



CHESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY HELD ON TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2006 IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, POLICE AUTHORITY OFFICES, CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS, WINSFORD

Present: P Nurse (Chairman) J P Findlow
M D Darby (Vice-Chairman) R Hodson
P J Walker (Vice-Chairman) C Kirkpatrick
D Cargill Ms E Lam
Mrs M Chapman B Maher
Mrs A Coomer Mrs M A Ollerenshaw
Mrs G A Cousins Mrs S Proctor
Mrs A Doran

Police Authority Officers:
M Sellwood, Clerk & Chief Executive
M Eaton, Senior Administration Officer

Constabulary Officers:
G Gerrard, Acting Chief Constable
B Simmons, Assistant Chief Officer
Ms C Barton, Director of Human Resources
Chief Inspector J Ward, Head of Diversity Advisory Unit (DAU)
P Matthews, DAU
Ms N Edwards, Learning & Development Section

Apologies: D T Bateman and R Giltrap

74. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2006 be confirmed as a correct record.

75. AUTHORITY AND CONSTABULARY DISABILITY EQUALITY SCHEMES

The Clerk & Chief Executive reported that under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, as amended in 2005, the Authority had a statutory duty to promote disability equality and was required to produce a Disability Equality Scheme. The Scheme included an Action Plan which would be regularly reviewed with quarterly updates on work against the plan being presented to the Authority.

The Constabulary was also required to produce a Scheme which would be monitored by the Authority and the Acting Chief Constable presented the Constabulary's Scheme.

A comprehensive consultation exercise had been undertaken jointly with a number of other agencies with disability groups and organisations throughout the area in developing the schemes.

In considering the Constabulary's scheme, Members raised a number of issues relating to the terminology used; the need for Summary versions of both schemes to be produced; clarification on the 'two ticks' accreditation; and the future initiatives planned to raise awareness to which the Acting Chief Constable, Director of Human Resources and Head of the Diversity Advisory Unit responded.

The Chairman welcomed the real progress the organisation was making in reaching out to all members of the community.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Authority's Disability Equality Scheme, be approved; and
- (2) the Constabulary's Disability Equality Scheme, be received.

76. EMPLOYMENT EQUALITY (AGE) REGULATIONS

The Clerk & Chief Executive and the Acting Chief Constable submitted a joint report which provided an overview of the requirements of the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations which came into effect on 1 October 2006.

Ms Edwards gave a presentation on the implications of the legislation and the establishment of an Age Working Group to oversee progress against an agreed action plan.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) age equality be recognised as a factor when conducting Authority business.

77. URGENT BUSINESS:

In accordance with Standing Order 5.3, the Chairman reported that there was an item of urgent business that required consideration by the Authority.

RESOLVED:

That an item of urgent business relating to the cleaning plus contract be considered in Part 2 of the Agenda.

78. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as applied by the Police Act 1996, and as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business listed below on the grounds that it

involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act in the paragraph indicated:-

<i>Item</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
Urgent Business: Appointment of Cleaning Plus Contractor	(7) Proposed action by the Authority

PART 2 - MATTER CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

79. URGENT BUSINESS: APPOINTMENT OF CLEANING PLUS CONTRACTOR

The Assistant Chief Officer presented a report on issues that had developed with the nominated cleaning plus contract which had failed to commence on 1 November 2006.

The Clerk & Chief Executive advised that the Authority's appreciation had been expressed to CBS for extension of the previous contract to ensure cleaning services were maintained.

The Authority considered the various options which were now available and the proposed courses of action. Members raised a number of issues relating to the failure of the contract commencing; the procedures for evaluation of tenders; the need for a risk assessment to be undertaken with regard to any potential damages; and clarification on the legal advice to which the Assistant Chief Officer responded.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) Option B as outlined in the Appendix to the Acting Chief Constable's report be approved as the preferred way forward;
- (3) the Chief Executive in discussion with the Chairman, be authorised to decide on Option A subject to legal advice and the maximum estimated liability as outlined in the Appendix to the Acting Chief Constable's report; and
- (4) the Chief Executive be authorised to take all necessary action to maintain cleaning and associated services in the interim including the approval of price and contracts with CBS; and
- (5) a further report be submitted to the Organisation & Service Development Panel on 2 January 2007.

Duration of meeting: The meeting commenced at 9.30am and concluded at 10.45am