

Thursday 13th February 2014.
Business Meeting of the OPCC.
Start time - 9am.

Vera Baird QC, Elaine Snaith, Scott Duffy, Mike Tait, Mike Mullen, Maureen Berne, John Leslie.

1 - Commissioner welcomed colleagues. An update was given on progress of work from previous meeting.

2 - John Leslie / Mike Mullen.

John Leslie gave a report on Pilgrim Street station. The Court service has requested information about use of the basement. Northumbria Police stopped using the basement in 2010. John Leslie will liaise with the Court services about future plans and decisions.

HQ Disposal - John Leslie updated the Commissioner on various issues concerning the site. Surveys will take place to comply with the planning application.

Mike Mullen gave an update on the estates plan and resourcing issues. The Commissioner will look at the report and give her views by the 26th February.

3 - Maureen Berne

Maureen gave an overview of the work of the Corporate Comms department and issues that the team were working on.

4 - Vera Baird.

The Commissioner update the meeting about the Late Night Levy. The Commissioner had met with Stephen Savage of Newcastle Council a discussion took place about services.

The Commissioner asked that Newcastle Council provide the OPCC with a proposal of spending that could be considered for LNL funding.

An update was given on the Safehaven, work is progressing well on the permanent Safehaven in the Cloth Market. In the meantime the temporary Safehaven will continue to run with the support of NEAS, Northumbria Police, Newcastle Council and other partners.

5 - Richard Heron

Due to urgent business, Richard Heron was unable to attend the meeting. Agenda items have been deferred.

6 - Elaine Snaith

The Chief Executive spoke on the SSA, there were no developments to report. Stage Two Transfer continues in line with the recommendations that the Commissioner sent to the Home Secretary last year.

7 - Scott Duffy

Scott raised the success of the Triage system in dealing with Police Complaints. The scheme is still in its early days, however, the responses from the public on the service have been positive.

The Triage are currently recruiting a secondee from Northumbria Police for one year to support the increasing workload.

FOI have now transferred to Kevin Payne within the OPCC with support from NP where appropriate.

Richard Heron will be asked to arrange one point of contact for all FOI queries and a deputy person in their absence.

8 - Mike Tait

Following the decision not to increase the precept element of the Council Tax, the Commissioner will sign a key decision and letters to each of the local authorities.

Under Stage Two Transfer, it will be needed to set up a new VAT number for Northumbria Police / OPCC.

PAYE - a small number of OPCC staff will be affected by a change in PAYE number. No terms and conditions will change for staff affected.

The Chief Executive requested that a letter be received from Tyne & Wear Pension Scheme to ensure that no pension rights of staff will be affected.

Meeting closed at 12.05pm.