



ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

WEDNESDAY 17 AUGUST 2022 AT 2PM IN THE MORRISON ROOM, POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Andrew Snowden - Police and Crime Commissioner
Chris Rowley - Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary

IN ATTENDANCE

Ian Dawson – Assistant Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary
Steve Freeman – Chief Finance Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Angela Harrison – Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Sacha Hatchett – Deputy Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary
Pete Lawson – Assistant Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary
Zoe Mainey - Head of Professional Standards, Lancashire Constabulary
Andrew Pratt – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Russ Procter – Assistant Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary
Amy Robertson – Governance Support Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire
Dan Rodgers – Chief Finance Officer, Lancashire Constabulary
Gillian Routledge – Chief Operating Officer, Lancashire Constabulary
Faye Sagar – Head of Human Resources, Lancashire Constabulary
Rachel Whittle – Communications and Engagement Lead, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

APOLOGIES

Ian Dickinson – Head of Governance and Accountability, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner
Stasia Osiowy – Chief Superintendent, Lancashire Constabulary



MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Police and Crime Commissioner asked that the minutes of the previous meeting be amended to reflect that the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner was in attendance.

The Police and Crime Commissioner was pleased to note that all the actions identified at the last meeting had either been completed or were to be addressed during the meeting and there are no actions outstanding.

CURRENT AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Police and Crime Commissioner, whilst formally welcoming the Police Officer pay award, noted the budget pressures this was going to create. In addition to the pay award, it was noted that inflationary costs would also place demand on Constabulary budgets.

INSPECTIONS, AUDITS AND REVIEWS

In respect of the HMICFRS Inspection, it was noted that the PEEL report for Lancashire Constabulary will be published mid-September 2022.

It was further noted that HMICFRS would be conducting four more Lancashire inspections between now and January 2023. The inspections include Vetting, SOC, Custody and CSE.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next scheduled meeting was the 16 November 2022.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during the consideration of the following Items of business on the grounds that there would be a likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as indicated against the heading to the Item, and the public interest not to disclose it outweighed the public interest in disclosing it.

PART II – PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

PROGRESS AGAINST POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PRIORITIES 2021 – 2025

The Police and Crime Commissioner received a report setting out the Constabulary's progress against the priorities and measures set out in the Police and Crime Plan.



The Police and Crime Commissioner noted that in the performance report, the baseline period applied is 1st July 2018 to 30th June 2019. However, whilst the Commissioner accepted that the same periods in 2019/20 and 2020/21 were both heavily impacted by the pandemic and associated national and regional lockdown, he asked that this data still be provided.

ACTION: DCC to provide 2019/20 and 2020/21 crime data and provide previous VFR data.

WORKFORCE PLANNING

The Police and Crime Commissioner received a presentation on Workforce Planning, which included the key changes and improvements that had been made within the HR department since the new Head of HR commenced in post and an update on the Uplift Programme and IPLDP.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UPDATE

The Police and Crime Commissioner received an update on the key headlines in respect of Professional Standards.

FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

The Police and Crime Commissioner received a report setting out the Financial Position as 30 June 2022.

It was noted that the Police Officer pay award realised an in-year cost pressure for 2022/23, however reprofiling Officer recruitment within the year will mitigate this pressure.

In respect of the Capital Programme, it was noted that main area of risk at this early stage in the year was the delivery of the vehicle replacement programme.

In respect of the overtime budget, the Chief Constable noted that BCU commanders were now being held accountable for the governance around operations, in the hope of better management of the overtime funds.

It was noted that the OPCC and Constabulary must continue to highlight at a national level the impact of the collective cost pressures.

INSPECTIONS, AUDITS AND REVIEWS

No further updates were provided.



CURRENT AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Chief Constable noted that it had been a positive quarter for Lancashire Constabulary and a good year overall. The Commissioner was assured that the Constabulary were addressing the issues that had been highlighted by HMICFRS and had recognised the need for stronger financial management.

Angela Harrison
Chief Executive