

OPCC Business Meeting
22nd October 2015.
Balliol Business Park.
9:45am

Attendees: Vera Baird QC, Elaine Snaith (Chief Executive OPCC), Mike Tait, Ian Woodward, Mike Mullen, Richard Heron and Dean Lowery

The Commissioner welcomed colleagues to the Office of Police & Crime Commissioner Business Meeting.

Item 1 – Storage Area Network

Mike Tait presented the Commissioner with a report in relation the potential refresh of the Storage Area Network (SAN).

The report highlighted that the current data storage utilized by the force is approaching capacity and a request was made to undertake the refresh using the current Capital Programme for 2015/16 to undertake this work.

The Commissioner subsequently agreed the proposal and requested that a key decision be produced for official signing.

Item 2 – Police Pension Board

Mike Tait presented a report in relation to the Police Pension Board.

The Public Services Pensions Act 2013 placed more statutory emphasis on pension scheme governance than had previously been the case with public service schemes.

The Police Pension Scheme 2015 sets out the statutory arrangements both at a national and local level to comply with the new legislation and manage the old and new pension schemes.

The Police Advisory Board for England & Wales will serve as the national police pension scheme advisory board and take over from the Police Negotiating Board that ceased on 31 August 2014.

The Chief Constable is the 'scheme manager' of the Police Pension Fund of Northumbria and is required to manage and administer it with the exception of their own pension.

The Police and Crime Commissioner is the 'scheme manager' for matters relating to the Chief Constable's pension and pension forfeiture.

The Pension Board is responsible for assisting the scheme manager in securing compliance with regulations and other matters.

The Pension Board was established in April this year and a Chair and Members appointed were appointed by the Chief Constable. All Board members were required to complete a board member training programme as supplied by the Pension Regulator. The Board is fully supported by the Force finance and legal advisers.

The Joint Chief Finance Officer represents the interests of the Police and Crime Commissioner on the Board.