

Title
JOINT BUSINESS MEETING

Date	Location	Duration
4 th May 2017	Victory House, Balliol	10am – 12.50pm

Present:

Ms Elaine Snaith – OPCC Chief Executive (Chair)
Mr Steve Ashman – Chief Constable
Mr Winton Keenen – Deputy Chief Constable
Ms Joscelin Lawson – Director of Human Resources
Mr Mike Tait – Director of Finance
Mr Mike Mullen – Director of Asset Management
Mr Sav Patsalos – Chief Insp, Communications Department
Mr Karl Wilson – Chief Insp, Northumbria Police
Mrs Kirsty Potter – Scientific Support Manager, Northumbria Police
Mr Alan Veitch – Supt, NERSOU
Mr Dean Lowery – Officer of the PCC

Apologies:

Mrs Vera Baird – Police and Crime Commissioner
Mr Darren Best – Assistant Chief Constable

OPEN AGENDA

1. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes of 6th April 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

2. Engagement Strategy

Chief Inspector Karl Wilson presented the Northumbria Police Engagement Strategy for approval.

The new engagement strategy has been amended to include the new Police and Crime Plan objectives 2017-21 with the key objectives of the strategy being:

- Identify and Protect the most vulnerable
- Build trust and confidence
- Engage with established, new and emerging communities
- Identify and deal with issues within and in-between communities
- Police officers, staff and volunteers proud to serve.

Chief Inspector Wilson confirmed that a delivery plan for the rollout of the strategy is in the process of being produced.

Deputy Chief Constable Keenan requested that the Engagement Strategy delivery plan be presented at regular intervals to the Chief Officer Team governance meetings so that progress of the delivery plan can be monitored.

ACTION: Engagement Strategy delivery plan be presented at regular intervals to the Chief Officer Team governance meetings so that progress of the delivery plan can be monitored.

3. Re- Evaluation of Resolution without Deployment (RWD)

Chief Inspector Patsalos presented the results of the re-evaluation of the Resolution Without Deployment team following the introduction of RWD.

The RWD team was set up during May and July 2015 to look to reduce the demand on frontline officers and also deal with specific incidents such as missing persons.

The re-evaluation presentation highlighted the new areas which have been gradually introduced into the team which included RTC's and Action Fraud. Chief Insp Patsalos discussed the performance and satisfaction levels in relation to the team which were positive and highlighted that in the month of February 2017 the RWD Team were dealing with 14.7% of force demand.

Chief Insp Patsalos confirmed that the team were currently at capacity in dealing with incidents and proposed the introduction of a further 15 officers who are currently on restricted duties being transferred into the team which the Chief Constable fully supporting this.

The Chief Executive enquired whether the RWD team was having an impact on the use of the current 101 non-emergency number. It was noted that the RWD team deal with an issue in its entirety therefore there would in practice no need for a secondary demand being made of the 101 call system.

ACTION: The report was noted.

4. Transforming Forensics Outline Business Case

A report for information was presented following receipt of correspondence from Jo Ashworth OBE, Programme Director of Transforming Forensics which requested asking to support an outline business case to the National Police Chiefs Council and Association of Police and Crime Commissioners.

The outline Business Case proposes a preferred option for transforming forensic service provision in England and Wales utilising financial support from the Police Reform and Transformation fund.

This request was discussed in detail with a number of options highlighted. The Chief Constable and the Scientific Support Services Manager, Northumbria Police confirmed that support in principle would be offered to the further development of any national model that could improve forensic service provision in the North East.

The Chief Constable confirmed that work that is currently underway with Durham Constabulary to develop regional collaborative working arrangements. This is necessary so that accreditation for Northumbria Police can be achieved.

The Chief Executive requested that a briefing be prepared for the Commissioner in preparation for her attendance at the APCC General Meeting on 17th May 2017.

ACTION: The report was noted.

5. College of Policing Licence and Contributors Agreement

The Director of Human Resources presented a key decision requesting agreement of the PCC to agree a consolidated licence for the Force's use of College of Policing learning and training materials.

A consolidated licence was granted in in 2016 which lasted for one year, however the current licence if agreed will be relative for a three year period.

The Chief Executive confirmed that the Police and Crime Commissioner would be advised to agree to the licence and final approval will be given by the PCC outside of the meeting.

ACTION: That the licence be agreed subject to final agreement by the PCC.

6. Living Wage Accreditation and Renewal 2017

The Director of Human Resources presented a report which sought agreement to renew the annual Living Wage accreditation for both Northumbria Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

It was noted that Northumbria Police and the OPCC wish to continue to pay the Living Wage and therefore agreement was given to renew the accreditation at a cost of £576 inclusive of VAT.

ACTION: That the Living Wage Accreditation for both the Office of the PCC and Northumbria Police be purchased.

7. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary Inspection of Crime Data Integrity

Deputy Chief Constable Keenan presented the action plan which has been put in place by Northumbria Police following Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) inspection of Crime Data Integrity in 2014.

The outcome of this inspection gave an overall judgement of "requires improvement" with two areas of concern identified and five areas of improvement.

Deputy Chief Constable Keenan discussed the progress that had been made so far in relation to these recommendations and specifically highlighted that cancelled crime decisions for rape had improved from 17 out of 30 to 20 out of 20.

Overall crime recording compliance which had increased from 72% to 93% was discussed in detail and it was noted that if further improvements were needed then a heavy investment in auditors into this area would be needed.

The Chief Constable stated that he would work tirelessly to ensure that the force made improvements to the recommendations as set out by HMIC but stressed that if improvements are to be made to crime recording which required manpower investment, then this may cause criticism from HMIC in future inspections, therefore careful consideration is needed.

The Chief Executive discussed the action plan as presented and identified several areas where further governance and monitoring is needed to make sure that the action plan areas are on track for improvement. She felt that in its current format the action plan would not suffice future HMIC inspections. Specific reference was made to discussions between the PCC/Chief Executive and Senior Officers which have not been included in the action plan, action outcomes not being identified and also monitoring of completion dates for action points being missed.

The Chief Executive also highlighted that she did not feel that the Joint Business Meeting was the correct setting for the updating of HMIC related issues. The Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable agreed with this and discussions are to take place regarding how future reporting could be undertaken.

ACTION: That the Action plan be noted and that further discussion between the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Constable be undertaken to agree a future HMIC reporting structure.

8. Forward Plan

No issues to report

9. Any Other Business

No further business

10. Future Meeting Date

The next meeting of the JBM will take place on 18th May 2017 at 10am, OPCC Office, Victory House.