

CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cumbria Police Authority Programme Management Working Group held on Tuesday 25 October 2005 at Police Headquarters, Penrith commencing at 10 a.m.

PRESENT

Mrs C A Egan (Chair)

Mr M Ash

Mr A L Barry

Mr J Nicholson

Also present:

Director of the Information Directorate (Mr N Parry)
Programme Manager (Insp D Willetts)
Administration Manager (Mrs L Rowbotham)

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting and introduced Mr Nathan Parry, the Constabulary's Director of Information Directorate. Mr Parry had to leave for another meeting and it was agreed that he present his report on the Information Management Programme as the first item of business.

13. PROJECT STATUS MATRIX

The Constabulary's Director of Information Directorate reported to Members on the Information Management Programme. He informed Members that the Constabulary's overarching aim was to ensure that information management systems were put in place in line with the Bichard recommendations. Mr Parry outlined the work on the Record Management System (RMS) and informed Members that a report had been submitted to Chief Officer Group and similarly would be submitted to the next full Police Authority recommending that the implementation of RMS be deferred. The decision would be reconsidered when the outcome of the Police Force Structure Review by the Home Office was known and information had been obtained regarding the compatibility of the RMS system with those used by other Forces. He informed Members that there would be no cost to the Authority if the decision was deferred and that the position would be closely monitored.

The Members thanked Mr Parry for his report.

(Note: Mr Parry left the meeting at 10.15 a.m.)

14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Watson, Mrs L Slavin, Mr C Alcock Clerk & Chief Executive, Mrs H Thompson Programme Manager and Superintendent M Connolly, Programme Director.

15. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

The following Members declared a personal but not prejudicial interest in the section entitled 'Carlisle Redevelopment' contained within the Project Status Matrix:

Mr M Ash – Member of Cumbria County Council
Mr A L Barry – Member of Cumbria County Council
Mrs C A Egan - Magistrate Member of the Carlisle Bench
Mr J Nicholson – Member of Cumbria County Council

16. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Working Group held on Tuesday 13 September 2005 had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the meeting of the Working Group held on 13 September 2005 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

13. PROJECT STATUS MATRIX (continued)

A table outlining the current status of the major projects being worked on by the Constabulary's Programme Management Unit had been circulated to all Members with the agenda for the meeting.

Inspector Willetts handed out a set of papers which sought to update Members on projects contained within the Status Matrix.

Airwave

Insp. Willetts informed Members that the project was progressing and that on 21 November Airwave would be 'going live' in South BCU. He reported that the recently installed Airwave system in vehicles and West BCU were going well.

SICCS (Software Integrated Communications Control System)

Insp. Willetts advised that an exit strategy was being prepared and that the project management for SICCS would shortly be moving to NMIS. Problems had been encountered but these were being rectified by Cedar who are the software providers.

Members suggested that as the outcome of the Home Office Police Restructuring becomes clearer it would be helpful to have an extra column in the matrix to show which systems were being used by other Forces for comparison purposes.

NMIS

Inspector Willetts informed Members that the status of this project was still 'red'. Problems are continuing with Northgate, the supplier, who are unable to meet deadlines.

Members queried the status of the funding for this project. Inspector Willetts undertook to progress and report back to the next meeting.

Telephony

Insp. Willetts informed Members that the replacement of the Telephony system had been put on hold. A single non-emergency number (NEN) was being progressed and would be in place by November. The NEN had been included in the telephone directories for Cumbria

He informed Members that the impact of the non-emergency number on the Communications Centre would be reviewed on a regular basis.

Promat

Inspector Willetts reported that the project was progressing well, should be completed in three months and would soon be removed from the Matrix.

Business Continuity

Inspector Willetts informed Members that the aim of this project was to consider how critical services would be delivered in an emergency. It was currently at the scoping out stage.

Members raised various queries and asked that some framework information be made available.

Citizen Focus

Insp. Willetts referred to the additional papers he had tabled at the beginning of the meeting which sought to update Members on the status of Neighbourhood Policing. The Readiness Assessment report was divided into four headings and included colour coded sections which gave an indication of the progress made in different areas of the project. The results of the HMIC assessment were good and showed 29 'green', 5 'ambers' and one 'red' area. He informed Members that the one red area was awarded because there was no transparent abstraction policy in place for LPT officers. The new shift arrangements for officers in Cumbria was being improved which would allow the Force and BCUs to arrange the deployment of officers more effectively.

He explained that the abstraction policy was being worked on and would be recommended to the Constabulary's Chief Officer Group.

At BCU level the two main areas of work required for development that resulted in the amber gradings were around BCU Mangement Board for NP and Community

intelligence development within the National Intelligence Model. Inspector Willetts commented that although a project team existed at Force level there was a need for a team at BCU level. South BCU Commander was putting together a project team to drive work forward at a local level and it was anticipated that the grading awarded would be green at the next assessment.

Inspector Willetts explained that, as a pilot, a one page survey was to be sent out to discover where public priorities lie. The completed surveys would be anonymous, although respondents would be requested to provide information relating to post code, age and ethnicity. Each survey would show a picture of each area local community officer with a contact telephone number.

Members thanked Inspector Willetts for the work undertaken in this project.

NSPIS Custody/Case Preparation

Inspector Willetts reported that the system had gone live in Kendal on 4 October 2005 and no problems had been encountered. The installation of the system in North Cumbria had been delayed because of the events earlier in the year and this in turn could delay rollout of the whole system in Cumbria.

Activity Based Costing (ABC)

Insp. Willetts informed Members that a report would be submitted to the next Audit and Performance Committee and would show that the project was working well.

He informed Members that the project was being moved from Programme Management Unit to Strategic Development.

Carlisle Police Station, Rickergate

Inspector Willetts was unable to update Members on the position regarding Rickergate as a decision had not yet been made.

Members expressed their concern at the level of parking outside the Citadel and suggested that action should be taken to legitimise the parking arrangements. Inspector Willetts undertook to pass on their concerns.

Members thanked the Programme Manager for his reports.

18. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED, that the Programme Management Working Group would meet on the following dates, commencing at 10 a.m:-

Thursday 5 January 2006
Wednesday 8 March 2006
Wednesday 14 June 2006

The meeting ended at 11.25