

Chief Officer Group

4th February 2008

Minutes

OPEN

Present:

Craig Mackey	Chief Constable
Christine Twigg	Deputy Chief Constable
Joanna Bancroft	Director of Personnel and Development
Gill Shearer	Head of Marketing and Communications
Nina Liggins	Minute taker
Hollie Mark	Minute taker

- 1 Apologies for absence**
ACC Graham Sunderland
ACC Neil Rhodes
Mike Thompson - Dir Finance & Resources

Action owner(s)

- 2 Minutes of meeting of 21st January 2008**

The minutes were agreed and the following matters arising were raised.

ECM – to be discussed under any other business in the closed section

Body Armour – will be covered in the finance papers in the closed section

Revision of Chief Officer portfolios – concern was voiced by the Chief Constable and the Deputy Chief Constable over the timing of proposed changes to board structure. It was agreed that there will be no board changes without COG approval.

The Chief Constable suggested that he would like to tie in the launch date of the new portfolio structure with the

Chief Officer Group

budget news which would come after the Police Authority meeting on the 20th February.

3 Declaration of any other business

Deputy Chief Constable: The Northern Police Convalescent Centre - issue around cancellation of bookings.

4 Action updates

Actions ongoing

5 Minutes to note

The minutes of the Cumbria Constabulary/University of Cumbria Collaboration Steering Group on 17th January were noted. DCC Twigg reported that there is a lot of good work emerging from the group, but there were some concerns over the spread of the workload between the police and the university, especially within the training plans.

The minutes of the Confidence and Equality Board on the 4th December were noted. The key points were that equality schemes have all been updated and that the constabulary is compliant with schemes.

The minutes of the Strategic Risk Group on 11th January were noted. Risk management processes are in place. There was some concern regarding crossover with the Police Authority risk register.

6 Standing Items

a) COG diary commitments and command cover

These were discussed and noted.

b) Press issues

Carlisle Flooding 21st January

The Head of Marketing and Communications reported concerns that during the recent flooding there was no out of hours or on call cover provided. The need for a multi-agency media debrief was expressed.

Chief Officer Group

ACTION: The Head of Marketing and Communications to arrange a multi-agency media debrief regarding the Carlisle flooding on the 21st January.

Head M&C

The Head of Marketing and Communications reported that the Highways Agency had dealt well with the recent problems caused by snow. There will be a debriefing regarding the number of calls that were put through to the Press Office from the Comms Centre.

Video Clips

Feedback regarding the use of video clips has been positive and the Press Office is getting more requests for them. A protocol is being developed to give guidance on appropriate use of video clips.

Communication re Portfolio Change

A draft internal email has been circulated for consideration. It was agreed that it would be good to hold off until the 20th February and to include with the budget news.

High level video clips from Mr Mackey, supported by an email from Mr Rhodes and Mr Sunderland, will be sent to all staff following the Police Authority meeting on the 20th February.

Other amendments were suggested and the Head of Marketing and Media agreed to make these changes to the communication in preparation for the 20th February.

Chief Superintendent Promotion Process

A discussion took place regarding when the outcome of the interviews would be available for communication. It was agreed that it would be possible to make a decision on Monday 11th February, and that P&D would prepare an email for circulation.

Agenda Items

7 Officer Safety Training

The Director of Personnel and Development raised a governance issue around poor officer attendance at safety training sessions. It is felt that this is a sufficiently important issue to raise with COG. It was agreed that DCC would send a communication to divisional commanders.

Chief Officer Group

ACTION: DCC Twigg to send a communication to divisional commanders regarding the importance of officers attending safety training.

DCC Twigg

Any other business

Northern Police Convalescent and Treatment Centre

A letter has been received from the Chief Executive Michael Baxter raising the issue of a recent late cancellation of places on a respite event, by officers in protective services.

Due to the late cancellation, the centre was unable to reallocate the places. DCC Twigg felt that the late cancellation was unacceptable and that it would be appropriate to offer payment of £300 being the equivalent to a non-refundable deposit. It was agreed that the £300 would be paid, and would come from the budget of the original booking department.

It was noted that COG expressed their displeasure in the approach taken by the officers concerned in their dealings with a charity set up to help officers and their families in need.

Closed agenda

Date of next meeting

18th February 2008