

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

Minutes of a meeting of the Cumbria Police Authority Programme Management Working Group held on Tuesday 14 December 2004 at Police Headquarters, Penrith at 2.15pm.

PRESENT

Mr G Humes (Chairman)

Mrs C A Egan
Mr I Stewart

Mr R Watson

Also present:

Clerk & Chief Executive
Acting Assistant Chief Constable (Management Services)
Superintendent M Connolly, Corporate Development
Programme Implementation Team Manager
Project Manager (Telephony)

8. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Nicholson and Mrs L Slavin.

9. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of personal interests in any item on the agenda.

10. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Working Group held on 2 November 2004 were submitted.

With reference to Minute No. 5.1 (Airwave) the Programme Implementation Team Manager advised that it would have been premature to have arranged a demonstration of Airwave at the current meeting of the Working Group and that it would be more appropriate to do so later when the system was operational.

With reference to Minute No. 5.8 (Local Policing Teams) the Clerk and Chief Executive advised that the question of aligning Police Authority Members with local policing teams was still under consideration.

The Chair then referred to Minute No. 6 and stated that he understood that Cumbria Fire Service was still interested in being involved in a joint control room at Penrith. The Acting Assistant Chief Constable (Management Services) advised that no contact had been received from the Fire Service since they pulled out of the Project and the Programme Implementation Team Manager advised that in other areas with existing joint control rooms the Fire Service was withdrawing to enter into regional arrangements instead.

Members indicated that they still considered it would be beneficial for the Police and Fire Service to operate a joint Control Room in Cumbria. It was noted that the County Council's Scrutiny Function was soon to meet to consider the issue of the Fire Control Room and that this might provide a vehicle for raising this particular issue.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

The Chair indicated that he would make an unofficial approach to the relevant County Council Spokesperson, with the caveat that this issue did require a precise timescale as it could not be allowed to drift indefinitely.

RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the meeting with the Working Group Committee held on 2nd November 2004 be confirmed as the correct record and signed by the Chair.

11. PROJECT STATUS MATRIX

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. A series of "Project Highlight Reports" had also been circulated to Members for their information.

(A) AIRWAVE

The Programme Implementation Team Manager advised that the ready for service date had been achieved on the previous Friday and the system was now live. The next phase of development was confidence testing and it was pleasing to know that police officers were very keen to get the new technology. After training the new system would be rolled out through the areas with the West going live in July 2005.

The Officer updated Members on a number of outstanding issues still to be resolved.

Members welcomed this report and congratulated the officers on their work.

(B) NSPIS CASE AND CUSTODY

Superintendent Connolly updated Members on this matter. He advised that PITO considered Cumbria's one of the best run projects in the Country.

(C) NSPIS - HR

It was reported that nationally there were software problems with one module and that work was ongoing with the supplier to rectify the situation. However, this had led to delays in the whole project.

(D) NMIS

This project was now "Green" and PITO had expressed the view that Cumbria's was one of the best projects in the country. To date it was exceeding expectations.

(E) SICCS

This project was proceeding satisfactorily.

(F) RECORD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The business case for this item was included with the agenda papers.

(G) TELEPHONY

The business case for this project was included separately with the agenda papers.

(H) LOCAL POLICING TEAMS PROJECT

Superintendent Connolly advised that an LPT development day had been held in the previous week.

The project team was now to be disbanded and would be replaced by a Citizen Focused Team by April 2005. This would move the project into Phase 2, and the new team would have a much wider remit to take this area of work forward.

Members welcomed the development outlined by Superintendent Connolly.

(I) ACTIVITY BASED COSTING

Members were advised that progress was now being made and a project board had been established and a validation undertaken. Eventually this area of activity was to be married into performance data. The Audit Commission were being very supportive of the approach being taken by the Constabulary.

The Clerk & Chief Executive reported on a meeting held earlier in the week with representatives of the Audit Commission. One of their key recommendations for the Authority was to be the development of quality assurance measures for ABC.

(J) PROJECT HIGHLIGHT REPORTS

Arising out of the Project Highlight Reports and in response to a question raised by a Member, Members were advised that discussions were ongoing with the Fire Service over the existing VHF infrastructure once the Constabulary had migrated fully to Airwave in March 2006.

Members indicated that they wish to continue receiving the Project Highlight Reports.

12. TELEPHONY SWITCH REPLACEMENT – INITIAL BUSINESS CASE

The Acting Assistant Chief Constable (Management Services) and the project Manager (Telephony) presented the initial business case for the project to replace the Constabulary's telephony systems. This matter was to be considered by the Authority on 16th December.

Members welcomed the business case and indicated their support for the proposals.

RESOLVED, that the Authority be advised of the Working Group's Support for the business case.

Note – the Project Manager (Telephony) left the meeting at this point.

13. RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (RMS) – OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

The Acting Assistant Chief Constable (Management Services) advised that this matter had already been submitted to the Authority for initial consideration.

He then presented a report which was being submitted to the Working Group for consideration in advanced of submission to the full Authority on 16th December.

Members gave detailed consideration to the proposals contained in the report and raised various questions with the Acting Assistant Chief Constable to which he responded as appropriate.

RESOLVED, that the Police Authority be informed of the Working Group's support for the proposals.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was considered that the next meeting should be held towards the end of January or in early February. Arrangements would be made by the Clerk & Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair.

Resolved, that the next meeting of the Working Group be held in late January, or early February 2005.

Meeting ended at 3.35 pm.

CHAIR:..... **DATE: 7th April 2005.**