

**CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cumbria Police Authority held at 1.00p.m. on Tuesday 22 March 2005 at Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith.

**PRESENT**

Mr R Watson (Chairman)

Mrs K E Brandwood

Ms S E Donnelly

Mrs C A Egan

Mr T Heslop

Mrs M Johnson

Ms J Manners- Armstrong

Mr C S Moth

Mr J Nicholson

Mrs L L Shaw

Mrs L Slavin

Mr W Smith

Mr I Stewart

Mr A R M Toft

Mr J Woolley

**PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**127. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr G Humes and Ms J Lashmar.

**128. URGENT BUSINESS AND EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**(a) Urgent Business**

The Chairman advised Members that he intended to take an item on the disposal of Hill Top Radio Sites as a matter of urgent of business as the sites were surplus to the Constabulary's requirements.

**(b) Admission of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED,** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the press and public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of the Agenda Item "Hill Top Radio Sites" on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the act.

**129. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

There were no disclosures of personal interest.

### **130. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 10 February 2005 had been circulated with the Agenda for the meeting.

Mrs L L Shaw asked that her name be added to the list of Members declaring personal but not prejudicial interests in relation to Carlisle Police Station, Rickergate, Carlisle, as set out at Minute No.122.

**RESOLVED,** that with the above amendment the Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 10 February 2005 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **5. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Professional Standards Committee held on 26 January 2005, which had been circulated with the Agenda for the meeting, were presented by the Chair.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **6. COMMUNITY AND RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

The Chair submitted the Minutes of the Community and Race Relations Committee held on 31 January 2005 to the Authority for consideration.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **133. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

The Chairman presented the Minutes of the two meetings of the Personnel Committee held on 3 February 2005.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **8. STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Standards Committee presented the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 February 2005.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **135. POLICING PLAN AND BEST VALUE COMMITTEE**

The Chair of the Committee presented the Minutes of the meeting of the Policing Plan and Best Value Committee held on 24 February 2005. In doing so he specifically drew Members attention to work currently being undertaken to ensure the alignment of the planning and budget cycles in future years.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **136. AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE**

The Chair presented the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Performance Committee held on 3 March 2005.

The Chair commended to the Authority the level of performance highlighted in the presentation to the Committee on the subject of offences brought to justice and also the excellent work being undertaken on Performance Management Information by the Constabulary, reported as part of a separate presentation on that subject. The Chief Constable suggested that Performance Management would make a suitable topic for a future seminar to the Authority.

The Chair then raised the concerns expressed by Members of the Committee that no mechanism existed to notify Members in advance of all the inspections taking place and then to feed back the outcomes of those inspections. The Chief Constable informed the Authority that he had requested a list of all future inspections from inspecting bodies and he undertook to share that list with the Authority.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **137. CONSULTATION WORKING GROUP**

The Chair of the Working Group presented the Minutes of the meeting of the Consultation Working Group held on 22 February 2005. The Working Group had focussed on the draft Annual Report, the draft Annual Policing Plan and the latest draft of the Joint Consultation Strategy.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **138. ACCOMMODATION WORKING GROUP**

The Chair presented the Minutes of the Accommodation Working Group held on 25 February 2005.

The Chair of the Working Group advised that issues considered at the meeting had included accommodation needs in Carlisle, accommodation for LPT's and developments at Headquarters to accommodate IPLDP.

**RESOLVED,** that the Minutes be received.

### **139. MEMBERS REPORT BACK**

Mr Stewart reported his attendance at a meeting of the CDRP County-Wide Group at Penrith on 15 February 2005. It had been a positive experience to see people and organisations working together in partnership. The Constabulary was devoting finance and effort into developing the partnership and he hoped that the other partners would also contribute resources to make the partnership more successful.

Mr Watson reported that he and the Clerk/Chief Executive had attended the Cumbria Leadership Group and whilst the meeting had been better than the previous one he had attended he was still waiting to see clear outcomes.

The Chief Constable advised that the Constabulary was fully engaged with the CDRP's, though at the present time some were more active in certain areas than others and there was a need to ensure that all the CDRP's were acting in the same areas. He had asked the Assistant Chief Constable (Organisational Development and Partnerships) to look at this area. He also suggested that it might be appropriate to hold a seminar on partnerships, and in particular CDRP's, prior to a future meeting.

Mr Stewart advised that he had been invited to sit on the "Door Step Crime Group" which was to be attended by various bodies including the Police and Fire Service.

Mrs Egan reported on her recent attendance at APA Local Priority Setting Meetings. She had forwarded relevant papers to the Clerk and Chief Executive. The Constabulary had the option of being a practice force in this area, and the Assistant Chief Constable (Organisational Development and Partnerships) advised that the Constabulary had requested additional information before coming to a decision.

Mr Moth informed Members that he had attended a meeting of the APA Complaints Network, now renamed the Professional Standards Network, on 21 February 2005. He would be submitting a detailed report of the meeting to the next meeting of the Authority's Professional Standards Committee.

Mrs Slavin reported that she and the Chairman had attended the first Constabulary Performance Development Conference which she considered to have been both an interesting and positive event. The next conference would be held in April.

The Chief Constable advised that the Performance Development Conference would provide the basis for a future seminar for the Authority on Performance Management.

#### **140. POLICE AUTHORITY ISSUES**

##### **(a) Constabulary Working Groups**

The Authority was asked to consider appointing Members to various Working Groups established by the Constabulary.

**RESOLVED,** that,

- (i) Mrs C A Egan, as Police Authority Design Champion, and Mrs L L Shaw, as Chair of the Accommodation Working Group, be appointed to the Carlisle Police Station Project Board;
- (ii) The Chairman and the Chief Constable to discuss the possibility of allocating an additional place on the Project Board for the Chairman;
- (iii) Ms J L Lashmar be appointed to the Constabulary Race and Diversity Programme Board; and a decision on appointing representatives to the Race, Gender, Sexual Orientation, Disability, Age, Religion and Race and Diversity, Business Area Groups be deferred until the Annual Meeting of the Authority in June.

##### **(b) Home Office PPAF Consultation Seminars, April 2005**

A series of free seminars designed to consult Police Authorities and Forces on the methods of analysis and assessment to be used in the Policing Performance Assessment Framework (PPAF) had been organised by the Home Office to be held during April 2005.

**RESOLVED,** that Mrs C A Egan and the Authority's Performance Management and Policy Officer attend a seminar, the date of attendance to be agreed with the Chief Constable to co-ordinate Authority and Force attendance.

##### **(c) ACPO Annual Conference 2005 - 17-19 May, Birmingham**

**RESOLVED,** that the Chairman and one other Member be authorised to attend the ACPO Annual Conference on 17-19 May 2005 in Birmingham.

**(d) Police Authority Self Assessment and Improvement Framework (PASAIF)**

The Clerk and Chief Executive reported that the initial stage of the PASAIF process had been completed between 28 January and 1 February 2005 when three groups of Members had met to carry out group assessment of the Authority's current position, gaps in its ambitions and achievement. These meetings had been facilitated by the Authority's Officers, attended by a representative of the Constabulary and, in two instances, moderated by a Clerk from another Police Authority.

The second stage of the process was for the same groups to reconvene to address how the gaps identified at the first meeting could be remedied and the creation of an action plan for each of the three thematic headings, namely Leadership and Strategic Planning; Community Engagement; and Performance Management. Unfortunately attendance at these meetings held between 14 and 16 March 2005, had been insufficient to enable their conclusions to be seen as definitive. This was particularly so as PASAIF was dependant on a high level of Member involvement and commitment. He therefore asked Members to consider an alternative way forward.

At the same time it was noted that the framework to which the Authority was working had yet to be finalised, and it was anticipated that this would occur at the meeting of the APA Plenary to be held on 23 March 2005. A copy of the briefing paper being considered at the APA Plenary had been circulated to all Members. Any changes to the framework would be reported to Members in due course.

Members considered that the best way forward with the PASAIF framework within Cumbria would be to convene an "Away day" style event for all Members at which the three draft action plans would be reconsidered and developed with the involvement of most Members of the Authority.

**RESOLVED,**           that,

- (i)     An "Away day" be convened in order to conclude the PASAIF action planning process; and
- (ii)    the APA briefing paper be noted.

**141. DRAFT ANNUAL POLICING PLAN 2005/06**

A draft of the Authority's Annual Policing Plan for 2005/06 had been submitted to the Policing Plan and Best Value Committee on 24 February. The Committee had approved the plan for submission to, and approval by, the full Authority.

The Plan had to be “issued” by 31 March and the Authority was asked to formally approve the Plan, a copy of which had been circulated to Members..

**RESOLVED,** that the Annual Policing Plan 2005/06 be approved for issue by 31 March 2005.

#### **142. CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY AND CUMBRIA CONSTABULARY DRAFT STRATEGY PLAN 2005/08**

The second draft of the Authority and Constabulary Strategy Plan 2005/08 had been submitted to the Policing Plan and Best Value Committee on 24 February when it had been approved for submission to the Home Office by 28 February, prior to issue, in accordance with the Home Office guidance.

Subsequently the Strategy Plan had been further updated and an amended version had been circulated with the Agenda for the meeting for approval by the Authority.

If approved the Strategy Plan would be published on the Constabulary and Authority websites by 31 March and a fully designed hard copy version would be published by 30 June 2005.

**RESOLVED,** that the Cumbria Police Authority and Cumbria Constabulary Strategy Plan 2005/08 be approved for publication on 31 March 2005.

#### **143. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

The Treasurer introduced a report prepared jointly with the Chief Constable, the purpose of which was to report on the Treasury Management Activities which had taken place between December 2004 and February 2005, as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

**RESOLVED,** that the report be noted.

#### **144. THREE YEAR REVENUE AND CAPITAL SETTLEMENTS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

The Treasurer submitted a report which provided an executive summary of the Government proposals to introduce three year financial settlements for Local Government from April 2006. Also circulated was the copy of the response made by the Police Authority Treasurers’ Society which represented the collective views of police Authority Treasurers.

**RESOLVED,** that the report be received and the response submitted by the Police Authority Treasurers' Society to the Office of Deputy Prime Minister in relation to the consultation on proposals to introduce three year Revenue and Capital Settlements Local Government from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 be noted.

#### **145. CONSTABULARY ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

The Chief Constable presented a report, appended to which, for Members information, were organisational structure charts for the Constabulary. Changes to the portfolios held by the Chief Officers had recently taken place and the structure had been aligned to reflect local governance and resilience issues together with the national police reform and criminal justice agendas.

**RESOLVED,** that the report and organisational structures be noted.

#### **146. ACCOMMODATION NEEDS FOR THE INITIAL POLICE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (IPLDP)**

The Deputy Chief Constable presented a report by the Treasurer and Chief Constable the purpose of which was to provide a summary of the IPLDP initiative and to set out the estimated cost of the programme for Members information. The report also provided an update in relation to external funding from the Home Office for the programme.

Members were asked to approve the proposed capital expenditure so as to provide a local infrastructure within which IPLDP could operate.

In response to points raised by Members the Treasurer clarified that the Authority was being asked to approve an increase in the capital budget of £440,000, and he reminded Members that at the February budget meeting they had agreed to the establishment of an earmarked reserve in anticipation of costs to be incurred in preparation for IPLDP.

**RESOLVED,** that

- (i) the report be noted;
- (ii) the funding being provided by the Home Office to support IPLDP be noted;
- (iii) the estimated capital costs be approved, as required by the Authority's Financial Regulations;

- (iv) the suggested appropriations from earmarked reserves to support the expenditure be approved; and
- (v) the impact on the Constabulary budget in 2005/06 and the ongoing commitments in future financial years be noted.

#### **147. CHIEF CONSTABLE'S PERIODIC REPORT**

The Chief Constable referred to the content of his report, which had been circulated in advance to all Members. He informed Members that the style of his report was slightly amended from previous editions and would change further for the June meeting as he intended that its presentation reflect the PPAF domains.

Amongst matters highlighted by the chief Constable were the nomination of Special Constable Edwin Wilson for the Ferrers Trophy for his contribution to policing in Workington town centre. He also highlighted for Members the fact that the Communications Centre, which had now been in operation for a year, had demonstrated its worth during the storms of early January, when on 8 January 1600 incidents had been reported (usual daily total 600-700), and 14000 calls were received (usually 2500 per day). In concluding he advised Members that he had agreed a change to the system of awards and recognition to simplify and harmonise the process.

**RESOLVED,** that the report be received.

#### **PART TWO – ITEM CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

#### **148. HILL TOP RADIO SITES**

The Deputy Chief Constable presented a report concerning the disposal of three hill top radio sites currently owned by the Authority which were now surplus to its requirements. The proposals had been considered and agreed by the Accommodation Working Group.

**RESOLVED,** that the disposal of the three hill top radio sites be approved.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairman thanked all those Members who would not be standing for re-election in the forth-coming County Council elections for their contribution to the Authority. He also extended his best wishes to all those Members who were seeking re-election.

The meeting ended at 2.20 pm

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED