

OPCC Business Meeting
30th January 2014 @ 9am
Balliol Business Park

Attendees: Vera Baird, QC, Mark Dennett, Elaine Snaith, Bernie McCardle (part), Ian Woodward (part), Mike Mullen, John Leslie, Richard Heron, Maureen Berne, Mike Tait, Representatives from Lambert Smith Hampton.

Commissioner welcomed colleagues.

Lambert Smith Hampton, gave a presentation on the disposal of Force Headquarters, Ponteland. The presentation discussed planning issues and various legislation involved. The public will be consulted as part of the planning application process.

The presentation looked at all options for the disposal of the site and the Commissioner requested further information on options available.

The Commissioner requested that the plans be made available at a consultation event for local residents to see. All drafts of leaflets will be sent to the OPCC for agreement.

Bernie McCardle presented the Approval of the Modernisation and Mobilisation strands of the Street to Strategic Programme following funding made available from the Home Office. The Commissioner agreed the recommendations as proposed. A key decision was signed by the Commissioner.

John Leslie gave a report on the sale of 3 Newcastle Road, Birtley. The Commissioner agreed to the disposal of the property as it has been declared surplus to requirement.

The Commissioner also agreed to the recommendations of Deadwater Fell Mast.

Stephen Crute was requested to give a report on claimant's costs in civil cases. The Commissioner has continued to express concerns about the legal costs that can be attributed to civil claims.

The Commissioner will continue to be updated on all cases and on any issues that can be taken forward to engage with solicitors to speed up conclusion of cases.

Stephen gave assurances that his department is driving costs down.

Mark Dennett gave a report on the Home Office funded agreement to purchase the GSA Cycomms system with Durham constabulary and Cleveland Police.

The Commissioner asked if a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) had been drawn up between the forces involved and a number of other questions were asked on topics relating to this issue.

The Deputy Commissioner raised the concerns with officers and an update report will be produced for the next meeting of the group.

The MoU and other outstanding issues will be sent to the next meeting. This will be dealt with by Richard Heron.

Mark Dennett updated members about the Late Night Levy (LNL), next scheduled meeting is to be on 7th February.

The Deputy Commissioner will hand over the work to a person delegated by the Commissioner.

Richard Heron gave advice about Nersou. Legal advice was given that the Commissioner can delegate as per the legal document.

Richard will give written confirmation

Mike Tait to produce a briefing note in relation to any budget issues.

Richard Heron mentioned that there is no legal issues in relation to the set up of the new Safehaven building.

The Commissioner informed the meeting that the Safehaven scheme was progressing well.

Meeting closed 12.25pm