

The **POLICE AUTHORITY** met at **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK**, on the **23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2008**.

**Present:-**

Ian Francis (Lay Justice Member)(**Vice Chair**)(**In the Chair**)

**Independent Members:-**

Dorrette McAuslan, Steve Nicklin, John Rennie and Phil Robson

**Lay Justice Members:-**

Mike Edwards and Alan Woodward

**County Councillors:-**

Chris Davis, Anne Forwood, Eithne Goode, Bob Hicks, Katherine King, Phillip Morris-Jones, Izzi Seccombe and John Vereker.

**Police: -**

Chief Constable Keith Bristow, Assistant Chief Constable Bill Holland, Assistant Chief Constable Lewis Benjamin, Simon Pameley, Richard Elkin, Derek Kitchen, Carl Baldacchino and Cathy Ward.

**Police Authority: -**

Eric Wood, Dave Clarke, Tony Brown, Neil Gulliver, Sarah Duxbury and Debbie Mullis.

**In Attendance:-**

Simon Payne (Police Federation).

**1. Chair's Announcements**

The Chair announced that Sian Stroud had recently had a baby girl and all the family were well. The Members asked that their best wishes be forwarded to Sian and her family.

**2. General  
(1) Apologies**

were received from Phil Blundell, Richard Hobbs and DCC Andy Parker.

**(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests**

John Rennie declared a personal interest as President of the Warwickshire Neighbourhood Watch Association.

**(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and Matters Arising**

Resolved:-

***That the minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008 be approved.***

There were no matters arising.

**3. External Partnerships, Protective Services and Business Improvement  
(1) Report of the Governance Stream Lead**

Phil Robson introduced the report and highlighted a number of key points particularly in relation to the work of the Force Business Improvement Board.

In response to a question from John Rennie, Lewis Benjamin stated that the Regional Asset Recovery Team did have a role to play but to date there was only one Warwickshire case registered with them for which the Force had not yet seen the rewards. He added that the process for the recovery of assets was exceedingly slow.

With regard to Warwickshire being chosen by the Home Office as one of the pilot areas for the controlled release of information to protect children from danger, Keith Bristow confirmed that the Force were currently in negotiation with the Home Office regarding the cost of resources to work on the project. Phil Robson commented that he would like to see Katherine King and Izzi Seccombe kept up-to-date with developments relating to this scheme.

**(2) Report of the Lead for Diversity and Staff Development**

was considered.

Dorrette McAuslan introduced the report and commented in particular on the significant progress which had been made by the Force on Stop and Search as a result of the introduction of good working practices. A lot of credit for this improvement should go to ACC Bill Holland and Chief Inspector Mike Slemensek.

She also commented on the success of the Natural Born Leaders initiative and the importance of cultivating the group further and to encourage young people from all ethnic backgrounds to become involved.

**(3) Report of the Lead for Human Resources**

Mike Edwards confirmed that he would deal with this report in the exempt part of the agenda.

**4. Report of the Audit Panel**

was considered.

Resolved:-

***That the Authority approves-***

- 1) the adoption in principle in order to comply with the Cipfa Code of Practice***
- 2) the work being carried out to develop a risk based audit plan; and***
- 3) the number of audit days for 2008/2009 being increased to 108 and notes the budgetary impact.***

## 5. Police Authority Constitution

The report of the Chief Executive was considered.

In introducing the report, Tony Brown drew Members' attention to paragraph 15 of the Procedural Standing Orders which would need to be amended slightly to take account of the Authority's new structure.

Under Article 3 of the Constitution, Bob Hicks commented that suitable words should be included to reflect the need for citizens to be open and transparent in their dealings with the Police Authority. It was agreed that this should be accommodated.

It was then Resolved:-

***That the Authority notes the full list of documents and policies set out in Appendix A, agrees to the suggested additional wording in Article 3 and approves the draft documents set out in Appendix B subject to the amendments to paragraph 15 of the Procedural Standing Orders.***

## 6. General Report of the Chief Executive

was considered.

### (1) Review of the APA

Eric Wood commented that, under the new arrangements for the APA, there would be a much greater emphasis on regional working and collaboration between Authorities. The Chief Executives of the 4 Authorities in the region were due to meet on the 9<sup>th</sup> May to consider how this issue would develop.

He added that the APA had decided to retain the Race and Diversity Policy Group but that it would now encompass human rights. The Authority would need to consider expanding the terms of reference of its own Diversity and Equality Panel to pick up the human rights issue.

### (2) Independent Review of Policing and the Green Paper

### (3) Guidance Documents

### (4) Protective Services

### (5) Independent Member Appointments

These paragraphs were noted.

### (6) Audit Panel

Eric Wood pointed out that it was essential for the Audit Panel to be renamed the Audit Committee and to amend the membership to bring it in line with CIPFA recommendations.

It was then Resolved:-

***That the Audit Panel be reconstituted as the Audit Committee and that the membership comprise Chris Davis, Mike Edwards, Bob Hicks, Izzi Seccombe and John Vereker.***

- (7) IPCC
- (8) John Rennie, DL

These paragraphs were noted.

**(9) Council Tax Precepts**

At the suggestion of Eric Wood, the Authority placed on record their thanks to Oliver Winters and his team in preparing the Authority's detailed submission to the DCLG against the capping decision.

**(10) Collaboration/Joint Working – Forces/Authorities**

This paragraph was noted

**7. General Report of the Chief Constable**

was noted.

**8. Urgent Business**

It was agreed to deal with this item under the exempt part of the agenda.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the full Authority will be on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008 at 10.00am.

**10. Exclusion of Members of the Public**

Resolved: -

***That the members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the following agenda items on the grounds that their presence would involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.***

**11. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008 and Matters Arising**

Resolved:-

***That the exempt minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008 be approved.***

There were no matters arising.

**12. Operational Update**

The report by the Chief Constable provided an update for the Authority on a number of operations currently ongoing or completed within the Force.

He also commented on the decision of the IPCC to investigate the Force's actions following the death of a man in Leamington Spa on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

**13. Force Performance**

The report by the Chief Constable was noted.

**14. HR Activity Report**

Mike Edwards introduced his report referred to earlier under Agenda item 3(3) and also commented on the HR Activity Report which had been compiled by Supt Mak Chishty. He paid particular reference to the work of Alison Naylor whose contract had expired at the end of March 2008 and to the excellent work of Mak Chishty and his team.

**15. Warwickshire Justice Centre Programme**

The report of the Senior Responsible Officer was noted.

**At this juncture, the ACPO Officers left the room.**

**16. Bonus Scheme for Chief Officers**

The Authority considered a report by the Chief Executive on the introduction of a bonus scheme as part of a national agreement on pay and conditions. It was agreed that the issue should be referred to the Appointments and Remuneration Committee for detailed consideration and report back to the Authority.

**It was then agreed to deal with Agenda item 8.**

**8. Urgent Business  
Police Authority Meeting – 21 May 2008**

Eric Wood reminded Members that the Authority’s Annual General Meeting would take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> May but the business of that meeting would be strongly influenced by three factors, namely 1) the appointment of up to 4 new independent members, 2) the restructuring of the APA and the development of regional structures and 3) the review of the Authority’s structure. He suggested therefore that, at the May meeting, the Authority should just deal with the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair and the appointment of an Interim Stream Lead for Resources and Standards. Any further appointments should be dealt with between June and October once the factors referred to earlier had been resolved. This was agreed.

**The Chair then made a presentation to John Rennie on his retirement from the Police Authority after 12 years. He thanked Mr Rennie for the huge contribution he had made to the Authority and the Force during that time. Keith Bristow thanked him for all his work and support on behalf of the Force.**

**17. Presentation on Regional Collaboration**

The Authority received a presentation by ACC Lewis Benjamin on the development of regional collaboration.

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Chair of the Authority

The meeting closed at 4.50pm