



Operations Board **Open** Minutes of meeting held 19th August 2009

Attendees:

Assistant Chief Constable (Territorial Policing) Jerry Graham - CHAIR
Chief Superintendent Kevin McGilloway
Detective Superintendent Andy Slattery
Chief Superintendent Don Spiller
Chief Superintendent Paul Kennedy
Chief Inspector Justin Bibby
Inspector Ian Poultney (Federation)
Janet Hallatt
Mark Carter
Chief Inspector Dawn Allen

1. APOLOGIES

Assistant Chief Constable (Specialist Operations) Michelle Skeer
Acting Chief Superintendent Steve Johnson
Fiona Miller
Detective Chief Superintendent Iain Goulding
Detective Chief Superintendent Sean Robinson

Present for part of meeting

Patricia Bell
Jane Sauntson
Constable Dominique Casson
Inspector Matt Kennerley
Chief Inspector Norman Atkinson
Inspector Andy Shaddock
Inspector Dave Willets
Grant Ambrose
Chief Inspector Steve Halliday

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting on 17th June 2009 were agreed.

2.1 ACTION SHEET UPDATES

The action sheet was updated (see separate document).

*The business was discussed in different order to that as set out in the agenda.
The business is minuted in the order that it was discussed*

3. CONFIDENCE AND EQUALITY

(a) Confidence & Equality Board Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2009. Patricia Bell reiterated that all papers submitted must have the Equality & Diversity Impact Assessment section completed.

(i) Unity

Following the last meeting, Commanders gave assurances that Unity has standing items at the C & E Groups in the BCU's.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Livescan Review 2008

Detective Superintendent Slattery presented the National Livescan Project Review which completes the second national review since the livescan rollout programme in England and Wales. The report outlined that Cumbria's performance has dropped significantly – the findings are based on a quality review of one hundred random livescan sets of fingerprints from across all four custody sites. The recommendations were noted, which, aim to drastically improve our current ranking and become one of the best performing forces again. It was noted that Livescan is regularly discussed as part of the Custody forum meetings.

(c) Water Rescue

Inspector Matt Kennerley updated on the ongoing work in relation to the policy which will give clear direction to officers with regard to entering water to rescue members of the public. The policy is currently in its first draft and will be presented to a future meeting of the board. The Federation have been consulted and fed their views. Discussion had previously taken place at the Superintendents Association who asked that consideration be given to adding other potentially hostile environments to the policy, such as entering burning buildings. Emphasis was given on the importance of the policy giving a clear direction to officers. The Communication Strategy also must be considered with regard to public expectation.

(f) CBRN Trained Officers and Change of Role

Chief Superintendent Don Spiller presented a paper recommending that when CBRN Trained officers move roles to a non uniform BCU role, or a non BCU role, or change BCUs, they retain their skill and training to be capable of being deployed as part of the force national requirement. This is to enable the Constabulary to meet its national requirement to be able to respond to a national CBRN incident. The recommendation was agreed, with the main driver for change being financial.

(g) Critical Incident Identification and Ratification Process

Inspector Mike O'Hagan presented a paper relating to the identification of Critical Incidents following the HMIC Inspection and subsequent recommendation that "the force should ensure that there is a systematic approach to the FIM alerting the Duty Inspectors of actual or potentially critical incidents". Support was given to the recommendations as outlined noting that the Critical Incident Policy will be updated accordingly.

(b) Casualty Bureau

Chief Inspector Rod Mackay and Constable Dominique Casson presented a paper in relation to the Casualty Bureau. Cumbria Constabulary currently collaborates within the North West Regional arrangements however does not have sufficient numbers of trained staff to fulfill its regional responsibilities.

Not Protectively Marked

During discussion the board confirmed that they do wish the Constabulary to remain part of the regional arrangements and do rely on support from the rest of the region.

It was noted that Personnel and Development are looking at the feasibility of Volunteers/Special Constabulary being trained as call takers for the bureau. Discussion with regard to difficulties caused when staff are abstracted for training sessions concluded that consideration should be given to the training being provided in the evenings/weekends.

Discussion with regard to whether the call taking role would be suitable for some volunteers due to it being such a specialist and some times disturbing role concluded that many volunteers would be more than suitable (many being ex service/retired officers). However it was noted that should activation occur volunteers/specials have "day jobs" so would likely experience problems from their employers in being released.

The action plan/time line was supported.

(d) Payment of Intermediaries for Vulnerable and Intimidated Witnesses

Chief Inspector Norman Atkinson presented a paper asking for clarity as to who within the constabulary has responsibility for the payment of Intermediaries when used to obtain best evidence from vulnerable and intimidated witnesses. A number of recommendations were outlined. Following discussion recommendation 2.5 was agreed (Central Funding to be increased to PPU to cover estimated 13K yearly costs).

(e) Police Responses to people with Mental Ill Health and/or Learning Difficulties

Inspector Andy Shaddock presented a paper with regard to the police response to incidents involving persons with mental health issues and to consider the current force structure that oversees that response to ensure that it is fit for purpose. The recommendations and issues in the paper were accepted by the board; however it was felt that further work on how to progress the issues outlined and to what timescale need to be considered. The good work conducted so far was acknowledged with the agreement that Chief Inspector Norman Atkinson and Inspector Andy Shaddock would bring a revised paper to the December Operations Board once the national guidance is available.

Action number 209 - Police Responses to people with Mental Ill Health and/or Learning Difficulties

Paper to be presented to December Operations Board.

Action owner: Chief Inspector Norman Atkinson and Inspector Andy Shaddock

Action status: NEW

(i) Wildlife Crime

Inspector Dave Willets presented a paper outlining the current position of the Constabulary structure to deal with wildlife crime issues. The drivers for change and recommendations were outlined. Currently there is one Wildlife Crime Coordinator and thirteen liaison officers. These staff have full time roles, with wildlife crime being an additional responsibility. The links between wildlife crime and serious and organised crime were evidenced within the paper.

It was agreed that Chief Superintendent Kevin McGilloway would look at potential ways of freeing up more time for the current Wildlife Crime Coordinator.

Not Protectively Marked

Not Protectively Marked

Also following discussion Detective Superintendent Slattery agreed to speak with Detective Superintendent Paul Carter with a view to producing a problem profile to look at the priorities for wildlife crime and the associated intelligence required. This is to be considered by the Open Tasking and Coordination Group.

(j) Personal Safety Training

Grant Ambrose presented a paper asking the board to agree the implementation of the guidelines as detailed in the ACPO/NPIA guidance on personal Safety Training. A gap analysis had been produced and circulated.

Following consideration it was agreed that it would be more appropriate for the Force Learning Panel or the Resourcing Standards Board (of which Ops Board reps sit) to consider the schedule for the updating and adaption of Personal Training to meet the guidance.

(h) Internal Command Training for APOC/IPOC

Chief Superintendent Don Spiller presented a paper asking for agreement to internal Command training for APOC/IPOC (to be held at Durham). Following discussion this was agreed and the financial implications as outlined in the paper were considered with the agreement as at 4.1.3 that there would be an increased cost of approx £2800. It was agreed that this would be split between the 3 BCUs and UOS (amounting to £700 each).

Discussion surrounding finance noted that agreements such as these are recorded by the BCU Finance Advisers and a track of spending and reasons for overspends at the end of the year is held by central finance.

(l) Farming Issues

ACC Graham presented on behalf of the ACC Specialist Operations a paper from the Deputy Chief Constable which reported on two recent meetings he had attended with the NFU and Cumbria Farmers Network.

Action number 210 – Farming Issues

Discussion concluded that the board did not feel that it was necessary to have a Farming Champion as such but that all BCUs would review and ensure their relationships are as engaged as possible with the farming community. BCU Commanders advised that they do have Farming Leads in place who will be made aware of the issues raised in the report.

Action owner: BCU Commanders/ACC Graham

Action status: NEW

5. POLICIES

(a) Policing Public Sex Environments

Detective Superintendent Andy Slattery presented the above policy which had been amended to better enable the policing of Public Sex Environments by individual areas. The policy was adopted as force policy.

6. STANDING ITEMS

(a) Risk Assessment Register

The register was noted. There were no new risks identified.

(b) Protective Services Update

Not Protectively Marked

It was agreed that this is now every day business and so can be removed from the standing items.

(c) Disaster Resilience Group minutes from 29th July 2009

Noted

(d) Force Learning Panel minutes from 14th July 2009

It was noted that the meeting scheduled for July had been cancelled. Next meeting is in September.

(e) Citizen Focus

Noted that a separate gold meeting had been held earlier that week.

(f) Olympics Update

Noted that work between Chief Superintendent Don Spiller, Chief Inspector Rod Mackay and Personnel with regard to capability and capacity. It was noted that we are still waiting for national response in relation to several queries which we have put forward.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Mobile Phones

Chief Inspector Steve Halliday spoke with regard an issue which had been raised at TP board in November 2008 regarding mobile phones for community contact (for community officers and PCSOs). A paper was circulated outlining the cost to issue mobile phones to these officers. It was agreed that this proposal is cost prohibited. ACC Graham advised that a piece of work under the Confidence agenda is to look at gaps in NHP, ACC Graham proposed that this issue be included as part of that work with links to the mobile data project.

8. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Date of meeting	Time	Conference room	Papers to be submitted by
14 th Oct 09	9.30am	Conference room one	30 th September 09
9 th Dec 09	9.30am	Conference room one	25 th November 09

Minutes Approved by:	Date
ACC Graham	23.09.09