

Title
JOINT BUSINESS MEETING

Date	Location	Duration
23 rd February 2017	Victory House, Balliol	9am – 11:20am

Present:

Mrs Vera Baird – Police and Crime Commissioner
Ms Elaine Snaith – OPCC Chief Executive
Mr Darren Best – Assistant Chief Constable
Mrs Vanessa Jardine – Assistant Chief Constable
Ms Joscelin Lawson – Director of Human Resources
Mr Mike Tait – Director of Finance
Mr Mike Mullen – Director of Asset Management
Mr Dean Lowery – Officer of the PCC

Apologies: Mr Steve Ashman – Chief Constable
Mr Winton Keenan – Deputy Chief Constable

OPEN SESSION

1. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes of 9th February 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

2. PEEL Inspection Update

The Director of Human Resources presented an update report on work undertaken by the force in response to the areas for improvement and national recommendations identified by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in the PEEL Efficiency and Legitimacy reports produced in 2016.

The overall judgement for Northumbria Police against both strands was good and HMIC did not identify any causes of concern and made no force specific recommendations. However, ten areas for improvement were identified with three relating to efficiency and seven for Legitimacy.

Action plans have been developed by the force to address the recommendations which were presented.

A further report produced by HMIC in relation to Effectiveness is due to be received in March 2017 with a further action plan being produced once the report is received.

Delivery of all action plans will be overseen by Chief Officer/Director level and progress reported to JBM on a quarterly basis.

3. Body Worn Video Update

T/ACC Jardine provided a progress report in relation to the use of Body Worn Video (BWV).

All 24/7 response officers have now been trained and authorised to use BWV with all training material accessible on the force intranet. Additional equipment has also been purchased which will allow the cameras to be allocated to officers via a smartcard resulting in a more efficient way of booking out camera units.

Software for the cameras has also been updated allowing officers to access their footage and manage evidence from any force computer terminal. Transfer of footage digitally is now available within the force allowing the Prosecution Support Unit to copy and forward the digital media to the CPS.

The Commissioner discussed the issues with transferring the footage to the CPS digitally which is still not possible, which T/ACC Jardine confirmed is a national issue. The Commissioner highlighted a system called DETS Ecom Storage which was raised at a meeting she attended. This system will allow the storage and access of data from all agencies, however it was felt that it may be sometime before this was operational. The Commissioner requested that the Force ICT department look into this facility and whether systems are compatible.

T/ACC Jardine discussed the number of hrs of assigned camera time between July 16 – December 16 stood at 343,250hrs which equated to 6hrs per day per camera within the force. The Commissioner was also informed that a keyword has been added to the force system to determine at which incidents the cameras have been used.

ACTION: The report was noted.

4. Legally Qualified Chairs (LQCs)

The Director of Finance presented a paper which informed the Commissioner that following HMRC's conclusion that LQCs are not office holders and therefore not employees. As a result of this change LQCs will revert back to self-employed status and OPCC's will no longer be required to collect tax through PAYE.

All LQCs who have undertaken hearings have been contacted by the finance department and informed of these changes with remedial action being taken.

ACTION: The report was noted.

5. Police ICT Data Company – Data Request

The Director of Finance presented a report relating to the request of data from the Police ICT Company in relation to a review of ICT spend across all police forces covering contracts, ICT structures, future budgets and people costs.

Since the initial request was received, national concern as the information requested was excessive and some is already accessible through existing national police databases.

A new request has now been received which has been reduced and focuses on spend and budget data that the force already has in its possession and will provide in due course.

ACTION: The report was noted.

6. Medium term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2017/18

The Director of Finance presented the Commissioner with the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017/18.

The report and key decision for this can be viewed by accessing the following link [Medium-Term-Financial-Strategy-2017_18-to-2020_21](#)

Action: The Commissioner agreed the MTFS for 2017/18 – 2020/21

7. 2017/18 Budget and Precept Decision

The Director of Finance presented a key decision and report relating to the Council Tax Precept and Revenue Capital Budgets for 2017/18.

The full report and key decision which was agreed by the Commissioner can be found by accessing the following link [Budget 2017-18 and Council Tax Precept](#)

ACTION: The key decision was agreed

8. AOB

Armed Forces Covenant

The Director of Human Resources presented a report to provide information following Northumbria Polices commitment to honour the Armed Forces Covenant.

The Covenant sets out between the nation, the Government and the Armed Forces. It recognises the whole nation has a moral obligation to members of the armed forces and their families and it establishes how they expect to be treated.

On the 17th February 2017 Chief Constable Ashman signed up to commit to the Covenant on behalf of Northumbria Police.

The force will uphold the principle by:

- Promoting that we are an armed forces friendly organisation;
- Seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old and working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP), in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers;
- Striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners;
- Endeavoring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment;

- Seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;
- Offering support to local cadet units;
- Aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day.

By signing up to the Covenant the force will be awarded a bronze award however work is ongoing to achieve the silver award.

ACTION: The report was noted