



CHESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY HELD ON TUESDAY 12 JUNE 2007 IN CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS, WINSFORD

Present: P Nurse (Chairman)
D T Bateman
M Chapman
G A Cousins
M D Darby
A Doran
R Giltrap

R Hodson
E Lam
B Maher
M A Ollerenshaw
T Savage
P J Walker

Police Authority Officers:
M Sellwood, Chief Executive
L Lunn, Treasurer
M Eaton, Member Services Manager

Constabulary Officers:
P Fahy, Chief Constable
G Gerrard, Deputy Chief Constable
K Watkins, Director of Performance Development

Apologies: D Cargill, J P Findlow, C Kirkpatrick and S Proctor

25. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2007 be confirmed as a correct record.

26. PROPOSAL FOR UNITARY LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN CHESHIRE

The Chief Executive submitted a report which invited the Authority to determine a response to the Department of Communities and Local Government consultation paper "Proposals for future unitary structures: Stakeholder Consultation".

The Authority at a preceding meeting had received two separate presentations by representatives from Cheshire County Council and representatives from Macclesfield, Chester and Ellesmere Port & Neston Borough Councils on their submissions for a single unitary and a two unitary structure for Cheshire respectively.

Members considered the two submissions and discussed the submissions in the terms of improved partnership working and community safety; an active and vibrant political structure; and the financial implications and opportunities for re-investment. Members commented that unitary structures were best placed to deliver strategic improvements and stressed the importance of effectively representing the people of Cheshire both economically and strategically in the

region and nationally, which it was felt could be best achieved through a single unitary model.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Department of Communities and Local Government consultation paper "Proposals for Future Unitary Structures: Stakeholder Consultation" be noted;
- (2) the discussions with representatives of the local authorities supporting a two unitary option for Cheshire and Cheshire County Council's proposal for a single unitary authority, be noted;
- (3) the position of Crewe & Nantwich and Congleton Borough Councils and the papers submitted by Crewe & Nantwich Borough Council, be noted; and
- (4) having considered the submissions and representations made by the various Councils, this Authority supports the proposal by Cheshire County Council for a single unitary local government structure in Cheshire as it provides a strategic approach to improving and delivering partnership working between the police service and local government to ensure community safety in Cheshire.

27. URGENT BUSINESS

(There were no items of urgent business)

Duration of meeting: The meeting commenced at 12.20pm and finished at 12.50pm.