

WARWICKSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY – 22 FEBRUARY 2010

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

Summary

This report draws a number of issues to Members attention

Recommendation

That the collaboration strategy for the Police Authorities and Forces of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Mercia and the West Midlands be approved.

1. Collaboration Strategy for the Police Authorities and Forces of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Mercia and the West Midlands

The Chairs and Chief Executives of the four police authorities in the region together with the Chief Constables have been discussing the opportunities and imperatives for collaboration.

A draft strategy was finally agreed at a meeting of Chairs, Chief Executives and Chief Constables on the 8th December 2009. The four Chairs agreed to submit the draft strategy to a meeting of their respective Authority for approval. A copy of the draft strategy is attached as **Appendix A**.

The strategy builds on a history of effective collaboration between the region's forces. It is also responsive to developments in national policy relating to police collaboration. It encompasses the full range of policing activity, except around local policing and therefore includes protective services policing, non protective services operational policing and non operational services.

The strategy is not prescriptive about engagement by the four forces and recognises that sovereignty of decision making continues to rest with individual authorities. It is therefore based on a four force model for services other than local policing but has a framework that allows for a two or three force delivery model or delivery outside the region or with other public or private sector partners.

There are still a number of outstanding issues to be addressed and these will be considered at the next meeting of the regional Chairs, Chief Executives and Chief Constables on the 26th March 2010.

The Authority is asked to approve the collaboration strategy.

2. Chair / Vice Chair of the Authority

On a number of occasions recently, Members have raised the issue of how the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Authority should be divided between the Independent and Elected Members. As Members will be aware, the Annual General

Meeting of the Authority takes place in May at which the Chair and Vice Chairs will be elected. It therefore seems timely that the Authority considers the notion of an elected member always being elected to the position of Chair/Vice Chair of the Authority. I would invite Members to consider this issue at the meeting on the 22nd February.

3. Police Authority Inspection

As part of the preparation for the forthcoming inspection, we are required to produce a self-assessment of the Authority in time for the scene setting meeting on the 18th February. The Chair has asked that a copy of the self assessment should be made available to every Member and Officer of the Authority. This will be done on or before the Authority meeting on the 22nd February.

**NEIL GULLIVER
ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE**