

# Chief Officer Group

18<sup>th</sup> August 2008

## Minutes

OPEN

**Present:**

<b>Craig Mackey</b>	Chief Constable
<b>Graham Sunderland</b>	Assistant Chief Constable (Crime)
<b>Mike Thompson</b>	Director of Finance and Resources
<b>Gill Shearer</b>	Head of Marketing and Communications
<b>Jane Sauntson</b> (part meeting)	Strategic Development
<b>Paul Telford</b>	Inspector, Firearms Operations Unit
<b>Nina Robinson</b>	Minute Taker

- 1 Apologies for absence**  
DCC Christine Twigg  
ACC (TP) Neil Rhodes  
Joanna Bancroft, Director of Personnel & Development

**Action owner(s)**

**2 Minutes of meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising:

Business Continuity – Graham Sunderland clarified that business continuity is the responsibility of each department head, and that the Contingency Planning department's role will be one of co-ordination.

Crime Mapping – Craig Mackey reported that a formal update from the Home Office on crime mapping requirements is still awaited. COG noted that ACC Neil Rhodes is now leading on a national piece of work on crime mapping. Graham Sunderland requested that Detective Ch/Supt Iain Goulding be involved in that work.

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**3 Declaration of any other business**

DVI vehicles – Graham Sunderland

**4 Action updates**

Action 66 re crime mapping – discussed above.

**5 Minutes to note**

There were no minutes to note.

**6 Standing Items**

**a) COG diary commitments and command cover**

These were noted and discussed.

**b) Press issues**

Gill Shearer updated the group on local press issues. The main media coverage has surrounded the recent incidents in West Cumbria. Graham Sunderland gave a brief update on the situation.

Press coverage of an incident in Aspatria was discussed, and it was agreed that Gill Shearer will work with Superintendent Phil Bishop on a response.

**ACTION: Gill Shearer to work with Superintendent Phil Bishop on a response to weekend press reporting regarding an incident in Aspatria.**

Head of M&C

It was noted that the safety camera partnership is running a media campaign. Graham Sunderland agreed to follow this up to ensure constabulary involvement.

Gill Shearer informed the group that she had attended a meeting regarding a Cumbria Strategic Partnership communications strategy. Communications will now appear on all agendas for CSP meetings at all levels, with work on the strategy itself being ongoing.

**Agenda Items**

*(note: items were discussed in a different order to that on*

*the agenda)*

## 9 Baton Gun Torch

Graham Sunderland introduced the paper and the reasons for it. The current situation and recommendations were then summarised by Paul Telford.

After discussion it was agreed that on the basis of the current risk assessment and the lack of an adequate alternative, the assessed potential benefits of the system developed by the constabulary outweigh the risks.

It was agreed that Craig Mackey will write to the chair of the ACPO Police Use of Firearms sub-committee, Simon Chesterman, to raise concerns over the ACPO stance on this issue.

A letter will also be sent to the IPCC, along with an invitation to attend a briefing in Cumbria which would include demonstration of the equipment.

Craig Mackey will also seek legal opinion through the force solicitor regarding the legal position with the situation to be reviewed again by the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

**ACTION: Craig Mackey to write to chair of ACPO PuoF and IPCC, with technical input from Paul Telford, regarding the use of attachments to the baton gun and the associated ACPO stance. Craig Mackey also to seek advice on legal position. An update to be given to COG at the end of September.**

CC

Paul Telford left the meeting at this point.

## 7 Neighbourhood Policing Abstractions

Jane Sauntson introduced the paper which recommends using the DMS system to capture community officer abstraction data to enable monitoring of abstraction rates.

After discussion it was agreed that the paper has been agreed with the following principles:

- support and agreement for data being collected downstream of officers
- existing systems, such as DMS, will be used to collect data where possible
- when data is available, an operational interpretation

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must be carried out before a decision is made on how and where the results are to be communicated.

It was agreed that an update will be given to COG in October/November after trialling the use of DMS for abstraction data collection.

Jane Sauntson left the meeting at this point.

**8 Satisfaction and Confidence Performance Information**

Graham Sunderland reported that the paper had recently been through Operations Board and that it was felt that this falls into daily business for ACC (TP) and BCU commanders. There needs to be recognition that commanders need a local rolling programme of work in this area and that it is not sufficient to rely on British Crime Survey data.

COG noted and approved the paper, noting that there are recurring revenue costs attached. It was agreed that the information contained in this paper should be communicated to the Police Authority through the Policing Plan and Performance Committee.

**ACTION: Neil Rhodes to take the paper on Satisfaction and Confidence Performance Information to the Police Authority PP&P committee on the 25<sup>th</sup> September.**

ACC (TP)

**10 Police use of Resources 2008-09**

Mike Thompson introduced the paper which will be presented to the Police Authority Governance Committee in September, and highlighted the significant changes which have been made to the PURE regime for 2008-09 and beyond. Mike Thompson asked that COG note the following:

- The new regime is more broadly based and is not just about finance. A debate is needed around whether to alter some of the management arrangements.
- The Audit Commission's national lead for PURE has agreed to come to a Stakeholders meeting in Cumbria. Invitations to the event may extend to members of other forces and other partners.

COG noted these points and the changes to the regime and Craig Mackey requested that a discussion takes place

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outside the meeting between himself, Christine Twigg and Mike Thompson regarding whether there is a need for a broader based steering group due to the now wider strategic focus of PURE.

Graham Sunderland expressed the need to recognise there is an opportunity here to influence the national corporate approach to procurement.

Mike Thompson was thanked for his work on this paper.

**Any other business**

DVI Vehicles – Graham Sunderland asked COG to note that two cars which are funded by the Home Office and leased to DVI, but which appear on the constabulary's books, are to be changed. COG agreed to the continuation of the existing arrangements with the new vehicles.

**Closed agenda**

**Date of next meeting**

**1<sup>st</sup> September 2008**