



CHESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE AUTHORITY HELD ON TUESDAY 29 AUGUST 2006 IN CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS, WINSFORD

Present: P Nurse (Chairman) Mrs A Doran
M D Darby (Vice-Chairman) R Giltrap
D T Bateman R Hodson
D Cargill C Kirkpatrick
Mrs M Chapman B Maher
Mrs A Coomer Mrs M A Ollerenshaw
Mrs G A Cousins

Police Authority Officers:
M Sellwood, Clerk & Chief Executive
D Taylor, Deputy Clerk
Mrs A Gibson, Treasurer's office

Constabulary Officers:
P Fahy, Chief Constable
G Gerrard, Deputy Chief Constable
B Simmons, Assistant Chief Officer
Sergeant K Tomlinson, Staff Office

Apologies: J P Findlow, Ms E Lam, Mrs S Proctor and P J Walker

39. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2006 be confirmed as a correct record.

40. COLLABORATION WITH GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

The Chairman gave an oral report on his recent meeting with the Chairman of Greater Manchester Police Authority to discuss the possibility of increased collaborative working between the two forces. It was reported that the discussions had progressed well and that there was support from both sides to develop collaborative working where it would be mutually beneficial to operational policing and other support functions. Specific initiatives relating to seconding officers to work in Greater Manchester's Force Intelligence Bureau and Serious & Organised Crime Unit were discussed and supported.

Members welcomed the developments and made a number of comments including the need to develop collaboration with all neighbouring forces; the possibility of joint working with public agencies other than police forces; and the hope that further collaboration will develop once early firm proposals are in place.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the ongoing discussions with Greater Manchester Police Authority be supported.

41. 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 paragraphs indicated:-

<i>Item</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
Police Reform & Protective Services	(7) Prevention, investigation or prosecution of a crime

42. POLICE REFORM & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

The Chief Constable presented a report which set out an assessment of the ability of the Constabulary to provide an acceptable standard of protective service and the investment required to enhance that capability. The Chief Constable stated that the proposals took account of the financial scenario faced by the Authority in the coming years and that a radical plan was required to be developed to ensure that resources in the future were used more effectively.

Members noted the report and raised several issues, including the support for collaborative working with neighbouring forces and the need to focus on the outcomes of this for the people and policing of Cheshire; the assessment of risk and the need to provide a policing service proportionate to that risk; the right balance of resources between local neighbourhood policing and Level 2 crime; and the importance of the workforce modernisation agenda to drive out greater efficiencies in the Constabulary's staffing resources.

The Chairman welcomed the first attempt at developing the proposals, but requested that more information on the demand for the extra services together with how additional efficiencies would be secured from the current level of provision, and how the proposals were to be financed, be included in a future report to Members.

The Clerk & Chief Executive stated that the report to be submitted to the Policing Minister would set out a statement of fact of how the minimum required protective service level could be reached and why, based on a risk assessment and realistic appraisal of resources, certain areas of the service may not be brought up to the desired standard. It was also agreed that the positive benefits of collaborative working should be highlighted in the Minister's report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the outline proposal on the enhancement of the Constabulary's protective services capability be supported; and
- (2) the report be updated in line with Members' comments and submitted to the Minister for Policing as the basis of discussions to be held with the Minister when he visits Cheshire in September.

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