

SUSSEX POLICE AUTHORITY

Minutes of a meeting of the Sussex Police Authority held on 28 October 2010 at Sackville House, Lewes.

Present:

Dr L Bush (Chairman), Mr S Waight (Vice-Chairman), Mr L Barnard, Mr P Bratton, Prof G Bull, Ms E Daniel, Mr G Daniel JP, Mr B Duncan, Mr F Faiz, Mr P Jones, Mr A Price JP, Mrs C Shaves MBE JP, Mr A Smith, Mr B Tidy and Dr R Walker.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Evans, Mrs S Knight and Assistant Chief Constable Robin Merrett.

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

80. The Chairman welcomed to the Authority Special Constable Christine Smith who had been a Special Constable for six years and represented the excellent contribution made by Special Constables in helping to police Sussex.
81. The Chairman also welcomed Phil Woolf of the Serving Sussex Team who had recently been appointed as Director of Performance at the Metropolitan Police Force. On behalf of the Authority, the Chairman wished Mr Woolf well in his new position.
82. The Chairman also welcomed Mark Rowe, Head of Finance, David Paul, Head of Corporate Communications, Marion Fanthorpe, Director of Human Resources, Sue George, Head of Corporate Communications, Chief Superintendent Graham Bartlett, representing the Superintendents' Association, Superintendent Lisa Pearcy, Temporary Superintendent Neil Honor, Nick Cloke, Head of Media Services, Inspector Bob Brown representing the Police Federation, Sarah Reed and Lyn Cook, representing Unison.

DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

83. No personal interests were declared.

MINUTES

84. On behalf of the Authority, the Chairman conveyed congratulations to all who had been involved in the South East Collaboration Programme in respect of Air Support. The agreement which had now been signed had been developed in close alignment to the national programme of collaboration within air support.
85. **Resolved** - that the minutes of the meeting of the Police Authority held on 29 July 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

REPORTS

86. Copies of reports referred to in the minutes below are included in the minute book.

UPDATED MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL FORECAST TO 2015

87. The Police Authority considered a report by the Treasurer, Chief Constable and Chief Executive.
88. The Government's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) had been announced on 20 October 2010, with the detailed settlement for the Authority anticipated during December 2010. In light of the CSR it was suggested that officers be requested to work up options for further savings, or a rephrasing of the savings already identified, in order to give the Authority extra flexibility to react to the settlement expected during December. The exact date for the settlement announcement was unknown and therefore it was indicated that it might not be before the Authority meeting on 9 December 2010.
89. **Resolved** - that
- (1) the latest assumptions, based on the information in the Comprehensive Spending Review be used for the Medium Term Financial Planning be agreed;
 - (2) the approach to revenue and capital budget planning as set out in the report be agreed; and
 - (3) the Chief Constable, Treasurer and Chief Executive be asked to work up further options for savings, or reconsider the phasing of existing savings, in preparation for the settlement anticipated during December 2010.

SERVING SUSSEX 2015

90. The Police Authority considered a report by the Chief Constable, Chief Executive and Treasurer.
91. The report updated the Authority on Serving Sussex 2015 and detailed, the programme of work being undertaken for the development of the right model for policing in the future within a context of achieving budgetary savings. The Authority had been actively engaged within the programme through chairing the Serving Sussex 2015 Strategic Board, membership of the delivery group, engagement to each of the work streams and participation in the joint seminars held in July and September 2010.
92. All areas of Force expenditure were being subjected to close scrutiny with divisions and departments identifying potential savings in addition to the themes being examined by the Serving Sussex 2015 work streams. The report provided further details on the impact on police

officer and police staff posts. Members were briefed on how the need to reduce police officer and police staff posts would be handled.

93. The Authority discussed the further potential for savings and the possibilities of collaboration with other public sector partners. The Authority welcomed the levels of savings identified and the ethos of change which had been adopted across the Force. On behalf of the Authority, the Chairman thanked all the officers involved on the Serving Sussex 2015 Programme for the work which they were undertaking and for providing such a detailed and comprehensive report.
94. **Resolved** – that
- (1) the governance structure for Serving Sussex 2015 at Appendix A be approved;
 - (2) the Serving Sussex 2015 design principles at Appendix B be reaffirmed;
 - (3) the summary of potential revenue savings at Appendix C be noted;
 - (4) the progress towards the financial targets and the cost of change be noted; and
 - (5) the Chief Executive be requested to update Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary on a regular basis on the progress and achievements that the Serving Sussex 2015 Programme had made.

REVIEW OF RESERVES 2010

95. The Police Authority considered a report by the Treasurer and Chief Constable setting out the latest position on reserves.
96. The importance of considering the Authority's Reserves at the same time as the budget was highlighted and ensured that resources were available to fund spending at a level commensurate with the needs of Sussex. Any such changes made to the reserves would directly impact on the 2011-12 budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan.
97. The Chief Constable and the Treasurer had reviewed the level and usage of specific reserves in accordance with the regulatory framework and identified a series of findings which were detailed in section 5 of the report.
98. **Resolved** – that
- (1) the proposed changes to reserves set out in Section 5 of the report be approved and the Treasurer and Chief Constable be requested to work up specific recommendations as part of the budget setting report to the December meeting of the Authority;
 - (2) the use of £3m of the estimated balance of £3.8m on the Major Change Reserve to be applied at 31 March 2011 to fund the implementation of a voluntary severance scheme be approved; and
 - (3) the revised Reserves Policy as set out in Appendix B to the report be approved.

LOCAL POLICING PLAN 2011-14

99. The Police Authority considered a report by the Chief Constable, Treasurer and Chief Executive outlining the process for the development of the Local Policing Plan 2011-14.
100. Initial consultation had suggested that the LPP should be developed and structured around the performance targets and in line with the development of the budget. The primary focus on targets required that the structure of the Plan aligns with the most relevant scrutiny committee and it had been further suggested that the number of targets should be reduced from the 30 within the current plan.
101. **Resolved** - that the proposals for developing the 2011-14 Local Policing Plan be approved.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

102. The Police Authority considered a report by the Chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee which outlined the matters considered at the meeting of the Committee held on 23 September 2010.
103. It was pointed out that the Committee had considered and approved the Authority's final Statement of Accounts for 2009-10 financial year and that the District Auditor had issued the Authority with an unqualified audit opinion and had issued an unqualified value for money conclusion.
104. **Resolved** - that the report be noted.

REPORT OF RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

105. The Police Authority considered a report by the Chairman of the Resources Scrutiny Committee which outlined the matters considered at the meeting of the Committee held on 7 October 2010.
106. In presenting the report the Chairman of the Committee highlighted the financial position to the end of August 2010. He indicated that the Committee had discussed the issue of significant debtors and were reassured that robust internal credit control procedures were in place.
107. **Resolved** – that
- (1) the transfers to reserves as set out in the budget monitoring report be approved;
 - (2) the increase to the capital programme as set out in the budget monitoring report be approved;
 - (3) the outstanding debt of £8,427 be written off in accordance with financial regulations; and
 - (4) the report be noted.

REPORT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

108. The Police Authority considered a report by the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Scrutiny Committee which outlined the matters considered at the meeting of the Committee held on 10 June 2010.

109. The Committee welcomed the change in format to the structure of scrutiny committee meetings which included a more streamlined and focused agenda and seminar sessions being held prior to the meeting.
110. During the discussion of partnership working, members of the Authority suggested that consideration needed to be given to working with the voluntary sector organisations. It was agreed that further information would be presented to the Neighbourhood Policing Scrutiny Committee.
111. **Resolved** – that the report be noted.

REPORT OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

112. The Police Authority considered a report by the Chairman of the Protective Services Scrutiny Committee which outlined the matters considered at the meeting of the Committee held on 22 September 2010.
113. The Committee welcomed the collaboration work underway regionally which included the sharing of good practice, development of partnerships and alignment of business processes allowing for greater sharing of resources. It was reported that a scientific support model for Surrey and Sussex was working towards the provision of combined services which included fingerprinting, laboratory and external service provision and was being scoped under the "Working with Surrey" workstream of Serving Sussex 2015 Programme.
114. **Resolved** – that the Authority, through its work with the Serving Sussex 2015 team, be requested to oversee the budgetary restrictions and risks associated with service delivery.

REPORT OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

115. The Police Authority considered a report by the Chairman of the Professional Standards Committee which outlined the matters considered at the meeting of the Committee held on 13 October 2010.
116. The Chairman of the Committee provided an update on the position regarding ventilation at Hastings Custody Centre. It was reported that maintenance on the airflow system had been undertaken which identified a problem and blockage with the grills which had since been rectified.
117. It was suggested that consideration should be given to the system of complaints against officers. Consideration would be given to the fact that complaints against police officers were considered by the Professional Standards Department in contrast to complaints against Police Community Support Officers which were dealt with by Human Resources.
118. **Resolved** – that the report be noted.

Chairman

