

**CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY  
Audit and Performance Committee**

**7 September 2006**

**Agenda Item No .....**

**AN ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE AMALGAMATION PROCESS ON  
THE FRONT LINE POLICING MEASURE 2006-07**

**A Report by the Chief Constable**

**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 In March 2006, Cumbria and Lancashire constabularies created a Joint Programme Board to oversee and coordinate the various work stream projects that were considered necessary to achieve a successful amalgamation of both constabularies on 1 April 2007.
- 1.2 This report provides members with an assessment of the potential impact of the amalgamation process on the front line policing measure and the front line policing action plan for 2006-07.

**2.1 RECOMMENDATION**

That members note the potential impact on the front line policing measure and the front line policing action plan for 2006-07.

**3.1 DETAIL**

**Background**

- 3.2 In March 2006, a total of six Cumbrian police officers were formally seconded to the Joint Programme Office. Two of those officers were already in non front line roles and the other four were employed in front line policing roles.
- 3.3 It was envisaged that these six officers would be seconded to the Joint Programme Office for an initial period of at least 12 months each. Had this been the case, then the main impact on the front line policing measure for 2006-07 would have been:
  - The removal of a further four police officers from front line duties. An estimated reduction in the front line policing measure for 2006-07 of 0.2%.
  - A reduced potential to release police officers back to the front line as proposed in the front line policing action plan during 2006-07 (a reduced target of 18 as opposed to the original plan to release 22 officers back to the front line during 2006-07).

- 3.4 Now that the amalgamation is not going ahead, the six officers have returned to their previous roles. Their secondments only lasted for 3 months. The potential impact on the front line policing measure for 2006-07 is therefore considered to be negligible and the original target to release 22 police officers to the front line during 2006-07 is unaffected by the amalgamation process.

**Michael Baxter**  
**Chief Constable**