

The **POLICE AUTHORITY** met at **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK**, on the **29th July 2009**

Present:-

Ian Francis (Independent Member) (**Chair**)
Phil Robson (Independent Member) (**Vice Chair**)
John Vereker (County Councillor) (**Vice Chair**)

Independent Members:-

Mike Edwards, Dorrette McAuslan, Steve Nicklin, Angela O'Boyle and Clive Parsons

County Councillors:-

Jim Foster, Carol Fox, Eithne Goode, Bob Hicks, Richard Hobbs and Phillip Morris-Jones

Police: -

Chief Constable Keith Bristow, Deputy Chief Constable Andy Parker, Assistant Chief Constable Lewis Benjamin, Assistant Chief Constable Bill Holland, Richard Elkin, Marie Perry, Carl Baldacchino and Debbie Sansom.

Police Authority: -

Sue Howl, Neil Gulliver, Dave Clarke, Debbie Mullis, Tony Brown, Sian Stroud, Vicky Newbold and Phil Trigg.

In attendance:-

Jeff Millward (Police Federation)

1. Chair's Announcements

None.

2. General

(1) Apologies

were received from Martin Barry and Izzi Seccombe.

(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 29th June 2009 and Matters Arising
(i) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 29th June 2009 be approved.

There were no matters arising.

3. Governance Framework

Phil Robson presented the latest version of the Governance Framework and highlighted the major changes with particular reference to the roles of the Vice Chairs, the Resources Assurance Group and the Lead for Publications and Use of Information. He added that it would be necessary to look again at the Members Allowances Scheme to ensure that it tied up with the allowances referred to in the Framework.

In response to a question by Richard Hobbs, Phil Robson stated that it was still undecided whether responsibility for the Authority's website and the Energy Conservation sat within the Framework. He proposed to seek the views of other Members before bringing this back to the Authority.

The Chair then thanked Phil Robson for all his work in developing the Framework.

The Chair then referred to the email sent to Members recently setting out the Member Appointments under the Framework which would come into effect from the 1 August 2009. The one remaining vacancy related to the District Lead for Warwick and it was proposed to leave that vacant until after the appointment of the new Independent Member which was due to be completed before the Authority next meeting on the 16 September 2009.

4. Warwickshire Partnerships and Local Policing – Report of the Governance Stream Lead

was considered.

The Chair introduced the report and drew Members attention to the problems with the Authority being represented on the LCJB although Acc Lewis Benjamin was working to resolve the issue. Police Authority membership of LCJBs was a national problem which was now being dealt with by the APA.

Richard Hobbs suggested that it would be helpful for the Authority to have a slot at future Strategic Workshops to discuss or highlight particular issues for them as part of the strategic development process. Keith Bristow stated that he would be more than happy to support this idea.

Appendix 1 – Progress against Force Objectives in Local Policing

The report by Chief Superintendent Neil Brunton was noted.

Appendix 2 – Report of the Community Engagement and Consultation Panel

After Richard Hobbs had introduced the Panel's report, John Vereker expressed his concern about the slow progress in improving the Authority's website. Neil Gulliver assured the Authority that the development of the website was a priority and it was intended that the new site would be fully operational before the end of the year.

Richard Hobbs commented on the need for all members of the Authority to attend Community Forum meetings as it would be impossible for the 5 District Leads to undertake that role without support. The Chair agreed this issue needed to be addressed as soon as possible.

Appendix 3 – Report of the District Partnership Leads

was noted.

Appendix 4 – Report of the Voluntary Services Lead

After general comments by Phillip Morris-Jones, Richard Hobbs stated that he would like the Authority and the Force to look at opportunities to develop the use of volunteers. Keith Bristow confirmed that the Force were already looking at increasing the use of volunteers across the service and would keep Members informed on developments.

Appendix 5 – Report of the Safeguarding Children Lead

Angela O'Boyle introduced the report and made particular reference to the success of the Safer Schools Partnership and the importance of using the young people network as a means of communicating and engaging with them. Steve Nicklin reminded the Authority that it would very helpful to engage with the Warwickshire Youth Parliament.

Richard Hobbs asked that the issue of engaging with young people be put on the agenda for the next Community Engagement and Consultation Panel.

Appendix 6 – Regional Citizen Focus and Partnership and National Meeting

Having presented his report, Richard Hobbs questioned what progress had been made with the Authority bid to be part of the APA Focus Group proposal. Neil Gulliver replied that the Authority had been successful in bidding to be part of a focus group but little progress had been made since then and that the NPIA were engaged in the project. He would keep Members up –to-date with developments.

5. Policing Pledge/Right Service, First Time

In considering the Chief Constable's report, John Vereker questioned how the second bullet point under 'Areas for Improvement' would be addressed. Andy Parker replied that although this was a national issue, Mick Hayward was working with Supt Chris Ward on how to address it.

Before considering Agenda items 5A and 5B, Marie Perry gave an update on the Medium Term Financial Planning Strategy and the Sustainability Strategy followed by a question and answer session during which the Members stressed the need that they need to be assured that the required savings over the next three will be achieved.

5A. Efficiency and Productivity Strategy 2008/09 to 2010/11 and Sustainability Strategy

The report by the Chief Constable was considered.

Resolved:-

That approval be given to the recommendation from the Resources Assurance Group to retain the Efficiency and Productivity target at 9.3%.

5B. Financial Management Report 2009/10

In considering the report, the Authority acknowledged that the new style of reporting provided much more clear and concise information and allowed them to be more confident about the current position with the budget at any given time.

It was then agreed to note the report.

6. Report of the Chief Constable

was noted.

7. Urgent Business

None.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the full Authority would be on Wednesday 16th September 2009 at 10.00am.

9. 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.

10. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the 29th June 2009 and Matters Arising

Resolved :-

That the exempt minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 29th June 2009 be approved.

There were no matters arising.

11. Force Performance

The Authority considered a report by the Chief Constable was considered together with the latest performance dashboard circulated at the meeting.

12. Operational Update

The report by the Chief Constable was noted. The Authority also received reports on a number of additional operational issues.

13. Operation Westbere

The report by the Chief Constable was noted.

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**Ian Francis
Chair of the Authority**

The meeting closed at 4.50pm