



**Lancashire
Constabulary**

police and communities together

NOTES FROM THE JOINT MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD ON 5TH MAY 2015 IN ROOM A05, COUNTY HALL PRESTON

Present:

C Grunshaw, Police & Crime Commissioner
S Finnigan, Chief Constable

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

A Harrison, Director
S Freeman, Deputy Chief Finance Officer
I Dickinson, Standards & Governance Officer
Jay Nicholas

Lancashire Constabulary

A Rhodes, Deputy Chief Constable
I Cosh, Director of Resources

Part I – Public items

NOTE OF THE LAST BOARD MEETING

The Note of the last meeting held on the 2 April was accepted.

Professional Standards Update

Actions 1 and 2 would be brought to a future meeting in June/July 2015.

HR Update

These actions would be dealt with through the next quarterly HR Update in August 2015.

Estates Strategy

Action 1 – A meeting had been arranged for 14th May 2015.

Action 2 - was a substantive item on the Agenda.

Provision of Business Travel

This was a substantive item on the Agenda.

REFORMING THE POLICE COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINARY SYSTEMS

The Board received a report regarding the Home Secretary's response to the public consultation on Police Integrity in March 2015. Overall, the response was in support of change and the Home Secretary had made it clear that she would take forward the majority of the proposals outlined in the consultation and would seek to legislate during the next Parliament.

These changes were summarised under the following main areas:-

1. Enable Police and Crime Commissioners to take responsibility for public complaints.
2. Make the complaints system simpler and easier to understand.
3. Improve the police disciplinary system.
4. Strengthen protections for police whistle-blowers.
5. Give the IPCC new powers.

To ensure a consistent approach across the OPCCs, it had been proposed that the legislation would enable PCCs to implement one of three options when determining how they would structure their complaints system.

The Board noted the content of the report and further noted that this decision could be affected by the outcome of the General Election on 7th May 2015.

The Commissioner and the Chief Constable felt that it was important that the decision needed to ensure that the outcome increased the public's confidence in the whole process and it should be resourced adequately.

The Commissioner favoured Model 2 as the OPCC would take ownership of the process and it was proposed that a Task & Finish Group be set up to progress after the General Election.

ACTION: A Task & Finish Group be established after the general election to progress these arrangements based on Model 2.

PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

The Board was advised that Officers of the OPCC had developed the Procurement Strategy, in consultation with the Constabulary's Director of Resources and Purchase and Procurement Manager.

The Board noted that the Procurement Strategy was linked to Objective Five of the Police & Crime Plan 2013-18 which was to deliver services in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Decision 2015/05

The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable have

1. approved the Procurement Strategy
2. agreed that an Action Plan be developed and presented to a future meeting of the Joint Management Board.
3. Agreed that progress of the Action Plan be monitored through the Strategic Scrutiny Meeting.
4. Agreed that the OPCC's Commissioning Manager would lead on this Strategy, develop the Action Plan

FUTURES PROGRAMME

The Board received an oral report on the Futures Programme.

It was recognised that Superintendent Woods had previously met with the Commissioner who was happy with the progress being made.

The Board were advised that the Senior Management Teams, Chief Inspectors and the Police Staff equivalent had been given an update. All were happy and confirmed that the message was clear. Information had also been placed on Sherlock.

Final reports would be presented to the Joint Management Board in August and the intention is that the Programme would be implemented by the September meeting of the JMB. The OPCC had not yet been given an opportunity to respond although it was noted that the Director had attended the Futures Board meeting recently and two further update meetings were planned. The Commissioner was confident that he was sighted on developments.

BUSINESS TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

The Board had requested an update financial analysis on business travel and accommodation. This report showed that there continued to be a reduction in spending on this matter and it was agreed that further monitoring would take place to ensure costs did not begin to rise.

VOLUNTEER POLICE CADETS – FUNDING REQUEST

The Board received a report setting out the details of a funding request by the Volunteer Police Cadets. It was noted that the Commissioner had announced his proposal to allocate £20,000 to the VPC at the Cadets Attestation Ceremony the previous week.

The Chief Finance Officer confirmed that the money would be taken from the Proceeds of Crime Act funds.

Decision 2015/06: The Police and Crime Commissioner agreed that a grant of £20,000 be made to the Volunteers Police Cadets from the POCA fund

PART II – PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

The following matters were discussed in private as they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

UPDATE ON THE DISPOSAL OF ACCRINGTON POLICE STATION

The Director of Resources updated the Board on the current situation regarding the disposal of Accrington Police Station.

Decision 2015/07: The Police and Crime Commissioner agreed that:-

1. Accrington Police Station be declared available for disposal,
2. the Chief Finance Officers for the PCC and Chief Constable be authorised to manage the disposal of Accrington Police Station.

CIVIL CLAIMS

The Board received a report setting out the latest position in relation to Civil and Employer's Liability claims.

The Board noted that the number of outstanding claims had not increased since 2010/11 (and in fact Public Liability cases appear to have reduced) however the average cost of settled claims (excluding the high value claims) had increased by more than 50% for Employers Liability cases and by 100% for Public Liability cases.

The potentially liability of these cases had been assessed and it had been identified that an additional one-off contribution was required in to the reserve in the amount of £800,000.

It had also been identified that the level of the annual contribution to the reserve from the revenue budget required review to establish if an increase in the budget for such contributions was necessary.

The Deputy Chief Constable reassured the Board that he had personally appraised the figures regularly. The Board were advised that the Health & Safety Executive Board contained a standing item covering liability claims and was the responsibility of a Chief Inspector in each BCU. This ensured that it was a managed regime and that this provided the necessary reassurance.

The Chief Finance Officer confirmed that this decision should mitigate future claims and revenues would be reviewed in the next financial year.

Decision 2015/08:

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner has approved a one-off contribution to the reserve of £800,000 to meet the forecast future requirements in respect of Civil and Employer's Liability claims which attract a reserve figure for damages of £30,000 or more
2. The Commissioner and the Chief Constable have requested that a review of the annual contribution to the insurance reserve is undertaken to establish if the budget for such contributions should be increased to meet the on-going requirements for such claims

MUNICIPAL MUTUAL INSURANCE

The Board received a report from the Chief Finance Officer regarding the latest position in relation to outstanding liabilities arising from the arrangements previously in place with Municipal Mutual Insurance.

It was noted that the ongoing review almost complete. The decision to set this aside at this time would protect the budget and it was prudent to do so. It was felt that the Auditors would support this decision.

Decision 2015/09

The Commissioner and the Chief Constable has approved a contribution of £700,000 from the Revenue Budget in 2014/15 to fund the cost of any further levy due in respect of the run-off of liabilities in respect of Municipal Mutual Insurance.

Mrs A Harrison
DIRECTOR