



MINUTES

YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE JOINT POLICE AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE (JPAC)

28 JANUARY 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alene Branton MBE (Vice Chair)	Reg Littleboy	Alternates
Mark Burns-Williamson	Charles Perryman (Chair)	Keith Orrell
Mohammed Ismaiel	Steven Rollinson	Andrew Smith
Jane Kenyon	David Rudd	

OFFICERS PRESENT

Nigel Brook	Jeremy Holderness	Claire Sykes
Keith Gilert	Meredydd Hughes	Mark Whyman
Karen Grey	Erika Redfearn	Bill Wilkinson
Judith Heeley	Fraser Sampson	
Trish Holder	Kevin Sharp	

Also in attendance were Jill Bartrop MBE, South Yorkshire Police Authority and George Southern, Humberside Police Authority.

44. APOLOGIES

Received from Bill Baugh, Les Carter, Clive Palmerley, Ruth Potter, Kashaf Walayat and Janet Spencer.

45. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

None.

46. MINUTES OF THE YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE JOINT POLICE AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2009

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

47. MATTERS ARISING

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

It was noted that the Heads of Agreement document for the lead force arrangements were due to be taken to South Yorkshire Police Authority on 19 February. The document would then come for formal guarantee to the March JPAC meeting before going to the individual police authorities for ratification.

48. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

49. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of Agenda Item No. 17 (Minute No. 60 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.

50. REGIONAL BUDGET UPDATE 2009/10

A report of the Chief Constables highlighted an underspend in the regional budget as at 31 October 2009 of £343,444 and a forecast year-end underspend of £600,000. The main areas of underspend were pay-related expenses, the previous year carry forwards and vehicle expenses.

Temporary Regional Deputy Chief Constable Whyman introduced the report and said he hoped the Heads of Agreement and Lead Force arrangements would help recruitment into regional posts. He asked JPAC to allow £300,000 to be carried forward into 2010/11 to cover one-off pump priming costs and IT licences. Assistant Chief Officer Nigel Brook added that JPAC was also being asked to recommend an additional carry forward of £300,000 to individual police authorities to offset the costs of the Regional Crime Unit.

A question was asked about the environmental impact of the proposed move to a standard cost arrangement for vehicles in 2010/11. The use of diesel fuelled vehicles was highlighted but the need to have an operationally capable vehicle was felt to be of greater importance than environmental concerns.

Members were concerned about the repeated underspends and how this might be viewed by other members in the light of the proposed increased budget for 2010/11. Mr Brook pointed out that it had been possible to reduce the cost base as a result of the experience of operational running over the last year. The need for carefully worded reports to individual police authorities was emphasised, with a clear explanation of what the money carried forward would be used for.

RESOLVED

That:

- (a) The budget position to 31 October 2009 was noted;**
- (b) JPAC approved a carry forward of £300,000 to assist with one-off costs in 2010/11 such as additional IT licence costs for Lead Force issues and other collaboration initiatives that save money; and**
- (c) JPAC approved the submission of any underspend above £300,000 to individual Police Authority Treasurers for approval by individual police authorities, with a recommendation that this underspend be used to offset the cost of implementing the serious and organised crime proposals during 2010/11.**

51. SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME – REGIONAL RESPONSE

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which summarised the recommendations of the project team, Heads of Crime Group, Regional Chief Constables Group and Regional Collaboration Board concerning the proposed model for the development of a Regional Crime Unit, Regional Confidential Unit and Regional People Protection Unit and overall structure and governance of new and existing regional assets.

Temporary Regional Deputy Chief Constable Whyman introduced the report by giving an overview of the work being undertaken to tackle the 200 organised crime groups operating in the region. He explained that the establishment of a Regional Crime Unit was being mandated by the Home Office but the Regional Confidential Unit and Regional People Protection Unit was proposed to meet national drivers of best practice, ACPO guidance and doctrine. Mr Whyman said that the proposed structure and staffing arrangements were deemed to be the minimum requirements to meet the Home Office mandate. Two forces had People Protection Units currently so the creation of a Regional Unit would deliver efficiency savings overall. He finished by pointing out that pay awards had not been factored into the figures.

The Chair added that, whilst all the costs were not yet known, police authorities needed to have sight of the information as they prepared to set police budgets for 2010/11.

The support to the Regional Confidential Unit from the Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) was noted and a question was asked about the possibility of the CTU using capacity and resources to extend into other work areas such as Serious and Organised Crime. The variable capacity within the CTU was given as the reason why only support could be provided.

A request was made for an operational review to be carried out once the Units have been operational for a while to advise whether the structure was right and for JPAC to receive feedback about the results.

A question was asked as to why the difference in net funding for the three units was not showing a bigger difference between 2010/11 and 2011/12. Mr

Brook replied that this was due to the need for the Regional Crime Unit to be operational from April 2010.

A request was made for Humberside Police Authority to be kept informed about leasing matters, as the lead for estates.

Fraser Sampson informed members of the outcome of the request to the Policing Minister to treat Yorkshire and the Humber as a discrete region and for the funds to be allocated on an NRE basis. He said it was considered at the National Protective Services Board on 19 January, at which he and Chief Constable Sir Norman Bettison was present. The decision was made to treat Yorkshire and the Humber as a discrete region, but to allocate funds on an equal shares basis. Fraser then spoke about the independent assessment of the Yorkshire and Humber business case by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, which had resulted in a 'Green' outcome compared with the other regions which received 'Amber' or 'Red' outcomes.

The Chair asked for a more up-to-date budget for the three units to be presented to the next meeting.

Temporary Regional Deputy Chief Constable Whyman then asked for authorisation to begin the recruitment and members agreed to his request.

RESOLVED

That members:

- (a) noted the decisions made by the region's Chief Constables in responding to the serious and organised crime threat; and**
- (b) recognised the spending pressures contained in this report for 2010/11 and beyond and for referral from JPAC to individual police authorities within the region.**

ACTIONS

- (a) An operational review to be carried out once the Units have been operational for a while to advise whether the structure was right and for JPAC to receive feedback about the results.**
- (b) A more up-to-date budget for the three units to be presented to the next meeting.**

52. REGIONAL BUDGET 2010/11

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which set out the proposed Regional Collaboration Budget for 2010/11.

Assistant Chief Officer Nigel Brook introduced the document by highlighting the £600,000 of efficiencies that had been found, enabling the funding of the Temporary Regional Deputy Chief Constable post and replacements of

vehicles from the existing budget. He finished by explaining that the additional costs in the budget were for the three new units.

A number of issues were raised by members, including continued confusion over the costs to Humberside Police Authority, pleasure that the Regional Collaboration Executive was not going to happen, concern about sustainability of arrangements once pump priming money was used up, the need for greater scrutiny of costs and the need to record the costs of support from police authorities.

Discussion took place on this latter point, since members felt this would be examined during police authority inspections. It was suggested that the Regional Working Group should pick this up as part of 'Value-for-Money' conversations. The need for collaboration between police authorities was also highlighted and Mark Burns-Williamson said he was hopeful of support and money after highlighting the omission of police authorities to the Policing Minister, who was making some funding available for collaboration and mergers.

The situation of the Regional Programme Team was also highlighted where three officers of superintending ranks were already employed but their roles not made explicit within the budget. It was also pointed out that the cost of the team was greater than for some police authority secretariats. The need to review the role and structure within the team was highlighted. Mr Whyman agreed that this was an important task but that he needed to fully understand the support needs of the consultants before he could undertake it properly.

A suggestion was made for JPAC to retain and release money upon submission of business cases. Mr Brook pointed out that £300,000 was to contribute to the funding of the Regional Crime Unit, subject to the approval of the individual police authorities. The other £300,000 which JPAC members had just approved to be carried forward was as yet undetermined and that he would bring back all proposals for its expenditure to JPAC.

The need to be able to demonstrate effective scrutiny of value-for-money was emphasised, as was the need for JPAC to have a clear understanding of the impact on future years' budgets. Mr Brook agreed to provide this information to Treasurers, but added that the conclusions of the consultants were unknown. It was also recognised that the timing of the mandate from the Home Office was contributing to the uncertainty.

The recommendation in the report was then discussed and amended so that JPAC could resolve to recommend acceptance of the regional budget proposals to individual police authorities.

RESOLVED

That members agreed to recommend the regional budget proposals for 2010/11 to individual police authorities, including the proposals from

Agenda Item 7 to carry forward the forecast £600k underspend from 2009/10.

53. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY REGIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF CONSTABLE

Members received a report of the Chief Executives which informed them of the process used for the recent recruitment of the Temporary Regional Deputy Chief Constable.

The report provided details of all stages of the recruitment process and included as attachments, the application form, interview questions and scoring matrix.

RESOLVED

That JPAC noted the contents of the report.

54. REGIONAL CHARGING POLICY

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which advised them of the proposals and the outcome in respect of mutual aid charging within the Yorkshire and Humber region, presented to the Regional Collaboration Board on 17 December 2009.

Chief Constable Mr Hughes introduced the report by saying the rates were set nationally but there had been two amendments to benefit collaborative working in the Region. He finished by saying that there was strong support from Logistics personnel.

RESOLVED

That JPAC members noted the report.

55. PROJECT UPDATES

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which updated them on the progress of collaborative activity and projects being undertaken by the region.

RESOLVED

That members noted the contents of the report.

56. REPORT FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF POLICE AUTHORITIES BOARD

Members were provided with a report of the Chief Executives which outlined the business discussed at the meeting of the Association of Police Authorities (APA) Board meeting held on 13 January 2010.

Alene Branton introduced the report and highlighted a view expressed at the Board that some of the regional networks were not working. It had been agreed that there would be items on APA business at regional meetings, such as JPAC.

Concern was expressed about the potential shortfall in the APA's budget and the impact on police authority subscriptions. Mark Burns-Williamson advised that an increase in subscriptions had been accepted at the previous day's APA Council meeting. He also said that the proposal to increase the funding of ACPO had been approved by just one vote.

RESOLVED

That members considered the feedback from the APA Board.

ACTION

The Chairs and Chief Executives to discuss how APA business can be incorporated into the JPAC agendas.

57. NOTES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES' MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2009

Members received the notes of the Chief Executives' meeting held on 7 December 2009.

RESOLVED

That the notes were received.

58. NOTES OF THE REGIONAL COLLABORATION BOARD MEETING HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2009

Members received the notes of the Regional Programme Board meeting held on 20 October 2009.

RESOLVED

That the notes were received.

59. REPORT OF THE REGIONAL COLLABORATION BOARD HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2009

There were no additional items to raise.

IN PRIVATE

60. SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME PROJECT CLOSURE REPORT

Members received a report of the Chief Constables which included the closure report of the Serious and Organised Crime Project.

RESOLVED

That Members noted the contents of the report.

61. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Fraser Sampson spoke about the Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (RIEP) Delivery Group meeting that he attended that morning, where the Yorkshire and Humber bid for £250,000 to fund 50% of the consultant's fees was discussed. Fraser said that the proposal had received strong support but a decision had not been made because Chris Taylor was on sick leave. Fraser said he would feed back to members once the decision had been made.

Fraser Sampson made a suggestion that the next JPAC meeting should incorporate another all-member event to review the member development Strategy prior to the end of Sue Martin's contract. He offered to host the event in West Yorkshire. Members agreed to the suggestion.

The meeting closed at 16.40.

CHAIR