

The **POLICE AUTHORITY** met at **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK**, on the **30th July 2008**.

Present:-

Phil Blundell (Independent Member)(**Chair**)
Ian Francis (Lay Justice Member)(**Vice Chair**)

Independent Members:-

Angela O'Boyle, Steve Nicklin and Phil Robson

Lay Justice Members:-

Mike Edwards and Alan Woodward

County Councillors:-

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

Police: -

Chief Constable Keith Bristow, Deputy Chief Constable Andy Parker, Assistant Chief Constable Bill Holland, Simon Pameley, Richard Elkin and Catherine 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
(1) Police Authority Members

The Chair welcomed Angela O'Boyle to her first meeting of the Authority following her successful interview to become an Independent Member of the Authority. He also congratulated Ian Francis and Mike Edwards on their successful re-selection through the same process.

(2) Rugby

The Chair reported on the 'Child Victims of Crime Fun Day' held on the 9th July at Rugby School which was jointly organised by Police Officers and ex-rugby players.

(3) Alrewas

The Chair, together with Andy Parker, attended a Memorial Service for Police Officers who had lost their lives in the line of duty. The Arboretum at Alrewas included a memorial to all these officers together with an avenue of trees commemorating the losses of individual Forces. The Chair was very keen that Warwickshire should be represented in this way.

2. General
(1) Apologies

were received from Dorrette McAuslan and ACC Lewis Benjamin.

(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 30th June 2008 and Matters Arising
(i) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 30th June 2008 be approved.

There were no matters arising.

3. Resources and Standards
(1) Report of the Governance Stream Lead

was considered.

In presenting his report, Steve Nicklin commented that Derek Kitchen would be leaving the Force to return to a post in the Health Service. He also commented on the PURE assessment scores which showed a significant improvement on the previous year's scores but stressed that there was still room for further improvement.

John Vereker also applauded the improvement in the PURE scores and, in particular, thanked Tony Brown and Derek Kitchen for their work on the governance arrangements.

The Chair asked that the Authority's thanks for the excellent work by Derek Kitchen during his time with the Authority should be passed on to him together the Authority's best wishes for the future.

(2) Finance Reports
(i) Capital Programme Monitoring Report 12008/09

In noting the joint report by the Treasurer to the Authority and the Director of Resources, the Authority were reminded that the biggest project in the programme was the Southern Justice Centre and they would need to keep a close eye on any slippage.

(ii) Financial Management Report 2008/09

The joint report by the Treasurer to the Authority and the Director of Resources was considered.

Dave Clarke drew the Authority's attention to the fact that the current overspend was due to the cost of Operation Westbere and a decision was still awaited from the Home Office and HMIC as to the level of financial support they would be prepared to offer. Richard Elkin added that there had been a reduction in expenditure on repairs and maintenance whilst the outcome of the capping process was awaited.

In response to a question by the Chair, Simon Pamey confirmed that fuel costs were being closely monitored, a further review would be undertaken in September and he would report back to the Authority on developments.

(3) Report of the Professional Standards Committee

was considered.

Alan Woodward reported that Len Jackson, the new IPCC Commissioner for the region, attended the Committee's meeting on the 16th July and also met with himself and Andy Parker earlier today. He believed that the ethos of the working relationship between the Authority, the Force and the IPCC would improve immensely. The IPCC themselves were in the process of reviewing their first four years of operation and this would include a review of how the police complaints process has changed.

In response to a question by Chris Davis, Alan Woodward agreed that more work was still required to improve the local resolution of complaints. There was now a strong move away from the blame culture towards a learning culture but this needed to be maintained.

4. Report of the Standards Committee

was considered.

Sarah Duxbury drew the Authority's attention to three changes in the documents attached to the report.

In Appendix 1, under the section headed 'Membership', the second sentence should read 'In addition, the Chair of the Professional Standards Committee plus 3 other appointed members will serve on the Committee.

In Appendix 3, paragraph 6 should read 'The Monitoring Officer has the discretion to decide how to deal with verbal complaints and/or such other complaints under the Member Code of Conduct not addressed to the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee or which do not fall to meet the Authority's Assessment criteria.

In Appendix 3, the word 'working' should be deleted from paragraph 11.

It was then Resolved:-

- (1) That the Chief Executive be requested to make the necessary arrangements to increase the membership of the Standards Committee by 1 independent member***
- (2) That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, be authorised to negotiate regional collaborative arrangements which would include the temporary appointment of independent members from other relevant authorities for the purposes of dealing with complaints under the Member Code of Conduct***
- (3) That the Chief Executive be authorised to establish such assessment and review sub-committees as necessary from time to time, with membership to be drawn from the existing members of the Standards Committee and/or drawing on any regional collaborative arrangements***

- (4) That approval be given to Appendix 1 setting out the changes to the terms of reference of the Standards Committee and the proposed terms of reference for the sub-committees and the Chief Executive be authorised to make any constitutional changes necessary as a result of this report**
- (5) That approval be given to Appendices 2 and 3 and the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chief Executive, be authorised to finalise the guidance and advice to be issued and make such amendments as may be required from time to time**
- (6) That the Chief Executive be requested to publicise the new arrangements in accordance with the legislative requirements**

5. Warwickshire Safer Schools Partnership

The report of the Chief Constable was considered.

Bill Holland pointed out that the Safer Schools Community Support Officers would be full-time and based at a secondary school in each of the districts. In response to questions by Members regarding the additional funding for PCSOs which had been provided by the County Council as part of their budget for 2008/09, he agreed to ensure that all Members received a detailed response to this issue.

It was then Resolved:-

That the Warwickshire Safer Schools Partnership due to be launched on the 1st September 2008 be endorsed.

6. Appointment of Independent Members of the Police Authority

The report of the Chief Executive was considered.

Resolved:-

That Angela O'Boyle be appointed as an Independent Member of the Police Authority for 4 years from the 1st August 2008 until the 31st July 2012 and that Michael Edwards and Ian Francis be appointed with effect from 1st October 2008 until the 31st March 2013.

7. General Report of the Chief Constable

In presenting his report, Keith Bristow added that Bal Jacob had been appointed as Temporary Assistant Director of Resources (HR) and Sergeant Lucy Sewell had received an award from the British Association of Women Police.

In response to a number of questions regarding the major operation to ensure safety at the Bulldog Bash, Keith Bristow explained the decision which had been taken by the Force to police the event and why such actions were necessary. The Authority expressed their full support for the actions taken.

8. General Report of the Chief Executive

was considered.

(1) Chief Executive

- (2) Youth Crime Action Plan
- (3) Crime in England and Wales 2007/08

These paragraphs were noted.

- (4) Policing Green Paper – From the Neighbourhood to the National: Policing Our Communities Together

Eric Wood confirmed that a seminar to discuss the implications of the Green Paper would be held on Monday 15 September at 10.15am

- (5) Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008

This paragraph was noted.

- (6) APA

Eric Wood stated that it was proposed that there would be 4 regional policy networks and the Authority would be required to agree their representation on them at their September 2008 meeting.

- (7) AGM

These paragraphs were noted.

9. Warwickshire Justice Centre Programme

The report by the Responsible Officer was noted.

10. Urgent Business

None.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the full Authority will be on Wednesday 24th September 2008 at 10.00am.

12. 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.

13. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the 30th June 2008 and Matters Arising

Resolved:-

That the exempt minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 30th June 2008 be approved.

There were no matters arising.

14. Keeping Children Safe – The Child Sex Offender Disclosure Pilot

The Authority received a short presentation from DCI Debbie Tebbs on the progress of the Pilot which was expected to be introduced shortly.

15. Force Performance

In considering the Chief Constable's report, the Authority received a brief update on the overall performance of the Force during June.

16. Force Priority Targets 2008/09

The report by the Chief Constable was considered and approval given to the re-defining of targets for 2008/09.

17. Operational Update

The report by the Chief Constable was noted.

It was also agreed that the process for reporting on operational issues should be reviewed before the Authority's next meeting in September 2008.

18. Report of the Appointments and Remuneration Committee

was noted.

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Chair of the Authority

The meeting closed at 5.45pm