



# CHESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

(A)

## ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26 AUGUST 2008 IN CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS, WINSFORD

*Present:*

M Chapman, Chairman	E Lam
S Proctor, Vice-Chairman	B Maher
M Darby	P Nurse
A Doran	T Savage
C Kirkpatrick	

*Also in attendance:* D Cargill, R Hodson and M Ollerenshaw  
C Boyd, Strategic Partnerships Manager, Vale Royal Borough Council

*Authority Officers:*  
M Sellwood, Chief Executive  
A Collins, Engagement Manager  
M Eaton, Member Services Manager

*Constabulary Officers:*  
G Shewan, Assistant Chief Constable  
Supt D Bertenshaw, Strategic Partnerships  
J Roberts, Head of Safer & Stronger Communities  
B Cowling, Head of Corporate Communications  
Chief Inspector P Crowcroft

#### 16. MINUTES

*RESOLVED:*

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2008 be confirmed as a correct record.

#### 17. NEW SHADOW COUNCIL AREAS: CONSULTATION ON AREA WORKING

The Assistant Chief Constable submitted a report on the possible area/neighbourhood working arrangements within the two new unitary authorities.

Cathy Boyd gave a briefing on the consultation arrangements for area working in Cheshire West and Chester district council area which included the involvement of partners; and plans to devolve budgets to Area Programme Boards. The two options for the proposed new boundaries were discussed.

Superintendent Bertenshaw outlined the discussions taking place in the Cheshire East district council area on whether an area structure was necessary.

The Committee focused on the consultation from Cheshire West and discussed with Ms Boyd the two options for the proposed boundaries of areas; the stage of the consultation and the evaluation process; the proposals for the Crime and Disorder Reduction partnership; and the lack of clarity of the need, role, and funding arrangements for the area working structures. The Chairman stressed

that the Police Authority was committed to partnership working but that partners should be equal and no one agency should seek to dominate.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the Chief Executive and the Chief Constable prepare a draft response to the Cheshire West & Chester proposal for area working for consideration by the Authority on 23 September 2008. submission by 30 September 2008.

18. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIPS: THE ROLE OF THE AUTHORITY – APA GUIDANCE

The Chief Executive reported on the publication of APA guidance on “Contributing to crime and disorder reduction partnerships”. The guidance had been produced to assist authorities in establishing their role within partnerships and as a toolkit to plan and develop their contribution. A self-assessment framework had also been included in the guidance.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report on the APA guidance on the role of police authorities in Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, be noted;
- (2) the Chief Executive, in consultation with A Doran, B Maher and S Proctor complete the self-assessment framework contained within the APA guidance and submit a report to the next meeting on areas for improvement; and
- (3) a partnership strategy be developed once the partnership structures are known in the new Cheshire unitary areas.

19. MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES: ENAGAGEMENT WITH WHITE MALES FROM AREAS OF DEPRIVATION

The Chairman advised that the report was not been produced by the Assistant Chief Constable and that unfortunately the item must be deferred until the next meeting.

20. YOUTH CONFERENCE 2008

The Chief Executive reported on the arrangements for a Youth Conference on 3 November 2008 at ‘The Venue’ Youth Centre, Northwich. The conference would raise awareness about policing issues and how young people can influence the delivery of policing services. The report outlined the target audience; the conference format and content; evaluation mechanisms; and the financial implications to the Authority.

In considering the report, Members suggested the inclusion of a display on bullying and domestic violence.

*RESOLVED:*

That the proposals for the Youth Conference as detailed in the Chief Executive's report, be approved.

21. POLICE AUTHORITY CONTACT PLAN: QUARTERLY UPDATE

The Chief Executive presented a quarterly update on actions taken to progress the Authority's Contact Plan. The report also detailed the lessons learned from the 'Investment in Policing' consultation; and the proposals for consulting on the 2009/10 policing objectives.

The Committee expressed their appreciation to the Authority's staff involved in consultation activity. In discussing the report, Members focused on the Business Crime Survey and the need for greater engagement the business community.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the proposals and financial implications for consulting on the 2009/10 policing objectives, be approved; and
- (3) the results of the Business Crime Survey be reviewed to identify any policing issues in Cheshire.

22. YOUR POLICING: JANUARY 2009 EDITION

The Chief Executive reported on the proposals for the production of the next edition of the 'Your Policing' magazine which would reinforce the role and work of the Authority; the successes and areas for improvement in the Constabulary; and seek feedback on the policing priorities. It was proposed that magazine be distributed to all households in the area in January 2009.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the production of a four page, forcewide 'Your Policing', be approved;
- (2) the print and distribution of 'Your Policing' via Royal Mail and managed by NWN media, be approved;
- (3) the estimated cost of £29,000 be noted; and
- (4) the £7,000 saving be used to conduct the consultation on the policing objectives as agreed in minute 21.

23. PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY

The Chief Executive submitted a report on discussions at recent meetings of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) and other partnership meetings attended by Members.

*RESOLVED:*

That the report be noted

24. SAFER SCHOOLS

The Chief Constable reported on progress of the safer schools initiative. The report outlined the work undertaken by School Liaison Officers and PCSOs and discussed proposals to develop safer school partnerships and school based officers.

Members commented on several issues relating to the role of School Liaison Officers; the number of vacancies; and particular the training provided to enable School Liaison Officers to 'teach' in schools.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the Assistant Chief Constable write to all Members clarifying the training that is provided to all School Liaison Officers; and
- (3) proposals for safer schools partnerships, including the introduction of schools based officers, be developed and submitted to the Committee on 11 November 2008 for further consideration.

25. SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES: QUARTERLY REPORT

The Assistant Chief Constable presented the quarterly report on the work of the Safer & Stronger Communities Unit. The report highlighted community engagement activity, licensing regulation/action, tackling hate crime, wildlife and environment issues, and the community safety accreditation scheme.

The Committee welcomed the revised format and content of the report and discussed with the Assistant Chief Constable the results of LPSA2, the Chief Constable's accreditation of staff undertaking community safety activity, and the possibility of a police presence at Warrington General Hospital at weekends.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the Chief Constable report on the results of LPSA2 to Performance Panel; and
- (3) the authorisation of any police powers under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme be reported to Engagement Committee.

26. INDEPENDENT ADVISORY GROUP: UPDATE

The Chief Constable submitted a report on the progress by the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) in addressing a number of issues raised at Engagement Committee on 13 May 2008 (Minute 4).

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report and progress made by the IAG be welcomed;
- (2) the IAG Code of Conduct, be supported subject to the word 'professional' being substituted for 'appropriate';
- (3) the procedure for auditing and monitoring IAG members' expenses as outlined in the report, be approved; and
- (4) the IAG formalise their recruitment and de-selection procedure including period of appointments and review arrangements.

## 27. HAVE YOUR SAY MEETINGS

The Chief Executive submitted a report on the operation of the July cycle of meetings, and an overview of consultation carried out with the Ellesmere Port and Neston disabled person's consultative committee. It was proposed that the October cycle of Have Your Say meetings include a presentation on policing objectives and volunteering opportunities in the police.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) due to the low level of attendance at the pilot surgeries and that Community Action Meetings are often preceded by a surgery, surgeries not be held prior to Have Your Say meetings;
- (2) Have Your Say meetings continue to be held in the evening;
- (3) a review of arrangements for Have Your Say meetings be undertaken including any implications of the new local government boundaries, and a report be submitted to the Committee on 11 November 2008; and
- (4) the agenda for the October cycle of 'Have Your Say' meetings as outlined in the Chief Executive's report, be approved.

## 28. 'BIG LIFE COMPANY': SECONDMENT REPORT

Chief Inspector Crowcroft presented an overview of his experiences, observations and recommendations for implementation in the Eastern Area following his three month secondment to the 'Big Life Company' based in Moss Side, Manchester.

*RESOLVED:*

That the report be noted

*Duration of Meeting: The meeting commenced at 9.30am and finished at 12.15pm.*