

**Title**

JOINT BUSINESS MEETING

**Date**

17 March 2016

**Location**

Office of the PCC

**Duration**

09:45 – 11:45

**Present:**

Mrs Vera Baird - Police and Crime Commissioner

Mr Steve Ashman – Chief Constable

Mr Winton Keenan – Deputy Chief Constable

Mr Darren Best - Assistant Chief Constable

Ms Joscelin Lawson – Head of Human Resources, Northumbria Police

Mr Mike Mullen – Head of Strategic Asset Management

Mr Mike Tait – Director of Finance

Mr Mike Mullen – Head of Estates

**Apologies for absence:**

Ms Elaine Snaith – Chief Executive of the PCC

Mr Richard Heron – T/Director of Legal Services

**OPEN SESSION****1 Integrated Offender Management (IOM)**

Assistant Chief Constable Best updated the Commissioner regarding the approach of Northumbria Police to IOM.

IOM has been described as a joint approach, which should involve a broad partnership offering a wide range of interventions to support pathways out of crime. The approach should allow offenders to face up to their responsibility or face the consequences.

In 2014 Northumbria Police moved away from the dedicated resources managing IOM in conjunction with the local Community Rehabilitation Company. IOM was then embedded within the Neighbourhood Policing teams overseen by senior officers at a local command level.

HMIC carried out an inspection into offender management during 2015 with the conclusion being critical of the Northumbria Police approach including resourcing, operating model and performance management.

Following this inspection a review was undertaken by the force which had previously been reported to the Commissioner.

ACC Best discussed several options regarding the future of IOM with the agreed recommendation being that there must be a focus on the policing element of IOM responsibility guarding against the police assuming responsibility for activity that should be managed by other partners, and to

allow greater opportunity to target those offenders most likely to commit offences Fundamental to this approach is the provision of a level of dedicated resource in all 3 area commands to ensure better co-ordination of activity and to support the principles of IOM.

The Commissioner was informed that recruitment for these roles was underway and discussed the possibility of utilizing police staff instead of warranted officers. The Chief Constable agreed that this could be looked at over time and there was no reason why police staff could not be utilized in this role.

The Commissioner requested that a further report be provided in six month's time to include information regarding the level of partnership involvement and figures relating to re-offending.

## **2 Insurance Renewals 2016/17**

Mike Tait informed the Commissioner and Chief Constable of the Insurance policy cover and claims history during 2015/16, the payable premiums during 2016/17 and work undertaken with insurers to review motor claims.

The report highlighted that the insurance premium payable in 2016/17 and the excess levels applied to each policy have not changed from the current year.

## **3 Mazars Audit Strategy**

Mike Tait presented the Audit Strategy Memorandum for both the Commissioner and Chief Constable. These set out the auditors plan in respect of the audit of the financial statements for the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable for the year ended 31 March 2016.

The Memorandum is prepared to assist us in fulfilling our governance responsibilities including the oversight of strategic direction, accountability, value for money and overseeing the financial reporting process.

It also sets out the form, timing and content of the communications at each stage of the audit, the audit fee and the team that will complete the audit.

The external auditors Mazars presented the memorandums to the Joint Independent Audit Committee on 22 February 2016. The Committee reviewed and accepted them.

## **4 Nersou**

The Commissioner and Chief Constable received a verbal update in relation to NERSOU.

The Commissioner and the Chief Constable agreed that a further update should be provided at the forthcoming regional PCC meeting where an update on funding and grants will be provided.