent issues arising from the inspection of the Authority. However Members were anxious that the development of a finance mechanism was progressed and that is the subject of a separate report on the Agenda (Agenda Item No.8)

**Recommended:** That the recommendation from the Inspection Working Group that the progression of the embedded governance proposal be endorsed.

**(d) Carlisle and Eden Joint Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership  
Scrutiny Panel**

At its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009, the Authority agreed that it would work with the district councils in Carlisle and Eden, alongside the County Council, to look at the development of a joint committee to scrutinise the effectiveness of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) in that area. Members had been keen for the Authority to be involved in this process, not only because of its desire to ensure that partnership working in this area is effective but also because of the potential for duplication of work already being done by the Police Authority in fulfilment of its statutory role of scrutinising Constabulary performance and procedures. Members felt that this represented a good 'pilot' to develop the Authority's links with the council scrutiny process and a possible model for the rest of the county, if it found that this was a valuable use for resources for the Authority.

A workshop was held on 15<sup>th</sup> March and attended by an Authority member, Mrs Egan, with support from the Policy and Performance Officer. This meeting finalised the terms of reference for the new committee and it was agreed that the Authority would have one voting member on the panel. It is expected to have its first meeting in May or June and to hold training beforehand, for which the Authority has offered to share its experience of providing training on risk management and scrutiny skills.

The Authority nominated scrutiny champions for each district area within the county at its June 2009 meeting. Their role was to develop the Authority's involvement in council scrutiny in that area. At that stage, Members agreed that this would not necessarily be the Member who was nominated to the scrutiny committee. The champion for Carlisle is Mr Watson and for Eden is Mrs Maes.

**Recommended:** That Members nominate a Member to represent them on the Carlisle and Eden Joint Scrutiny Committee.

#### **(e) Police Authority Corporate Plan Task and Finish Group**

At the Strategic Planning Event on 17 March 2010 Members began the process of reviewing the Authority's Corporate Plan. The process will end with the submission of the finalised Corporate Plan to the full Police Authority in June for approval. At the Strategic Planning Event Members considered that the best way to progress the review was to establish a Task and Finish Group. Members are now asked to endorse that view and appoint Members to a Task and Finish Group.

**Recommended:** That Members be appointed to a Task and Finish Group to progress the review of the Authority's Corporate Plan.

**Clive Alcock**  
Chief Executive.

**16 March 2010**

**Race, Diversity and Gender Implications:** None known.  
**Human Rights Act Implications:** None known.

**Risk Management Implications:** Council scrutiny committees could scrutinise areas which the Authority has already investigated and make recommendations counter to the decisions of the Authority or Constabulary, causing confusion for the Constabulary about who they are accountable to or require additional resources of either organisation. There is also a risk that attending council scrutiny committees to answer questions could require significant resources, especially if scrutiny is not co-ordinated across the county.

**Feedback from the Public:** None known.

**Background documents:** Minutes of, the meeting of the Police Authority on 19 January 2010 and the Inspections Working Group on 17 February 2010.

Report to Police Authority on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009, Item 9 and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009, Item 6.