

CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY

POLICING PLAN AND BEST VALUE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Policing Plan and Best Value Committee held on Wednesday 26 April 2006 in Conference Room 2, Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith commencing at 1.30pm.

PRESENT

Mrs C A Egan
Mrs P M Halfpenny
Mr W Smith

Mr R Watson
Mr J Woolley

Also present:

Assistant Chief Constable (Mr N Rhodes)
Head of Strategic Planning (Insp G Rutherford)
Planning and Performance Administrator (Mr L Richardson)
Treasurer (Mr D Thomas)
Performance Management and Policy Advisor (Miss M Saunders)
Deputy Clerk (Mr S Edwards)

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

67. MEMBERSHIP

It was reported the Mr R S Cole had replaced Mr C S Moth as a Member of the Committee.

68. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R S Cole and Mrs L Slavin.

69. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

The Committee was asked to appoint a Chair for the period up to the Annual Meeting in June 2006.

Mr J Woolley was duly proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, it was -

RESOLVED, that Mr J Woolley be appointed Chair of the Committee until the Annual Meeting of the Authority in June 2006.

Mr J Woolley in the Chair.

70. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the Agenda for which the press and public were to be excluded.

71. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of personal interest in relation to any item on the Agenda.

72. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 16 March 2006 had been circulated with the Agenda for the meeting.

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 16 March 2006 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

73. PLANNING AND FINANCE TIMELINE

The Assistant Chief Constable presented a report by the Acting Chief Constable appended to which was a proposed timeline outlining how the planning, efficiency and budget processes were being amalgamated in 2006/07. This timeline had been agreed following input from the Constabulary's Head of Strategic Planning, the Efficiency Manager and members of the Finance and Resources department. The timeline had been developed on the basis of the Constabulary standing alone in the short term and no attempt had been made to work in any assumptions arising from the impending merger with Lancashire. This would be built in and reported to the Committee in line with future developments.

The Treasurer reminded Members that the Budget for 2007/08, development of which would begin in the Autumn of 2006, was a matter for the new Strategic Police Authority. However, development of the budget would be inextricably linked to the existing efficiency plan and other work being undertaken by the precursor Authorities and Constabularies. He commended the timetable to Members.

RESOLVED, that the planning and finance timeline be noted.

74. BEST VALUE REVIEW PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Assistant Chief Constable presented a paper by the Acting Chief Constable that outlined the status of the Best Value Review Programme as at 19 April 2006. The only item contained within the programme was the Best

Value Review of Anti Social Behaviour and the Assistant Chief Constable drew Members attention to the fact that this Review was being included in the scoping work for the forthcoming merger with Lancashire Constabulary, along with Best Value Reviews being undertaken in Lancashire. As part of the scoping work consideration would be given to deferring work on the Review to free up staff resources to focus on work central to the merger.

Members stressed the importance of ensuring that adequate resource was available to take forward the merger process. As such they considered that it would be appropriate to defer this Review to enable staff within the Best Value Section to work in shaping the new organisation, applying Best Value principles to the process.

The Treasurer reminded Members that the Best Value Review process was a statutory one, but that this would change with the enactment of the Police and Justice Bill later in the year. He advised that he and the Chief Executive/Treasurer of Lancashire were due to meet with the District Auditor in the near future and he would raise the question of deferring the Review with him at that meeting.

Members reiterated the view that deferment of the Review presented a pragmatic way forward at this particular time.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the Best Value Review of Anti Social Behaviour be deferred.

75. QUALITY OF SERVICE COMMITMENT ACTION PLAN

The Assistant Chief Constable presented a report by the Acting Chief Constable which provided Members with an update of progress on the Action Plan for the Quality of Service Commitment.

The Head of Strategic Planning informed Members that this particular work area had considerable priority as the Constabulary had to be compliant by November 2006. To date progress against actions identified within the Action Plan were on target and there were no major issues to bring to Members attention.

In considering the report Members raised questions in relation to follow up for people who had contacted the Constabulary and progress with the introduction of a National Single Non Emergency Number.

RESOLVED, that progress to date and actions required to achieve compliance by November 2006 be noted.

76. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of future meetings of the Committee had been circulated. Members were advised that, as the workload of the Committee changed as a result of the merger process it was likely that several of the agreed dates for meetings of the Committee would need to be cancelled. Members would be advised in due course of those dates that would not be required.

RESOLVED, that the position be noted.

The Meeting ended at 2.05pm

CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY

POLICING PLAN AND BEST VALUE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Policing Plan and Best Value Committee held on Tuesday 16 May 2006 in Conference Room 1, Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith commencing at 10.00am.

PRESENT

Mr J Woolley (Chair)

Mr R S Cole
Mrs C A Egan

Mr W Smith
Mr R Watson

Also present:

Deputy Director of Strategic Development (Ms J Sauntson)
Head of Strategic Planning (Insp G Rutherford)
Performance Management and Policy Advisor (Miss M Saunders)
Deputy Clerk (Mr S Edwards)

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

77. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs P M Halfpenny and Mrs L Slavin.

78. URGENT BUSINESS ANF THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Urgent Business

The Chair stated that he intended taking as urgent business a verbal report by the Deputy Director of Strategic Development on the impact of the amalgamation process on the work of the Committee.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no items on the Agenda for which the press and public were to be excluded.

79. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of personal interest in relation to any item on the Agenda.

80. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26 April 2006 were submitted.

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26 April 2006 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

81. LOCAL POLICING SUMMARIES AND ANNUAL REPORT 2006.

The Head of Strategic Planning presented a report by the Acting Chief Constable appended to which was a draft of the Local Policing Summary which it had become a requirement for the Authority to produce from 1 April 2006. Also circulated with the report was the data that would be included on the outer cover of the Annual Report. Several "mock ups" of different formats for the Annual Report were circulated for Members' observations.

The Local Policing Summaries would be distributed to every council tax paying household within the County by Royal Mail during August 2006. Each of the three BCUs were developing Local Policing Summaries (LPSs) tailored to their individual areas. Use of postcodes would enable the accurate distribution of LPSs in the relevant areas. These local area summaries would be used as inserts within the Annual Report. This approach would save on production and design time and enable a suite of documents to be held in one publication.

In addition to being distributed to homes within Cumbria they would also be distributed in the same way as the previous Annual Report had been.

Members noted the proposed production timescale as set out in the report and that the LPSs were being produced to conform to the "minimum standards" set out in Home Office guidance. They endorsed the additional suggestions for further information to be included within the LPSs as set out in the report by the Acting Chief Constable.

Having considered the various design options circulated Members indicated their preference for the "cut out" style of design for the Annual Report.

Members noted the desirability of arranging an additional meeting of the Committee in early to mid June to enable consideration of the final draft before submission to the Annual Meeting of the Authority on 28 June 2006. This matter would be considered later in the meeting.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the comments made by Members with regard to the design and content of the Annual Report and LPS be noted. and
- (2) the principal of using the LPS within the Annual Report to save on duplication of design and other work be approved.

82. TARGET SETTING 2006/07

The Head of Strategic Development presented a paper by the Acting Chief Constable which summarised the targets proposed for 2006/07. These targets had been set taking into account the actual year end position for 2005/06 with respect to the Constabulary's three year targets which had been set in 2004/05. To keep on course to meet the final 2007/08 target the required targets for 2006/07 were shown in each of the target categories.

In considering the report Members asked that the front line policing target for 2005/06 be included within the Policing Plan, Annual Report and Local Policing Summaries so that people reading those documents were aware of the progress being made with regard to this target.

RESOLVED, that the actual position regarding the three year targets be noted and the targets for publication within the Policing Plan, Annual Report, Local Policing Summaries and Constabulary posters be approved.

83. LOCAL PRIORITY SETTING - UPDATE

The Performance Management and Policy Advisor presented a report by the Clerk/Chief Executive which updated Members on the process for validating Cumbria's priorities for assessment in the Policing Performance Assessment Framework (PPAF) local domain "local priorities" for 2006/07.

The external process of quality assuring local priority setting for each authority and force in England and Wales had not yet been completed. However, indications from HMIC showed that following the deletion of anti social behaviour proposal 2, the priority setting process in Cumbria should pass its assessment.

Members noted that the work which would have been undertaken under this priority would still be undertaken within Cumbria but not within the PPAF local domain. Members stressed the importance of giving priority to work related to anti social behaviour and indicated that they were satisfied with the proposal as the work was still being undertaken, though not within the local priority setting framework.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the removal of the “perceptions of anti social behaviour” as a local priority be noted; and
- (2) the Committee continue to monitor developments in the local priority setting process.

84. URGENT BUSINESS – IMPACT OF THE AMALGAMATION PROCESS ON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

The Deputy Director of Strategic Development provided Members with a verbal briefing on the impact of the amalgamation work streams on the Committee’s areas of interest. In particular she informed the Committee of proposals with regard to public consultation which would need to be signed off by the existing Police Authorities. As such it was possible that additional meetings of the Committee might be required in June and/or July. In addition it would be necessary to gain the approval of the existing Police Authorities to matters such as the application of Best Value Practice to the amalgamation process.

Members advised that the meeting of the Consultation Working Group programmed for 8 June 2006 would provide an ideal vehicle for consideration of proposals with regard to consultation. They also advised that the Programme Management Working Group would make a useful vehicle for reports on progress with the various amalgamation work streams.

RESOLVED, that the report be noted

85. ADDITIONAL MEETING – JUNE 2006.

Members were reminded that under Minute No.81, “Local Policing Summaries and Annual Report 2006”, the need for an additional meeting of the Committee in mid June had been identified.

RESOLVED, that a meeting of the Committee be held on Thursday 15 June 2006 commencing at 11.30am.

There were no Part 2 items.

The Meeting ended at 10.45am

CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY

POLICING PLAN AND BEST VALUE COMMITTEE

Minutes of a Meeting of the Policing Plan and Best Value Committee held on Thursday 15 June 2006 in Conference Room 3, Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith commencing at 11.30am.

PRESENT

Mr J Woolley (Chair)

Mr R S Cole
Mrs C A Egan

Mr W Smith
Mr R Watson

Also present:

Clerk/Chief Executive (Mr C R Alcock)
Performance Management and Policy Advisor (Miss M Saunders)
Assistant Chief Constable (Mr N Rhodes)
Head of Strategic Planning (Insp G Rutherford)
Planning and Performance Administrator (Mr L Richardson)
Deputy Clerk (Mr S Edwards)

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

86 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs P M Halfpenny and Mrs L Slavin.

87. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items on the Agenda for which the press and public were to be excluded.

88. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of personal interest in relation to any item on the Agenda.

89. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 16 May 2006 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

90. ANNUAL POLICING PLAN 2006/07 – FINAL DRAFT

The Assistant Chief Constable introduced this item reminding Members that they had been fully involved in the process for the development of the Policing Plan and the document now before the Committee was the final draft before submission to the full Authority on 28 June. At this stage the Committee was principally being asked to express its view on the presentation of the document.

Members considered that overall the Annual Policing Plan for 2006/07 was a commendable document and they thanked the officers for their work in developing it.

The Head of Strategic Planning reminded Members that, subject to approval by the Authority on 28 June, the Annual Policing Plan would be printed and then distributed in July.

RESOLVED, that the Police Authority be recommended, at its meeting on 28 June 2006, to approve the final version of the Policing Plan for publication.

91. LOCAL POLICING SUMMARIES AND ANNUAL REPORT 2006

The Assistant Chief Constable presented the final drafts of the Local Policing Summaries and Annual Report for 2006. As with the previous item the Committee was principally being asked for its comments in relation to presentation of the document, content having been the subject of consideration of previous meetings.

The Performance Management and Policy Advisor suggested that, as the three area summaries prepared for the Annual Report were also to be used as the Local Policing Summaries it would be appropriate, when they were distributed as Local Policing Summaries, for them to include the Police Authority logo and to be retitled as “Local Policing Summary”.

Several minor presentational matters were also raised which were noted as appropriate.

Overall Members welcomed the documents considering that they were attractively presented and readable.

RESOLVED, that the Police Authority on 28 June be recommended to approve the documents for publication.

There were no Part 2 items.

The Meeting ended at 12.05pm