



MINUTES

YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE JOINT POLICE AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE (JPAC)

20 NOVEMBER 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Baugh	Charles Perryman (Vice Chair)	Alternates
Alene Branton MBE	Ruth Potter	Andrew Smith
Mark Burns-Williamson	Steven Rollinson	Janet Spencer
Mohammed Ismaiel		David Wainwright
Jane Kenyon (Chair)		

Jason Fitzgerald-Smith from North Yorkshire Police Authority attended as an observer.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Eileen Bancroft	Meredydd Hughes	Kevin Sharp
Janet Clitheroe	Samantha Manning	Claire Sykes
Karen Grey	Erika Redfearn	Paul Wainwright
Jeremy Holderness	Fraser Sampson	

25. APOLOGIES

Received from Les Carter, Reg Littleboy, Clive Palmerley, David Rudd, Keith Orrell, Bill Wilkinson and Joanna Carter.

26. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

None.

27. MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE JOINT POLICE AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2008

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

28. MATTERS ARISING

Members were referred to a pre-prepared sheet outlining progress with the actions from the last meeting.

29. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair invited Mark Burns-Williamson to feed back from the Association of Police Authorities (APA) Annual Conference. Mark informed members that much of the first day of the Conference had been concerned with the issue of directly elected police authority members. He said that all three party spokespeople had advocated approaches involving some form of direct election and the delegates had made their opposition to the proposals very clear.

Mark then urged the four police authorities to make the best use of the time leading up to the Queen's speech to seek the support of local government colleagues and Members of Parliament.

30. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Agenda Item Nos. 18 (Minute No. 42 refers) on the grounds that it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with the requirements of Part 2 of the same schedule.

31. THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER LOW CARBON ACCORD

Members received a report of the Chief Executives which informed them about a pilot programme within the region in advance of the introduction of the Government's Climate Reduction Commitment in 2010. The report encouraged individual police authorities to sign up to the pilot.

RESOLVED

That JPAC recommends that individual police authorities be asked to consider signing up to the Low Carbon Accord.

32. JOINT EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY PROJECT

Members received a report of the Chief Executives which outlined what had happened with the joint employment of a Regional Equality and Diversity Officer. The paper informed members that some progress had been made towards compliance. It also asked members to decide if they wanted to have a second attempt at employing someone or for the four police authorities to pursue compliance separately.

Fraser Sampson introduced the report, saying that he felt the project had been as much about demonstrating what could be done collaboratively as achieving compliance. He advised that there may be additional opportunities to be explored with Local Government Yorkshire and Humber. He finished by saying

that the Single Equality Bill may also create additional problems and referred to the likely allowance of positive action in the future.

During the discussion, Members recognised that the four lead officers were continuing to make progress, albeit slowly. They also agreed that the concept was right and further evidenced by other work areas, such as Internal Audit. It was felt there may be other priorities which needed to be considered before further regional employment was agreed.

RESOLVED

That JPAC determined its preferred option for the police authorities to pursue compliance with equality legislative requirements.

33. HARMONISATION OF DRIVER TRAINING IN YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which updated them on the progression and recommendations for the harmonisation of driver training within the four forces.

Chief Constable Mr Hughes introduced the report by saying it was the first attempt at harmonising normal police business. He said that this would prevent officers having to retrain if they moved forces or work regionally.

When questioned Chief Constable Mr Hughes said collective training would be an option to consider after operational harmonisation was achieved. He also said that the timescales involved would depend upon the development of individual training plans within the forces.

Members asked to see a progress report in six to twelve months time, including information about what was done, spending and money saved.

Chief Constable Mr Hughes also agreed to provide a list of other areas of normal police business being considered for harmonisation across the region.

RESOLVED

That members noted the contents of the report.

ACTION

Chief Constable Mr Hughes to provide a list of other areas of normal police business being considered for harmonisation across the region.

34. PERFORMANCE ADVISOR TO THE JOINT POLICE AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

Paul Wainwright, Performance and Resources Manager from Humberside Police Authority and Performance Advisor to JPAC gave a verbal presentation on what he wanted to achieve in the role.

Paul spoke about the evolving performance framework that would lead to performance reports being provided from about March 2009. He added that the data collected during 2009/10 would provide the region with a baseline. He finished by emphasising the need to focus on quality rather than quantity, a point that during the discussion was echoed by Members.

35. 2012 OLYMPICS

Chief Constable Mr Hughes provided Members with a verbal update on arrangements for the 2012 Olympics. He began by saying that the overall budget had been fixed with £600 million allocated for policing. He spoke about a costed security plan, but added that this did not cover anything related to the training venues.

Chief Constable Mr Hughes advised that local authorities needed to factor in the costs of policing if they were keen to host training venues for teams and councillors needed to exercise scrutiny to ensure this was done.

Chief Constable Mr Hughes moved on to describe what would happen once the games began, saying that costs would be reimbursed if forces were required to supply resources. He added that there were plans to have big screen coverage of the games throughout the country and these would need policing. He finished by outlining the regional command structure and the need to make a decision about what normal policing would look like whilst the games were on.

The need for all Local Strategic Partnerships to become involved was stressed during the discussion that followed. Members were also pleased to be told that the event strategy included a public campaign to encourage reporting of intelligence.

Fraser Sampson gave an update on the Association of Police Authorities arrangements for the National Olympic Security Plan. He suggested that each Authority ought to begin to address the topics that would feature in the debate about the local versus national benefits of providing resources to assist the decision-making when it eventually arrived.

36. PROJECT UPDATES

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which informed them of progress of the projects being overseen by the Regional Programme Team.

Members were particularly concerned to read that five out of the ten projects reported within the appendix mentioned slippage. The principle reasons given for the slippage were the employment framework issues and the delay in premises for the Regional Intelligence Unit. A brief discussion about some of the employment issues followed and the work needed to allow at least one Chief Constable to be prepared to act as the lead employer.

Discussion then turned to the Regional Protective Services Plan. It was clarified that even though there wasn't a requirement from the Government to provide a regional plan, there was a requirement from JPAC.

Charles Perryman had provided a written link member report about the Strategic Roads Policing project with the papers for the meeting.

Steven Rollinson also circulated a link member report in respect of the Custody project.

Alene Branton MBE advised Members that the next meeting she had for the Serious and Organised Crime project was in December.

RESOLVED

That Members noted the contents of the report.

37. EMPLOYMENT FRAMEWORK

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which provided a more detailed timeline for delivery of the project and progress since the last meeting.

RESOLVED

That Members noted the contents of the report.

38. PROJECT 2013 FUNDING PROPOSAL 'PIPELINE'

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which updated them on planned activity and funding mechanisms for different European Union funding streams.

Janet Clitheroe introduced the report saying that it has been provided to reassure Members about the funding.

When asked who would underwrite the balance once a proportion of the funds had been provided at the start of the project Chief Constable Mr Hughes replied it would be People United Against Crime. Members also asked for future updates to clarify the extent to which projects contributed to the Regional Protective Services gap.

RESOLVED

That Members noted the contents of the report.

39. ASSOCIATION OF POLICE AUTHORITIES (APA) BOARD AND POLICY NETWORKS

Members received a report of the Chief Executives which summarised discussions at the APA Board and the meetings of the four Policy Networks which had taken place either nationally or regionally.

Mark Burns-Williamson expanded on the notes from the APA Board meeting. Members were particularly interested in the Policing Pledge and the capability of forces to adhere to every element.

Chief Constable Mr Hughes commented that Chief Constables liked the Pledge because it was simple and explainable to the public. He added that Chief Constables accepted that not all aspects of the Pledge would be achievable in every force, but acknowledged that it would lead to creative thinking and drive innovation.

Members expressed a desire to receive a report to a future meeting outlining how forces were responding to the Policing Pledge.

RESOLVED

That JPAC considered the feedback and proposed work programme from the APA Board and Policy Networks.

40. NOTES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES' MEETING HELD ON 9 OCTOBER 2008

Members received notes from the meeting of the Chief Executives which took place on 9 October 2008.

RESOLVED

That the notes were received.

41. NOTES OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2008 AND 21 OCTOBER 2008

Members received notes from the meetings of the Regional Programme Board which took place on 24 September 2008 and 21 October 2008.

RESOLVED

That the notes were received.

IN PRIVATE

42. LEASE ISSUE

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which updated them on the issues arising from the negotiation for the lease for the new regional accommodation.

An amended report was also circulated at the meeting which provided further information on issues which arose after the business case was approved at the JPAC meeting on 21 May 2008.

Members noted:

- that a decision had been made for Humberside Police Authority to sign the lease on behalf of the four authorities;
- the annual rent had been reduced by just under £10,000 to that shown in the business case and that it would be effective for the term of the lease;
- refurbishment would take nine weeks and the costs had been miscalculated in the original business case;
- refurbishment costs had been recalculated due to the ground floor needing work before being fit for purpose;
- the leaseholder would be responsible for all internal and external repairs;
- a service charge would be levied to cover maintenance of car parks, yards, landscaping, security, etc;
- there will be no rebate once the present premises for the Regional Programme Team is vacated; and
- the internal layout of the building will enable limited future proofing.

Members queried the revised refurbishment costs and were informed that this was in reality an extensive refit required by the sensitive operational nature of the work that would be undertaken. They were assured that the £445,448 quoted in the report would be the maximum amount payable.

Chief Constable Mr Hughes gave an assurance that the project could be met without the need for any further budgetary adjustment, notwithstanding the additional costs identified within the two papers, and said that a report would come back to JPAC if the refurbishment costs was to be more than what was quoted in the revised paper.

Alene Branton, Chair of Humberside Police Authority, said that she was prepared to sign the lease provided that she had received letters of indemnity from the other forces and authorities.

Members also noted that the report proposed a change in funding arrangements from NRE to equal shares.

RESOLVED

- a) That Members noted the contents of the report;
- b) That Members supported the decision that Humberside Police Authority sign the lease on behalf of the region and that North, South and West Yorkshire Police Authorities indemnify future liabilities;
- c) That Members agreed that the funding principles established in September 2007 be applied to this lease; and
- d) That costs for refurbishing the building to accommodate the sensitive operational work to be undertaken should be reasonable and, in any event, not exceed £445,448

43. REGIONAL PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Fraser Sampson updated members on the situation with the Regional Programme Director's post.

IN PUBLIC

44. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

CHAIR