

Chief Officer Group

23 June 2008

Minutes

OPEN

Present:

Craig Mackey	Chief Constable
Neil Rhodes	Assistant Chief Constable (Territorial Policing)
Mike Thompson	Director of Finance and Resources
Joanna Bancroft	Director of Personnel and Development
Gill Shearer	Head of Marketing and Communications
Nina Robinson	Minute Taker
Hollie Mark	Minute Taker
Rosemary Marshall	Information Technology Manager (Items 14/15/16)

1 Apologies for absence

DCC Twigg
ACC (C) Sunderland

2 Minutes of meeting of 9th June 2008

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

3 Declaration of any other business

Jenny Davies – Customer Satisfaction and confidence Survey.

4 Action updates

Mobile Data

In the absence of A.Ch. Supt Connolly, ACC Rhodes updated COG on the current position in regard to Mobile

Action owner(s)

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Data.

A briefing document was circulated and noted.

The Mobile data team will provide an outline business case to COG on the 21st July 08.

5 Minutes to note

No minutes to note.

6 Standing Items

a) COG diary commitments and command cover

Noted and discussed.

b) Press issues

Gill Shearer, Head of Marketing and Communications updated the Chief Officer team on local and national press issues.

Agenda Items (Please note that in the meeting Items were not discussed in agenda order)

7 Strategic Development Activity – July – September

Jenny Davies presented the group with a paper outlining the proposed activity to be undertaken by Strategic Development from July to September. It was decided to focus on the following areas;

- Support to Command Units - meeting efficiency and productivity targets (This was sighted as a priority)
- Leadership
- Resourcing

ACC Rhodes commented that it would assist if the output from the work supporting command units was brought to COG so as to standardise the approach.

8 Staff Suggestion Scheme

Jenny Davies recommended that the existing Bright Spark

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Scheme be revised and re - launched as 'Tell the Chief'. The Chief Officer team discussed the merits of such a scheme and it was approved.

9 APACS Local Priority Moderation

The Chief Officer Group noted the response from the Home Office and agreed to retain its targets in the local policing Plan.

10 Medium Term Financial Forecast

Mike Thompson presented the Chief Officer Team with the Medium Term Financial Forecast. Mike Thompson highlighted that since the forecast was written there have been some substantial changes in the economic climate.

This was noted by COG.

11 Annual Governance Statement

Mike Thompson outlined the Annual Governance Statement. This will be put forward to the next Governance Committee along with the Statement of Accounts.

This was approved by COG.

12 Statutory Accounts 2007 - 08

The Statement of Accounts was brought to COG for noting.

Mike Thompson asked that the work that Michelle Bellis, Technical and Accounting Manager has carried out to produce this document is recognised.

13 Youth Restorative Disposal Project

ACC Rhodes presented a paper on the Youth Restorative Disposal Project, a project to target the reduction of youngsters coming into the Criminal Justice system.

ACC Rhodes proposed to COG that the Constabulary should apply to the Home Office for an extension of six months.

This was agreed.

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14 IT Strategy

Rosemary Marshal presented the IT Strategy to the group.

Jenny Davies commented that the SMF should have the opportunity to look into this with Gill Shearer raising how IT plan to communicate this to the SMF.

Mike Thompson raised an issue on resourcing and was informed that IT are currently ring fencing resources but do not have enough information, as yet to be definite on what they will need. More information should be known on this in 3 months time.

CC Mackey commented that the difficulty of getting staff with the correct skills should be put on the risk register as this is a regional problem. CC Mackey also agreed that this should be taken through the SMF.

COG agreed it was an excellent document and approved the strategy.

15 IT/PMU Merger

ACC Rhodes discussed the paper with COG.

Issues around the staffing structure were discussed. ACC Rhodes commented that if approved there needs to be a process to formally fill the PMU post that is open and fair.

Approved – will be reviewed in 18 months.

16 Network

Rosemary Marshall presented the paper on Networks to COG.

The need for change to the current network infrastructure was agreed, and it was noted that work is currently being carried out by external consultants.

It was agreed that as this is a sizeable capital investment a full debate must be had. Details of the way forward will be put to the August SMF for discussion.

Rosemary Marshall and her team were thanked for the work they have done.

17 Neighbourhood Management

ACC Rhodes spoke to the paper regarding the Neighbourhood Management proposals and looked through the 12 proposals. It was highlighted that although the constabulary would be facilitating delivery they would not be directing resources.

It was agreed that there is a need to make explicit that there will be different levels of neighbourhood management.

Joanna Bancroft raised that this will need to be linked back through the Force Learning Panel.

The principles were agreed with the above comments from ACC Rhodes

Any other business

Customer Satisfaction and confidence Survey

Jenny Davies raised concerns that at present Areas are creating a number of questionnaires to be completed by victims of crime. Jenny Davies highlighted that this information will not be comparable and will not add value to any data.

Chief Constable Mackey agreed that there could not be ad hoc systems around the force as there would not be any baselines. It was noted that this is clearly an issue that needs addressing.

Action: Through Jenny Davies, IMS and Op's Board are to scope and look at resources so it can be agreed who will bridge the gap.

Closed agenda

Date of next meeting

7th July 2008