

SUFFOLK POLICE AUTHORITY

PA10/1

MINUTES OF THE POLICE AUTHORITY

A meeting of the Police Authority was held in the LEC Building, Police Headquarters, Martlesham on Friday, 11 December 2009 at 10.45 am. The meeting followed a presentation earlier that morning relating to performance in the area of Rape and Serious Sexual Offences.

Present:

Gulshan Kayembe – Chair
Colin Spence – Vice Chair

Holden Cook, Sandra Cox, Peter Gardiner, Liz Harlaar, Judith Lancaster, Deanna Law, Rae Leighton, Gill Lewis, Tim Marks, David Rowe, Joanna Spicer, Anne Tyler, David Wood and Mary Young.

Officers in attendance: Simon Ash (Chief Constable), Chris Bland (Treasurer), Sarah Bolt (Executive Services Manager), Barry Byford (Inspector, Special Branch) for item 10, Stewart Gull (Temporary Assistant Chief Constable), Christopher Jackson (Chief Executive), Gary Kitching (Assistant Chief Constable), Ian Rands (Business Manager) and Claire Swallow (Deputy Chief Executive).

Also present for item 5 : Maureen Woodd, Chair of the Standards Committee.

1. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 1.1 The Chair offered apologies on behalf of Patricia O'Brien, the Deputy Chief Constable and Assistant Chief Officer.
- 1.2 The Chair was pleased to welcome Sandra Cox, Independent Member, to her first meeting of the Authority.
- 1.3 The Chair said that there would be an extra item taken as urgent business within Part II of the meeting relating to an issue linked to Norfolk and Suffolk Collaboration Business Cases discussed at the previous meeting.

2. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

- 2.1 There were no matters raised under this item.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 3.1 All members declared a personal interest in the item on Members' Allowances contained within the Committee Business Report (Paper PA09/86).

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

- 4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2009 were confirmed by the Authority as an accurate record and signed by the Chair (Paper PA09/85 in the Minute Book).

5. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORT**

- 5.1 The Authority considered a report by the Chief Executive on matters linked to the business of the Authority that had arisen since the last report was presented to the meeting on 13 November 2009 (Paper PA09/86 in the Minute Book).

Annual Review of the Scheme of Members' Allowances and Expenses

- 5.2 The Chair of the Standards Committee referred to the discussions at the Standards Committee meeting on 6 November and the conclusion that, apart from the inflationary increase in line with the Police Staff Council (PSC) rate, no other increases were being recommended. The PSC inflationary increase from 1 September was 2.58% and this equated to an annual additional cost of about £4,650.

- 5.3 The Authority agreed to accept the Standards Committee recommendation but in doing so it was felt that there would be some advantage in having a national scheme in terms of clarity of decision making and removing the stigma of members considering their own allowances. It was agreed that further consideration should be given to making representations to the Association of Police Authorities.

Protocol on Member/Officer Relations

- 5.4 The Chief Executive referred to the background to the development of the protocol that had been attached as Appendix C to the report. The protocol had been supported by the Standards Committee on 6 November and its adoption by the Authority was agreed.

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- 5.5 The link member for Custody Visiting, David Wood, referred to the steps taken to appoint new visitors to bring the three Panels up to strength. He also drew attention to the fact that the national Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA) website had been updated and gone live earlier that week. David was congratulated on being re-elected as Chair of ICVA at the AGM on 5 December.

The Authority **RESOLVED** that :

- (i) the information in the bulletins attached to the report be noted;
- (ii) in relation to the Members' Allowances Scheme –
 - (a) for the year 2010/11, all allowances and expenses remain at current levels, with an inflationary increase in line with the PSC rate agreed with effect from 1 September 2009;
 - (b) no changes be made to the multiplier factors agreed last year for calculating the level of additional allowances;

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| (iii) | consideration be given to making representations to the APA on the possibility of developing a national scheme for members' allowances; |
| (iv) | the protocol on Member/Officer relations reproduced as Appendix C to the report be approved. |

6. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

6.1 The Authority **resolved** that the public, including the press, should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that:

- (i) they involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 3 and 7 of Part I to Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972;
- (ii) in all the circumstances the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

[A detailed account of the discussions and decisions on the following items is contained in the Confidential Minutes.]

7. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES [Exempt : Individual(s) 1, Financial/ Business Affairs 3 and Crime 7]**

7.1 The confidential minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2009 were confirmed by the Authority as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

8. **URGENT BUSINESS : NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK COLLABORATION – PROTECTIVE SERVICES [Exempt: Individuals 1 and Crime 7]**

8.1 The Authority's attention was drawn to the resolution passed at the previous meeting concerning the business cases for a Dedicated Source Handling Unit, Joint Economic Crime Unit and Joint Special Branch. In accordance with that resolution further clarification had been sought and the Authority discussed the response received.

8.2 It was concluded that the Chief Constable should seek further clarification before the business cases could be formally 'signed-off'.

9. **POLICE INVESTIGATION CENTRES PROJECT [Exempt: Financial/ Business Affairs 3]**

Progress towards Financial Close

9.1 The Chief Executive reported that the Final Business Case had been submitted to the Home Office. The Second Joint Working Agreement was almost complete and he expected a report to the Authority on 22 January with a view to progressing to Financial Close at the end of that month or beginning of February. There was the possibility that an Authority meeting might need to be interposed before the January meeting in order to address the necessary formalities.

9.2 The judicial review periods linked to the grant of the various planning permissions would have all expired by the end of December.

9.3 The Authority supported the progression of these matters at the earliest opportunity.

Enabling Works Agreement

9.4 The Authority considered a confidential report by the Project Manager on behalf of the Chief Constable on a proposal to allow the developers to commence work at the PIC sites prior to Financial Close.

9.5 Recognising there was no risk to the Authority or Constabulary, the way forward in the report was supported.

10. **COUNTER TERRORISM UPDATE : LOCAL PROFILES [Exempt : Crime 7]**

10.1 The Authority received a presentation by Detective Inspector Barry Byford on the requirement to produce Counter Terrorism Local Profiles (CTLPs).

10.2 Members welcomed the update. There were some questions and comments linked mainly to the role of partners and how members might facilitate the awareness of preventative action.

The meeting ended at 12.12 pm.

Chair