

The **POLICE AUTHORITY** met at **SHIRE HALL, WARWICK**, on **22 February 2010**

Present:-

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

Independent Members:-

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

County Councillors:-

Carol Fox, Eithne Goode, Bob Hicks, Richard Hobbs, Frank McCarney, Phillip Morris-Jones and Izzi Seccombe.

Police:-

Acting Chief Constable Andy Parker, Acting Deputy Chief Constable Bill Holland, Assistant Chief Constable Lewis Benjamin, Richard Elkin, Glyn Gardner (Chief Officer, Special Constabulary), Wayne Parkes, Supt Adrian McGee, Marie Perry, Carl Baldacchino, Mark Richards and Paul Anderson.

Police Authority:-

Neil Gulliver, Dave Clarke, Debbie Mullis, John McPhail, Dave Stenning, Alison Hallworth, Phil Trigg, Tony Brown and Steve Baldwin.

Others:-

Liz Asser, David Evans and Bruce Jassi (Police Authority Inspectors)
Inspectors Dave Gardner and Alan Franklin-Smith (Observers)

1. Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed Liz Asser, David Evans and Bruce Jassi to the meeting as part of their inspection of the Police Authority. He also welcomed Wayne Parkes and Glyn Gardner to their first meeting of the Authority.

The Chair stated that he proposed to take Agenda Item 8 next.

8. Medium Term Financial Planning Strategy including 2010/11 Revenue Budget, 2010/11 – 2014/15 Capital Programme and Reserve Strategy

Dave Clarke presented the joint report and stressed that the Authority were unable to go beyond setting a budget requirement for 2010/11 of £90.395m as this was the maximum set by the Government as part of the 2008/09 capping determination. He also commented on the pressure on the Authority and the Force to make significant savings during the next three years.

John Vereker then spoke on behalf of the elected Members and in particular reflected on the needs of the communities to set a realistic precept level in the current

economic climate and he felt that had been achieved with a proposal to increase council tax by 1.68%. He also emphasised the huge amount of work which had been done by Members and Officers through the budget seminars leading up to today's meeting. The process had enabled Members to be fully engaged with the development of the budget.

Richard Hobbs commented on the extensive consultation which had taken place with the business community. They were prepared to support a higher increase than proposed in the joint report as long as they could clearly understand how the money would be spent. He also referred to the consultation which had taken place at the Community Fora where again the public had indicated that they would be content with a council tax increase of 2%. The public were also looking to understand more about 150 plus and how it would impact on their communities.

The Chair pointed out that the results of the on-line consultation via the Authority's website had shown that overall the public were prepared to pay more for policing.

The Chair, seconded by John Vereker, then moved:-

1) That approval be given to:-

- i) a Net Revenue Budget before savings of £100.769m for 2010/11 as detailed in Appendix 9 of the joint report;**
- ii) a savings target for 2010/11 of £5.7m**
- iii) the use of £4.674m of Reserves to support the 2010/11 budget of which £2.268m will be used for one-off purposes.**
- iv) a Budget Requirement for 2010/11 of £90.395m, in line with the maximum set by the Government as part of the 2008/09 capping determination.**
- v) a Council Tax for a Band D property of £174.10 an increase of £2.88 (1.68%), equivalent to a weekly increase of just 5.5p calculated as follows:-**

	£
Budget Requirement	90,395,000
Less Police Grant	33,634,284
Less Formula Grant	21,951,925
Sub Total	34,808,791
Less: Collection Fund Surplus	65,642
Amount to be raised by Council Tax	34,743,149
Divided by Aggregate Council Tax Base	199,562.75
Basic Amount of Council Tax at Band D	£174.10p

vi) the consequential Council Tax for each property band will be as follows:-

Band A (6/9th)	£116.0642
Band B (7/9th)	£135.4083
Band C (8/9th)	£154.7523
Band D	£174.0964
Band E (11/9th)	£212.7844
Band F (13/9th)	£251.4725

Band G (15/9th)	£290.1606
Band H (18/9th)	£348.1927

vii) the Chief Executive to the Authority be authorised to issue Precepts Notices on the Warwickshire billing authorities as follows:-

North Warwickshire Borough Council	3,693,788.61
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council	6,773,219.01
Rugby Borough Council	6,123,947.51
Stratford-on-Avon District Council	8,989,228.94
Warwick District Council	9,162,964.93
TOTAL	34,743,149.00

viii) the Sustainability Strategy and 150 plus review as set out in Section 7 of the joint report.

ix) the Reserves Strategy as set out in Section 8 of the joint report.

x) the revised Capital Programme and funding arrangements as set out in Section 10 of the joint report together with Appendices 10 and 11 to that report and the Prudential Indicators detailed in the Treasury Management Strategy referred to under Agenda item 7 below..

xi) Officers be instructed to comply with the prescriptive legal duties placed upon the Authority and the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer be asked to advise of any instances in which they consider that the implementation of policies should be amended to ensure compliance with requirements.

xii) all Officers be instructed to exercise tight budgetary control. No overspending of the aggregate 2010/11 budget will be authorised and caution will be exercised in entering into expenditure which creates additional commitments in future years. The Authority will be kept fully informed of the financial position throughout the year.

2) That in approving the budget, the Authority notes the Treasurer's comments in Section 11 of the joint report in respect of the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves.

2. General

(1) Apologies

An apology was received from Martin Barry.

(2) Declaration of Members' Personal and Prejudicial Interests

None.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20 January 2010 and Matters Arising

(i) Minutes

Under the fourth bullet point of Minute 4 – It was agreed to delete the words “rather than” and replace them with “the”.

It was then Resolved:-

That the minutes of the Police Authority’s meeting held on the 20 January 2010 as amended be approved

(ii) Matters Arising

(A) Minute 3 – A New Approach to Road Safety

The Chair confirmed that, on this occasion, the Authority would not be able to respond to the Force’s request for a lead member to work with them.

(B) Minute 2 (3) (ii) – Minute 3 – Safety on our Roads

Bill Holland stated that he had not been able to look at training for users of mobility units but would do so and report back to the Authority’s next meeting.

3. Report of the Audit Committee

In presenting the report, Bob Hicks placed on record the Authority’s thanks to Tony Brown for his work in support of the Audit Committee.

4. Local Policing – Report of the Local Policing Governance Stream Lead

John Vereker introduced the report and drew Members’ attention to the improvements which had been made to consultation arrangements with the harder to reach groups. The results of all consultation have and will continue to have an influence on the policing priorities.

Appendix 1 – Progress Against Force Objectives

was noted.

Appendix 2 – Report of the Community Engagement Consultation Panel

In presenting the Panel’s report, Richard Hobbs further stressed the work which was going on to improve consultation with a wide variety of groups within our communities. The direct involvement of Members with the community fora was also proving to be a very effective form of communication and consultation. Phillip Morris-Jones emphasised the value that local communities give to being consulted and questioned whether further consideration could be given to Police Officers or PCSOs attending, if only briefly, at Parish Council meetings just to provide a point of contact.

Appendix 3 – Report of the District Partnership Leads

After the Members had commented on their respective reports, the Chair again congratulated them on the quality of their reports.

Izzi Seccombe commented on the success of the Safer Schools Partnership in Shipston-on-Stour and, in particular, as a means of communicating with young people about the issues they face and in giving them the opportunity to present those

views at the local community forum. This type of initiative could be developed across the county.

John Vereker briefly commented on the success of “You Said – We Did” which had proved to be a very successful way of responding to community needs.

Appendices 4 and 4A – Report of the Voluntary Services Lead

In presenting the reports, Phillip Morris-Jones commented on the need to keep raising the profile of the Special Constabulary to encourage more volunteers despite the rise in numbers which had already been achieved. He also commented on the highly successful exercise involving the Special Constabulary which had taken place over the weekend of the 6th/7th February.

On behalf of the Authority the Chair thanked Glyn Gardner, the Chief Officer of the Special Constabulary, for all their tremendous work not just over that weekend but in support of the regular officers of the Force.

5. Resources – Report of the Governance Stream Lead

Steve Nicklin introduced the report and briefly commented on the significant financial challenge facing the Force for the foreseeable future and on the positive response by the Force to those challenges.

Appendix 1 – Report by the Lead for Diversity and Equality and Staff Development

In presenting her report, Dorrette McAuslan made the following points:-

- The length of the report reflects the level of work currently going on particularly around diversity and equality.
- The request to change the name of the Panel more closely reflected their work and also brought it in line with what the Force were doing.
- It had taken a long time to complete the work on Employment Targets but this was mainly due to lack of resources within the Authority.
- The action plan for the Combined Equalities Scheme was now underway.
- Some concerns with diversity issues around the 150plus project.
- Stop and Search still needed to be monitored.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the report on Employment Targets should be referred to the Force Executive Board in order that they can consider the report and the proposed targets. The targets should then be reported back to the Authority for approval at their April 2010 meeting.

On the issue of Stop and Search, Phil Robson suggested that while the Panel were responsible for monitoring this area overall, any concerns in a particular area could be brought to the attention of the District Leads for discussion with their respective District Commander. Equally Mike Edwards suggested that, where appropriate, Stop and Search issues should also be looked at by the Professional Standards Committee.

The Chair then congratulated the Force on receiving the award of Employer of the Year for its performance in equality and diversity.

It was then Resolved:-

- i) That approval be given to rename the Diversity and Equality Panel the Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Panel with immediate effect.***
- ii) That the Workforce Modernisation Group and the Force Executive Board consider the outcomes of the study on employment targets and the proposed targets for 2010-12 as set out in Annex A to the Lead Members report and that the proposed targets be brought back to the Authority's April 2010 meeting for approval.***

Appendix 2 – Report by the Lead for Human Resources

was noted.

Appendix 3 – Resources Directorate Quarterly Report

After Richard Elkin had presented the report, the Chair questioned why the Authority were not receiving support from the Communications Division for their website which meant that the papers for this meeting were not available to the public by that means. Richard Elkin agreed to look into this as a matter of urgency.

5A Financial Management Report 2009/10

After a brief discussion on the report it was Resolved:-

That:-

- 1) The forecast outturn for 2009/10 be noted***
- 2) The forecast reserve position be noted***
- 3) The carry forward requests outlined at paragraphs 2.5.4, 2.6.3 and 2.8.4 of the report be approved***
- 4) approval be given to the use of specific reserves set out in the Medium Term Financial Planning Strategy (MTFPS) as set out in paragraph 2.5.5 of the report***
- 5) approval be given to the Revised Capital Budget for 2009/10 as set out in Appendix D and in section 4 of this report.***

6. 150 plus Programme Report

The report by the Acting Chief Constable was noted.

[The meeting then adjourned from 4.10pm to 4.20pm]

7. Treasury Management Strategy 2010/11

After introductory comments by Dave Clarke, it was Resolved:-

That:-

- 1) the revised CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and the revised Treasury Management Policy Statement as set out in Appendix G to the report be adopted.**
- 2) approval be given to the Treasury Management Strategy and Investment Strategy for 2010/11**
- 3) approval be given to the Prudential Indicators set out in Appendix C to the report.**
- 4) the net borrowing does not exceed the Prudential level specified in Appendix C to the report, taking into account current commitments, existing plans, and the proposals in the budget report.**
- 5) the MRP Strategy set out in Appendix A to the report be adopted.**
- 6) authority be delegated to the Treasurer to undertake all the activities listed in Appendix 1 of the report.**
- 8. Medium Term Financial Planning Strategy Including 2010/11 Revenue Budget, 2010/-11 – 2014/15 Capital Programme and Resource Strategy**

This item had been dealt with earlier.

9. The Policing Plan 2010-13

Following introductory comments by Andy Parker a discussion ensued during which the following issues/comments were noted:-

- Clive Parsons confirmed that it was intended to produce a summary of the Plan for each District / Borough area.
- The Authority would like to see more reference to achieving the PREVENT agenda.
- Phil Robson suggested that under “Delivering Protection” there was need to include strong reference to Serious and Organised Crime and its impact on local communities and Operation Viper as a good example of effective collaborative working. Both of these areas should be included in the main Plan rather than the appendices.

It was then Resolved:-

- i) That approval be given to the content of the draft Policing Plan 2010-13.**
- ii) That the on-going work required to finalise the Plan prior to publication be noted.**
- iii) That authority be delegated to Clive Parsons and Bob Malloy in conjunction with the Chair of the Authority, to approve the final Plan for publication.**

10. Proposed Policing Priorities 2010/11

After Andy Parker had introduced the report, Phil Robson commented on the apparent change of emphasis on the final bullet point under “To reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured”. Bill Holland responded by pointing out that under the existing target to identify and charge 15 members of organised crime groups had been exceeded with 40 arrests to date. The Force was regarded as a high performer in this area and at the cutting edge of forces dealing with organised crime groups. Both Phil Robson and Bill Holland agreed that it was important to give a clear simple message to the public on how they were dealing with this area of crime. The Chair suggested that the Steering Group should look at how this particular measure appeared on the performance dashboard.

Richard Hobbs commented that he would like to see a central alignment of all targets to enable the partners to work together on one set of targets and to help the public better understand how the Force and its partners are performing. Andy Parker agreed with those comments but stressed that it may not always be possible to align LAA targets and police targets. What is important is that only one set of performance figures are provided to the public. There would also be discussions at a senior level with the County Council to produce an agreed approach for reporting to the public.

It was then Resolved:-

That approval be given to the proposed priorities and measures for 2010/11

It was then agreed to deal with Agenda Item 13.

13. General Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

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

Resolved:-

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

2) Chair / Vice Chair of the Authority

After the Chair had commented that he thought the suggestion in the report was entirely reasonable, Phil Robson seconded by Clive Parsons, moved and it was Resolved:-

That approval be given to the proposal that an elected member will always be elected to of at least one of the Chair/Vice Chairs positions of the Authority.

3) Police Authority Inspection

This paragraph was noted.

11. Procurement Review – Temporary Changes to Contract Standing Orders

Resolved:-

- 1) ***That, in accordance with the requirements of contract standing orders, the proposed temporary changes in the levels of delegation and process of authorisation as set out in section 4 of the joint report be approved.***
- 2) ***That responsibility is delegated to the Financial Management Arrangements Steering Group to determine, based on ongoing review of the pilot, the duration of such temporary arrangements and the need to seek authority for any permanent change to contract standing orders in due course.***

12. General Report of the Chief Constable

was noted.

13. General Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

This report was dealt with earlier.

14. Urgent Business

None.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the full Authority was scheduled to be held on Wednesday 21st April 2010 at 10am. However, the Chair pointed out that there was to be a major military parade that day in Kenilworth and the date of the meeting may need to be moved. He would keep Members informed.

[Clerk's note: The meeting was subsequently brought forward to the 19th April 2010 at 10am]

16. 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, 4 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

17. Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20th January 2010 and Matters Arising

(1) Minutes

Resolved:-

That the exempt minutes of the Police Authority's meeting held on the 20th January 2010 be approved.

There were no matters arising.

18. Force Performance

Andy Parker took the Members through the latest performance dashboard which had been circulated at the meeting and highlighted the Force performance against each of the measures. He also responded to a number of questions from Members on a range of issues relating to the Force's performance.

19. Operational Updates

The report by the Acting Chief Constable was noted.

20. Any Other Business

None

At this juncture, all County Council Members and Officers left the meeting.

21. Operation Westbere

The exempt minute of the discussion by the Independent Members of the Authority's 20th January 2010 meeting was accepted together with a further report by the Chief Constable.

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Chair of the Authority

Meeting closed at 5.30pm