



# CHESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

## PERFORMANCE PANEL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 21 OCTOBER 2008 AT CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS, WINSFORD

*Present:*

P Nurse, Chairman	P Findlow
R Hodson, Vice-Chairman	C Kirkpatrick
D Bateman	M A Ollerenshaw
A Doran	S Proctor

*Also in attendance:* M Chapman and M Darby

<i>Authority Officers:</i>	<i>Constabulary Officers:</i>
M Sellwood, Chief Executive	G Gerrard, Acting Chief Constable
D Taylor, Deputy Chief Executive	D Baines, Acting Deputy Chief Constable
	Supt. N Adderley, Head of Performance Improvement

Apologies for absence: D Cargill

#### 23. CHRIS KIRKPATRICK

The Chairman commented that this would be Chris Kirkpatrick's last meeting as a Member of the Authority and thanked him for his work and commitment over the last four years. The Chairman presented a Police Authority shield and certificate to Mr Kirkpatrick and wished him well for the future.

#### 24. MINUTES

##### *RESOLVED:*

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 August 2008 be confirmed as a correct record.

#### 25. PERFORMANCE REVIEW: APRIL - SEPTEMBER 2008

The Acting Chief Constable gave an operational update on the major incident which had occurred overnight on the M6 in Cheshire which had resulted in the tragic loss of seven lives.

The Acting Chief Constable presented the performance report for the period April to September 2008, during which the level of total crime had reduced by 9.3%, or 1,506 less crimes when compared to the comparative period the previous year. The Constabulary had achieved a detection rate of 28.6%, below the target of 29.6%, but still an improvement on the previous year. Although there continued to be significant reductions in many categories of crime, particularly vehicle crime which had reduced by 21.6%, there had been some increases in other acquisitive crimes, most notably domestic burglaries

and 'drive offs' from petrol stations which were now subject of enhanced scrutiny by the Constabulary.

The Acting Chief Constable reported on a number of issues including the impact of the Automatic Number Plate Recognition on vehicle crime; the increase in agricultural related thefts; work with the Areas to improve vehicle crime detections; and the successful outcome of work with HMP Altcourse on the issue of securing detections from offences taken into consideration (TiCs) from prisoners. It was also reported that the Call Handling Centre had recently won a regional award for its performance.

Members raised a number of queries including the varied use of restorative justice across the Areas; the significantly improved rates of sickness absence; further explanation on the counter terrorism diagnostic indicators; policing in Ellesmere Port; and the ongoing work to address the issue of 'drive offs' from petrol stations, to which the Acting Chief Constable and Acting Deputy Chief Constable responded.

Members also enquired about the use of Penalty Notices for Disorder and the policy of obtaining DNA samples from offenders to ensure positive identification. The Acting Chief Constable reported that the obtaining of DNA from suspects away from the custody suites was now being undertaken in the Northern Area and being rolled out forcewide. Members requested that a report on the process, particularly in relation to on-street disposals, including the legal basis for the policy, be presented to the next meeting.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the performance report for April to September 2008, be noted; and
- (2) a report be presented to the next meeting on the policy for the securing of DNA samples from offenders, particularly in relation to street issued PNDs.

## 26. DATA QUALITY

The Acting Chief Constable reported on the progress made following the review of data quality in May 2007, and on the future developments to achieve continuous improvement. It was reported that a review of the action plan and update on actions taken would be reported to the Panel on a six-monthly basis.

Members welcomed the report and raised a number of issues including the incomplete inputting of data onto force systems which resulted in delays when using the information; and the success of the crime reviewers on the Areas, to which the Acting Chief Constable responded.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the report be noted; and

- (2) further reports on data quality be submitted to the Panel on a six-monthly basis

## 27. HMIC SANCTION DETECTIONS AUDIT

The Acting Deputy Chief Constable presented the report which set out the Constabulary's performance within six key sanction detection disposal areas following the audit undertaken by HMIC in April 2008, together with the Constabulary's response. It was reported that overall, the Constabulary had improved from 'poor' to 'fair' since the previous inspection.

Members noted the report and raised a number of issues including the supervision of officers in ensuring the appropriate information was entered into their pocket books; the progress being made against a number of actions identified in the report; the level of training provided for officers; and the improvements required to achieve an improved inspection rating, to which the Acting Deputy Chief Constable responded.

*RESOLVED:*

That the report be noted.

## 28. LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENTS (LPSA): ROUND 2

The Acting Deputy Chief Constable reported on the outcome of Round 2 of the Local Public Service Agreements and the implications for the Constabulary. The amount that the Constabulary was likely to receive as part of the reward grant was currently being calculated although, due to the high number of people killed or seriously injured on Cheshire's roads in recent months, it was unlikely that the target for that LPSA would be achieved.

Members noted the report and enquired whether the likely increase in the fear of crime recorded in the five pilot sites in Cheshire was across all sites or related particularly to the urban or rural areas. The Acting Deputy Chief Constable undertook to find out and report back to Members.

*RESOLVED:*

That the report be noted.

## 29. HMIC PROGRAMMED INSPECTION ACTIVITY

The Chief Executive submitted a report which detailed the forthcoming HMIC inspection activity including the inspection of police authorities, which was due to commence in April 2009.

*RESOLVED:*

That the report be noted.

30. POLICE AUTHORITY SELF ASSESSMENT: ACTION PLAN UPDATE

The Chief Executive submitted a report which updated the Panel on the progress against actions contained within the Authority's self assessment action plan. A further update on actions taken would be presented to the Panel on 21 April 2009, and in the meantime, work would commence on revising the self assessment process in preparation for the forthcoming inspection process.

*RESOLVED:*

That the report be noted.

31. DIRECTION & CONTROL COMPLAINTS: QUARTERLY REPORT

The Panel received the quarterly report on direction and control complaints.

*RESOLVED:*

That the report be noted.

32. AREA VISITS: NOTES & UPDATE ON ISSUES RAISED BY STAFF

The Chief Executive submitted the notes of the recent Authority visits to the three Areas, together with the response from the Area Commanders.

*RESOLVED:* That

- (1) the notes of the three Area visits, be noted; and
- (2) the Management Teams' responses to the issues raised by staff, be noted, and circulated to staff on the Areas.

*Duration of Meeting: The meeting commenced at 10.00am and concluded at 11.50am*

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

23 December 2008