

NORTHUMBRIA PCC MINUTES

Title

JOINT BUSINESS MEETING

Date

20 February 2020

Location

OPCC Office, Balliol Business Park

Duration

10:10 – 10:40

Present:

Kim McGuinness	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria (<i>Chair</i>)
Winton Keenen	Chief Constable
Ruth Durham	Chief of Staff, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
Rachel Bacon	Assistant Chief Constable, Northumbria Police
Dean Lowery	Officer of the PCC
Adrian Pearson	Director of Planning and Delivery, OPCC
Tanya Reade	Corporate Governance Manager, Northumbria Police
Mike Tait	Director of Finance and IT and Joint Chief Finance Officer

Apologies:

Debbie Ford	Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)
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OPEN SESSION

1. MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF JOINT BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON 23rd JANUARY 2020

Agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Item 05 – PCC and Chief Constable are to attend the upcoming meeting of the JIAC in February 2020.

Item 08 – ACC Bacon confirmed that work is being undertaken to progress the move from scrutiny being undertaken by Chair's to an independent scrutiny function. Further updates are to be provided as work progresses.

ACTION: Item 14 – In relation to JBM/Scrutiny meetings, discussions to take place in relation to the structure of future meetings.

3. VRU UPDATE

Police and Crime Commissioner provided an update, points to note were:

- Options appraisal ongoing at the moment and these options will be considered by the board and are to be presented to the Strategic Board in the coming weeks.
- Head of VRU is undertaking work to produce a long term plan for the VRU including funding opportunities if Government Funding
- The current Lead Project Manager of the VRU, Chief Inspector Murray will step down from this role and instead undertake a new role within the unit. This role will encompass being the intrinsic link between the force and the VRU to increase partnership working and the embedding of VRU work within the force.

- The draft profile is in the process of being produced and this will be shared with partners in the coming weeks.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS)

AGREED: The report was deferred to a future meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT AND REVENUE CAPITAL BUDGETS

The Director of Finance and ICT and Joint Chief Finance Officer presented the report and key decision relating to the approval of the Council Tax Precept and Revenue Capital Budgets.

The Commissioner was requested to:

- I. Approve the capital programme and authorise the Joint Chief Finance Officer (Treasurer) to undertake the appropriate financing.
- II. Approve the revenue budget.
- III. Agree the review of the reserves policy.
- IV. Note the recommendations of the Joint Chief Finance Officer (Treasurer) in respect of the robustness of the budget and the adequacy of reserves.

Note the Council Tax Base of 398,916 for the year 2020/21 as notified by the billing authorities within Tyne and Wear and Northumberland (item T in the formula in Section 42B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended).

Approve the following amounts for the year 2020/21 in accordance with Sections 42A, 42B and 45 to 47 c the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended:

(a) £321.465m - Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Police and Crime Commissioner estimates for the items set out in Section 42A (2) (a) to (d) of the Act.

(b) £266.814m - Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Police and Crime Commissioner estimates for the items set out in Section 42A (3) (a) to (b) adjusted for the item set out in S42A (10) of the Act.

(c) £54.651m - Being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Police and Crime Commissioner in accordance with Section 42A (4) of the Act, as its Council Tax Requirement for the year (item R in the formula is Section 42B of the Act).

(d) £137.00 - Being the amount at (c) above (item R) divided by the amount noted in Recommendation 2 above (item T), calculated by the Police and Crime Commissioner in accordance with Section 42B (1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(e) Valuation bands - Being the amounts given by multiplying the amount of (d) above by the number which in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Police and Crime Commissioner in accordance with Section 47 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of the categories of dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

A - £91.33
 B - £106.56
 C - £121.78
 D - £137.00

E - £167.44
F - £197.89
G - £228.33
H - £274.00

Resolve that under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act, the Commissioner's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2020/21 is not excessive in accordance with the principles determined under Section 52ZC (1) of the Act for 2020/21.

Resolve that in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended, the billing authorities within the area of this authority be issued with precepts in the amount of £54,651,467 for the financial year beginning 1 April 2020, the amount of the retrospective precepts to be issued to each billing authority's area in accordance with the Sections 42A, 42B and 45 to 48 of the 1992 Act, as amended.

Approve the Prudential Indicators as outlined in Annex A to the report.

Accept the recommendation of the Joint Chief Finance Officer (Treasurer) for the method of calculating MRP for 2020/21 as set out in the Annual MRP statement at Annex B to this report.

AGREED: The Commissioner approved the Council Tax Precept and Revenue Capital Budgets inclusive of all recommendations within the report.

6. CAPITAL MSTRATEGY 2020/21 to 2023/24

AGREED: The report was deferred to a future meeting.

7. HMIP AND HMICFRS – REPORT ON AN UNANNOUNCED INSPECTION VISIT TO POLICIE CUSTODY SUITES IN NORTHUMBRIA

Assistant Chief Constable Bacon presented an update report following the HMIP and HMICFRS inspection of Northumbria Police custody which took place in November 2019.

It was noted that this item an overview of the outcomes of the report had already been presented to Scrutiny committee with monitoring of work being undertaken to address any recommendations being monitored through the Scrutiny meeting.

AGREED: That the report was noted.

8. HMICFRS – BOTH SIDES OF THE COIN: THE POLICE AND NATIONAL CRIME AGENCY'S RESPONSE TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN COUNTY LINES DRUG OFFENDING

ACC Bacon presented an overview report which included the findings and recommendations made by Inspectors following their inspection of the national county lines co-ordination centre and ten police forces which did not include Northumbria Police.

Inspectors identified three key areas which were:

- Police intelligence, prioritisation and response
- Joint working with other public services
- Powers and legislation

The report noted the force position in relation to the above areas with good work being undertaken with local authorities and partners and a positive framework to move forward in this area.

The Commissioner commented on the positive work being undertaken in this area by the force, however she felt that some issues relating to drugs or criminality are not necessarily related to county lines and clear messages need to be provided to the public to ensure that certain criminality is not confused with county lines.

AGREED: That the report was noted

9. FORWARD LAM

AGREED: That the insurance renewal item be removed and in future that this be dealt with outside of the meeting structure.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business to discuss.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

19 March 2020, 10:00, Victory House, Balliol.