

Warwickshire Police Authority – 23 February 2009

Report of the Chief Executive

Summary

This report draws a number of issues to Members' attention.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

1. Appointment of Director of Resources

Arrangements are now being progressed for the appointment of the new Director of Resources. Steve Nicklin and Neil Gulliver are leading on the arrangements for the Authority and the following process has now been put in place:-

1. Advertisements will be placed in the Guardian and Birmingham Post on 11th March 2009.
2. Information Packs will be issued to applicants and will job description, role profile, Force overview and Authority overview.
3. The deadline for applications will be 27th March 2009.
4. Shortlisting will take place on the 3rd April 2009.
5. A maximum of 4 candidates will be shortlisted.
6. Letters to candidates to be issued on 6th April 2009 at the latest.
7. Interviews are scheduled for the 28th April 2009 and will be held at Woodside Conference Centre, Kenilworth.
8. Still to look at possibility of including an opportunity for the candidates to either meet senior officers over lunch on the interview day or possibly arrange a separate event prior to the interviews.

2. APA Awayday

An APA away day went ahead in Bristol on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th February, attended by Phil Blundell and Sue Howl. Despite the poor weather conditions, about 60% of Police Authorities were represented.

Amongst the issues usefully discussed were precepts and a round-up of the current situation; updates on the key provisions of the Crime & Police Bill and related issues and

consideration of leadership issues and recent developments related to police pay and the role of Police Authorities in developing future police leaders.

3. Regional Strategic Policing Policy Network

A meeting of the Regional Strategic Policing Policy Network took place at Lloyd House in Birmingham on 12th February, in advance of the National Network meeting taking place on 18th February in London. In attendance were Ian Francis, Phil Robson and Sue Howl. Stephen Kershaw - Director of Police Reform and Resources at the Home Office, also attended by invite.

Issues relating to local and regional responses to the APA PREVENT Strategy were discussed, and Denis O'Connor's Review of Collaboration and Subsidiarity. The group agreed that items for future meetings would include;

- Collaboration - general responses across the region
- CTU (Counter Terrorism Unit) - How is it working?
- PREVENT - practical ideas for taking work forward
- SPOs (Security Partnership Officers) in the West Midlands
- Community Mapping - developing a rich picture
- Implications of the Olympics 2012 for the region

4. Police Authority Inspection

It is the intention to hold sessions for Police Authority members on the impending Police Authority Inspections once the Budget has been finalised. A useful starting point will be a meeting of the regional Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Chief Executives on 24th March to which Kate Flannery - HMIC, and Zoe Billingham - Audit Commission, have been invited to present the latest developments. It is also our understanding that Staffordshire will be the fourth pilot area for inspection, which will assist Warwickshire in understanding how developments are progressing and create an opportunity for shared learning within the region.

5. Community Engagement

The Community Engagement and Consultation Panel will be concentrating on the following developments over the next few months.

- Create systems that allow a more effective and regular updating of information on the web-site
- Examine the methods and procedures by which the Police Force consult with the community and how this is fed to the Police Authority
- Design a questionnaire for a survey of community confidence in the Police Force as part of a wave of consultation with the county's Citizens Panel during April
- Identify and further engagement with specific communities of interest, eg children & young people and the business community.

6. Members Training

The lead member for members training has organised two half-day sessions of training in the near future on *the Role of a Police Authority* (April 6th) and *Race and Diversity* (April 27th). Both sessions will commence at 10am and finish at 1pm with lunch afterwards.

In addition, a framework for members training has been drawn up and will be developed over the coming months. Within it are five proposed core modules: Governance Parts1 &2; the

Role of the Police Authority; Race and Diversity; and Finance Matters. Complimenting these will be a menu of optional modules, with possible subjects to include

- Working with Chief Officers
- Human Resources with the Police Force
- How to conduct as a member of the Police Authority
- Understanding Complaints
- Community Engagement and Consultation
- Policing Issues
- Communications
- Auditing Police Authorities
- Performance Management.

7. Partnerships

One of the significant governance issues identified in last year's Annual Governance Statement was the further development of our partnership activity and the underpinning of our approach to partnership working by preparing a formal framework document. A draft framework is nearing completion and I propose to discuss this with the Chair of the Community Engagement and Consultation Panel before asking the Steering Group to agree its contents.

A paper will be presented to the next meeting of the Authority explaining the framework and describing our progress to date on meeting the issues identified in the Annual Governance Statement.

Enquiries: about this report should be made to Neil Gulliver on 01926 412117

Background Papers: As attached where appropriate

SUE HOWL
Chief Executive