

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY: MINUTES

- Date:** Wednesday 30th September 2009
- Time:** 4.00 pm until 6.25 pm
- Location:** Conference Rooms 1 and 2, Police Headquarters, Huntingdon
- Present:**
- Members:** Ms Ruth Rogers - Chairman
Mr Benjamyn Damazer – Vice Chairman
Mr Victor Lucas – Vice Chairman
Mr Ansar Ali
Mr John Batchelor
Mr John Clark
Mr Mahmood Fazal
Ms Shona Johnstone
Ms Ruth Joyce
Mr Matthew Lee
Mrs Olive Main
Mr John Reynolds
Mr Kevin Wilkins
Ms Nic Williams
Mrs Jayne Wright
- Executive Team:** Dr Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive
Mr John Hummersone, Treasurer
Mr Ronnie Yellon, Policy and Performance Manager
Miss Jackie Chapman, Committee and Support Services Officer
- Constabulary:** Chief Constable Julie Spence
Deputy Chief Constable John Feavyour
Assistant Chief Constable Mark Hopkins
Mrs Niki Howard, Director of Resources
Mrs Penny Sills, Director of People
- Other Attendees:** None.

1. **To note any apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Ian Bates.

2. **To note any Declarations of Interest – and any updates to the register of Member's interests**

None were declared.

3. Questions and Statements from Members of the Public

None were received.

4. Any Other Items of Business that the Chairman decides should be considered as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100(B) (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972

None was received.

5. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2009 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to some minor amendments.

The Authority noted that Ms Shona Johnstone, plus the four new Authority Members had inadvertently been omitted from the attendance list.

6. Safer Detention and Handling of Persons in Police Custody (SDHP)

The Deputy Chief Constable updated the Authority on the current position and the significant progress that had been made to improve Cambridgeshire's existing custody facilities.

At the last meeting, the Authority received a report from the Constabulary which described the three main drivers for the significant work to improve custody provision. These were withdrawal from the Public Finance Initiative (PFI) collaboration with Norfolk and Suffolk; In-house Inspections and recommendations arising from a joint Inspection conducted by HMIC/P in November 2008.

The Constabulary had since implemented an Action Plan to ensure progress with all issues identified from the Inspections. Improvements to Custody facilities were also being informed by work with the NPIA and Home Office national guidance in relation to custody – "Guidance on the Safer Detention and Handling of Persons in Police Custody (SDHP)".

The Deputy Chief Constable outlined some of the priority areas within the next few months. These included:-

- Ensuring that the Constabulary's policies and procedures are aligned to the SDHP Guidance.
- Refresher training for Custody Officers and Detention Officers.
- Upgrades to the custody estate e.g. comprehensive CCTV coverage in cells and enhanced cleaning regimes.
- Multi-agency requirements with particular focus on the detention of Section 136 Mental Health detainees.
- Appropriate staffing model.
- The medical provision given to detainees.
- The Corporate Manslaughter Act.

The Deputy Chief Constable assured that Cambridgeshire would be compliant with the SDHP Guidance by the set target date of April 2010. The Deputy Chief Constable agreed to bring an update report to the next meeting outlining the Constabulary's progress towards compliance with the SDHP guidance. The report would also contain details of operational progress and significant issues relating to capital expenditure, which might affect the custody estate.

The Authority queried the progress of the recommendations arising from the joint HMIC/P Inspection. The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed that out of the 72 recommendations agreed, 60 had been completed whilst 12 remained ongoing and work in progress.

The Authority was reassured that that the Constabulary had made significant progress to improve its custody operations.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) ***To note the report.***
- (ii) ***For the Authority to receive a report at the next meeting, outlining the Constabulary's progress towards compliance with the SDHP guidance.***

7. Cambridgeshire Police Authority Organisational Development Plan

The Authority received the first draft Cambridgeshire Police Authority Organisational Development (OD) Plan. The Chief Executive explained that the Plan had been developed following consultation and feedback received from the Police Authority Member and ACPO Away Day, key Members and Officers and was also informed by the Association of Police Authority's self-assessment criteria and the new Police Authority inspection framework. The Plan set out the role of the Authority for the next five years to ensure that it plays its part in the delivery of the priorities for the public, as outlined in the Policing Plan.

The Authority noted the report and work in progress and endorsed the direction set out in the OD Plan. The Chief Executive further agreed to continue to develop and take forward an Action Plan. In addition, the Scrutiny and Audit Committee would monitor this progress to ensure that the OD Plan is fully implemented

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) ***To note the report and endorse the direction of travel set out in the OD Plan. The Scrutiny and Audit Committee to monitor this progress.***

8. Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Strategy - Update

The Authority received the updated Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Strategy.

The Treasurer reported that minor revisions had been made to the Strategy (initially approved by the Authority in April 2007), following recommendations made by RSM Bentley Jennison, as part of the Internal Audit Plan 2008/09.

These included the development of a new Fraud Response Plan for use by Senior Managers involved in fraud investigation. The Auditor had also complimented the Constabulary on the introduction of the Whistleblowing Policy.

The Authority noted the report and approved the revised Strategy, subject to some further amendments (to be made by the Treasurer).

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) ***To note the report.***
- (ii) ***To approve the revised Strategy, subject to some further amendments to be made by the Treasurer.***

9. Confidence Strategy

The Chief Constable discussed the Constabulary's progress to formulate and deliver a Confidence Strategy.

The Authority was reminded that the Home Office would assess Force performance against one top down measurement – confidence. This will be gauged via a single question in the British Crime Survey (BCS) as:-

“The percentage of people who agree that the police and local councils are dealing with the anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in their area”.

The Constabulary intended to capture and address all public confidence issues across four key work streams, these being:-

- People - led by the Director of People.
- Partnerships – led by the Assistant Chief Constable.
- Performance – led by the Deputy Chief Constable.
- Communications and Engagement - led by the Chief Constable

The Authority discussed the Strategy and its direct links with the Cambridgeshire Policing Plan. The Chief Constable confirmed that a detailed delivery plan would be designed to achieve the objectives and delivery of the four work streams. This would include involvement from Neighbourhood Policing Teams, the general public and Police Authority Lead Members to help the Constabulary oversee and develop these areas of work.

The Authority approved proposals for the Strategy to be integrated into the next Cambridgeshire Policing Plan.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) ***To note the report.***
- (ii) ***To approve proposals for the Strategy to be integrated into the next Cambridgeshire Policing Plan.***

10. Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) Update

The Deputy Chief Constable presented an update report on the progress of the pilot Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) at Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge.

The Authority was reminded that reports on the Scheme have been debated at previous Police Authority meetings. The Scheme went public on the 21st July 2009 (three months later than originally planned). In the period to the end of August 2009 no tickets had been issued. However, it was believed that the presence of the Accredited Persons, and the threat of application of powers, had prevented an escalation of problems.

The Deputy Chief Constable assured the Authority that at this early stage, the Constabulary had no intentions to expand the CSAS until a full operational evaluation has been conducted.

The Chief Constable agreed to continue to monitor the Scheme and keep the Authority updated on its progress. The Authority noted that an updated report would be submitted to a future Scrutiny and Audit Committee meeting, and reported back to the Authority via the usual reporting mechanisms.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the report.***
- (ii) For the Chief Constable to monitor the Scheme and update the Authority on its progress. An update report to be submitted to a future Scrutiny and Audit Committee meeting.***

11. Local Area Agreement Update

The Authority received an update on Local Area Agreements (LAAs) and the Constabulary's and Authority's engagement in this matter.

The report contained a tabled summary of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough LAA relevant National Indicators for the three years to 2010/11. The Authority noted that updates on LAA performance are routinely reported to the Police Authority Performance Panel meetings.

The Deputy Chief Constable reported on the relevant LAA Performance Targets which contained data retrieved from the Place Survey and Comprehensive Area Assesments (CAA). Other developments of interest included the Constabulary's (and Authority's) partnership links with the Migration Impact Fund, Cambridgeshire Together and Making Cambridgeshire Count.

The Authority noted the Constabulary's obligations relating to CDRPs and LAAs and the satisfactory developments made within this complex area.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the report and the developments with the LAAs.***

12. Proposals for Future Committee and Panel Structure

The Authority received proposals for the future restructuring of the Police Authority Committee and Panels.

The Chief Executive outlined the rationale for revising the existing Committees and Panels structure. This would underpin the delivering of Cambridgeshire Police Authority's Organisational Development Plan and aim to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the Police Authority.

The Authority was assured that a phased timetable for decision making was in place to address any issues identified. The Chief Executive agreed that the new structure (once finally ratified by the Authority and implemented following the AGM in 2010) would be reviewed one year after its implementation.

The Authority considered and endorsed a series of recommendations put forward by the Chief Executive, subject to the following course of action.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the report.***
- (ii) To support Proposals 1, 2 and 3 and the timetable as set out in the report.***
- (iii) To support an immediate addition to the Terms of Reference of the Finance and Resources Committee, to enable it to approve and monitor the Efficiency Plan***
- (iv) To approve the draft Programme of Meetings for 2010/11.***
- (v) For all Members/Colleagues to advise the Chairman, Chief Executive or Committee and Support Services Officer of any problems with dates as soon as possible.***
- (vi) For further liaison to continue with the Chairman, Chief Executive, Treasurer, Constabulary point of contact, County and District Councils to avoid any known key dates, and address any arising issues.***
- (vii) For the final Programme of Meetings to be ratified at the full Police Authority meeting on 21st December 2009.***

13. Police Authority: Member Allocations to Partnerships

The Chief Executive presented the final proposals for Police Authority Membership allocations and responsibilities to Force Business Areas and Projects, Neighbourhood Forum, CDRPs and Partnerships.

The Authority was reminded that proposals were presented to the AGM in June 2009, and the Authority had endorsed the need for increased Police Authority engagement with Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs).

The Authority considered individual aspects of the report and in particular the requirement for Member attendance at Cambridgeshire District LSPs in an observer capacity. The Authority felt that this would not be beneficial and agreed not to allocate a Member for this purpose but requested the opportunity to view LSP minutes and agendas.

The Chief Executive agreed to ensure that appropriate Members receive copies of LSP papers, and to also explore further how Members can attend and participate in such meetings.

The Authority acknowledged the need for partnership engagement and agreed the proposals subject to the following resolutions.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) ***To note the report and the Member allocation to the CDRP and community engagement.***
- (ii) ***For Mrs Olive Main to be the Authority's representative on the Cambridgeshire Safer and Stronger Communities (Member) Group.***
- (iii) ***For Mr Ansar Ali to be the Authority's representative on the Peterborough City Council Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee.***
- (iv) ***Not to allocate a Member to attend Cambridgeshire District LSPs in an observer capacity. The Chief Executive to ensure that appropriate Members receive copies of LSP papers and to explore further how Members can attend and participate in such meeting.***
- (v) ***To appoint Ms Nic Williams as the Authority's representative Member on the Cambridgeshire LAA Community Well-being group and Mr Kevin Wilkins as the representative Member on the Climate thematic group.***

14. Report of the Committees and Panels

The Authority was updated on key issues discussed at the various Committee and Panel meetings held since the last Authority meeting.

No outstanding issues were raised for discussion.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) ***To note the report.***

15. Exclusion of the public

To pass a resolution that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in clauses 1, 2, 4 and 7 of Part 1 of the Revised Schedule 12A to the Act, provided by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006.

16. Injury Awards Update

The Authority received a report on the ongoing Injury Awards Review.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the report and agreed course of action.*

17. Chief Officers Remuneration

The Authority considered and approved proposals to make Chief Officer's bonus payments for the financial year 2008/09.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the report and agreed action.*

18. Serious and Organised Crime

The Authority considered a Business case and Section 23 agreement to increase Eastern Region capacity and capability to tackle Serious and Organised Crime.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the report and agreed action.*

19. Selection of an Independent Member to the Authority

The Authority considered and approved proposals to recruit an Independent Member to the Cambridgeshire Police Authority.

THE AUTHORITY RESOLVED:

- (i) To note the oral update and agreed action.*

20. Date of the next meeting

It was noted that the next Police Authority meeting would be held on **Monday 21st December 2009** at **4.00 pm** at Police Headquarters, Huntingdon.

CHAIRMAN