

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

**CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Personnel Committee held at 2.00pm on Wednesday 26th January 2005 in Conference room 1, Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith.

PRESENT

Mr R Watson (Chairman)

Mr T Heslop
Mrs M Johnson

Mr J Woolley
Mrs L. Slavin

Chief Constable
Clerk & Chief Executive

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

56. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

57. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED, that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the Meeting for Agenda Item No.4 (Acting-up arrangements) on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

There were no members of the public or press present.

58. DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

No personal interests were identified for disclosure.

PART II – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

59. ACTING UP ARRANGEMENTS

The Chief Constable submitted a report requesting appropriate alternative arrangements be put in place during his forthcoming absence due to surgery and convalescence. At present, it was believed that he would be absent for approximately a calendar month, with an estimated return to work date of 28th February 2005.

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His report set out those statutory functions and responsibilities reserved to the Office of Chief Constable, including non-delegated authorisations. Members were asked to consider the practical implications and possible effects of the Chief Constable being called upon to act in relation to any of these matters, or of his being called out for a major incident, during the period of convalescence. Equally, officers of the Constabulary needed to be sure of to whom they should refer to obtain relevant authorities for action during this period.

Members conveyed their best wishes to the Chief Constable for his prompt recovery. They took the view that the first priority for the Authority was ensuring a successful recuperation and return to work by the Constabulary's chief officer. They also accepted the Chief Constable's advice that, if the Deputy Chief Constable became Acting Chief Constable during this period, this would not require the rest of the Command Team to move up accordingly in Acting ranks.

Formal, prior approval of this arrangement from the Home Office would not be required unless the period of absence and therefore of Acting-up was likely to exceed three months. The situation would therefore be kept under review and the Clerk & Chief Executive kept informed of progress by the Constabulary. If a return to work looked likely to be delayed for any reason, and certainly well before the three-month period expired, the Clerk & Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair would convene a meeting of this committee to review the situation and make recommendations for appropriate actions.

RESOLVED, that

- (i) the Deputy Chief Constable, Mrs Christine Twigg, be appointed Acting Chief Constable with effect from 00.01am on Thursday, 27th January 2005, for a maximum period not exceeding the Chief Constable's prior return to work; or three months; or any further or amending resolution by this Committee; and
- (ii) the situation be kept under informal review by the Clerk in consultation with the Chair, and be subject of formal review in any event by a meeting of this Committee, convened in sufficient time before three months have expired from the date of this originating decision.

The Meeting ended at 2.35 pm.