

Chief Officer Group

31st March 2008

Minutes

OPEN

Present:

Craig Mackey	Chief Constable
Mike Thompson	Director of Finance and Resources
Joanna Bancroft	Director of Personnel and Development
Gill Shearer	Head of Marketing and Communications
Jenny Davies	Director of Strategic Development
Nina Robinson	Minute Taker

1 Apologies for absence

Christine Twigg DCC
Graham Sunderland ACC Crime
Neil Rhodes ACC Territorial Policing

Action owner(s)

2 Minutes of meeting of 17th March 2008

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

3 Declaration of any other business

Forensics contract – Director of Finance & Resources

DSP Funding – Director of Finance & Resources

4 Action updates

The Head of Media and Marketing confirmed that a letter raising concerns about partner out of office media cover is due to be sent this week.

5 Minutes to note

The open minutes of the Force Health & Safety Committee

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from the 11th March 2008 were noted and discussed.

The open minutes from the Resourcing and Standards Board from the 18th March 2008, were noted and discussed.

6 Standing Items

a) COG diary commitments and command cover

Diary commitments were noted and discussed.

b) Press issues

The Head of Marketing and Communications updated the group on national and local press issues.

AGENDA ITEMS

7 Constabulary Targets and Performance Contracts

The Director of Strategic Development presented this paper and the detailed Policing Plan Target areas and draft targets for each year were considered, together with the framework and timetable.

The targets were agreed for recommendation to PPP on 8th April.

8 NPIA Action Plan

The Director of Strategic Development presented this paper. After discussion, the recommendations regarding which NPIA doctrines should be implemented were approved.

9 Proposed Performance Review Process

The Director of Strategic Development summarised the proposals for a revised Performance Review Process, and asked the group to consider the Suggestions for Improvement section of the paper. The DCC had previously submitted her comments to the Director of Strategic Development, and these were circulated to the group.

The suggestions were approved, with the following

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comments and amendments.

1. Agreed – Police Authority attendance at BCU PDCs in an observer role.
2. Agreed
3. Agreed in principle – Inclusion of partner agencies at BCU PDCs. To be explored further; the Chief Constable to raise with CSP or the Public Service Board to ensure the right level of attendee.
4. Agreed – inspection activity to be supportive and involve focus groups.
5. Agreed
6. Agreed – SMF away days are being considered (*detailed proposals to be circulated with the minutes*)
7. Agreed
8. Agreed – will also extend HMIC invitation to include BCU PDC.
9. Agreed – to consider LPT learning days for sharing of best practice

ACTION: The Chief Constable to speak to ACC Territorial Policing regarding developing a learning day for LPT Inspectors

CC

10. Agreed – Training Manager to be invited to force level conferences as an observer.

The draft timetable was considered and some concerns were raised over the level of time commitment for Chief Officers.

The Director of Finance and Resources raised an issue with the Terms of Reference and the proposed department PDC agenda, suggesting that finance should appear as a separate agenda item.

After discussion it was agreed that a checklist would be produced to ensure that finance, personnel issues etc. are considered each time.

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It was agreed that the new process will be launched at SMF.

10 Procurement Strategy

The Director of Finance and Resources presented the paper and proposed strategy. Particular attention was drawn to the following issues:

- Ongoing drive for value for money and efficiency
- Limitations on e-procurement due to finance system
- Collaboration
- Sustainability

The strategy was discussed and approved. The Chief Constable asked that thanks be passed on to Karen Crump for this piece of work.

11 Fleet Strategy

The Director of Finance and Resources presented the paper and proposed strategy. The strategy was considered and discussed.

The Head of Marketing and Communications suggesting the addition of a section on branding. The Director of Finance and Resources agreed to discuss this with Mal Saunders.

The Director of Personnel and Development advised that a Health and Safety section was also required.

A discussion followed regarding the question over future fuel supplies, alternative fuels and the implications for business continuity as well as environmental issues.

The strategy was approved, with minor amendments and additions.

12 Reducing Bureaucracy

The Director of Strategic Development summarised the proposed approach which was discussed and approved.

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Any Other Business

Forensics Contract

The Director of Finance & Resources raised the issue of redundancy costs associated with the new forensics contract. Police Forces are being asked to meet these costs, with a response required by 2nd April. The amount that Cumbria would be required to pay is £29,000.

There followed a discussion, and it was **agreed** in principle to meet these costs.

DSP Funding

The Director of Finance & Resources advised the group that DSP funding allocations had been received with an increase in funding to 8 posts. Discussion followed regarding whether to recruit on a temporary or permanent basis.

It was agreed in principle, subject to concerns being addressed, that the additional posts would be permanent.

Closed agenda

Date of next meeting

14th April 2008