



Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner

BUSINESS CO-ORDINATION BOARD

MINUTES

Date:	Wednesday 25 September 2013	
Time:	11:00	
Location:	South Cambridgeshire Hall	
Members:	Sir Graham Bright	Police and Crime Commissioner
	Brian Ashton	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
	Simon Parr	Chief Constable
	Alec Wood	Deputy Chief Constable
	Mark Hopkins	Assistant Chief Constable
In Attendance:	Niki Howard	Chief Finance Officer (Constabulary)
	Sup. Melanie Dales	Deputy Head of CDD
	Nicky Phillipson	Strategic Advisor
	Cristina Strood	Head of Policy and Performance
	Eve Landon	Policy Officer

Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive of the OPCC and Kate Moore, Business Manager (Constabulary).

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting held on 4 September 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. Programme Metis – Business Case

The Chief Constable summarised the progress of Programme Metis which comprises a suite of initiatives to digitalise the work of the Constabulary and increase efficiency to make savings. He explained that it would enable the assurance of good service to the public. The identification of user requirements was complete with development being undertaken in house or through appropriate external suppliers. The programme would enable the Constabulary to deliver against the Criminal Justice System digitalisation plan coming out of the Ministry of Justice and Home Office and link with Athena as that is rolled out. It was noted that a significant strength of the Programme was that bespoke software was not being written, but generic software was being configured for the needs of the Constabulary.

The Commissioner noted that he had received a preliminary document outlining the case for Programme Metis from the Chief Constable and both were agreed that the proposals provide a pathway to meeting both the financial and organisational challenges of the next few years. A full Business Case would be brought forward.

The Chief Constable expressed his thanks to all members of the IT and Metis teams who had been working on the project.

Resolved:

- (i) *A detailed implementation programme set against a timeline and indicating savings and their timing should be prepared as a matter of priority.*
- (ii) *That the proposed "Extended Pilot Evaluation" should proceed as soon as possible.*
- (iii) *That applications that can be developed using in-house resources, and which offer the best immediate opportunities for change and consequent savings should proceed as soon as possible.*
- (iv) *That detailed negotiations with an external contractor approved under National Contract arrangements should be entered into in order to bring forward a future request for capital funding.*
- (v) *That the details already prepared coupled with the results of the work outlined above would be brought together in a proposal/document that represented*

the probable timing, savings and costs against which future achievements can be set.

4. Support for Victims of Crime

The Strategic Advisor updated the Board on the work under development.

The Commissioner noted the support for the regional approach in order to enable the delivery of local, needs based victims services.

Partners and stakeholders were strongly engaged in this work.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the report*

5. Transfer Order 2 – Next Steps

The Head of Policy and Performance advised the Board that the proposed transfer scheme had been submitted to the Home Office and was awaiting approval, which was expected to be received in November. The key streams of work had been identified. It was proposed and agreed that a small task and finish group would be established to assist the Commissioner and the Chief Constable with technical tasks relating to legal, HR and finance issues. The first Strategic Advisory Group meeting would be held on 3 October 2013.

The Chief Finance Officer (Constabulary) informed the Board that pending appointment of the Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer, the necessary interim authorisations had been received.

Resolved:

- (i) A small task and finish group would be established to assist with the technical tasks relating to Transfer Order 2.*

6. Progress on Collaboration

The Chief Constable noted that the report focused on the units that had gone live in April and provided assurance that units that had previously been collaborated were being monitored.

Resolved:

(i) *To note the report*

7. Restorative Justice

The Chief Constable informed the Board that restorative justice approaches were substantially responsible for the reductions in detentions in custody, thereby reducing the number of youths entering into the Criminal Justice System. The Chief Constable also highlighted the contribution to victim satisfaction and to the recidivism rate for juveniles (10 per cent for Cambridgeshire, compared with 15-20% nationally for those dealt with more formally through the Criminal Justice System).

The Board noted that Cambridgeshire were one of the most successful forces in the country in terms of not keeping children in custody overnight.

The Deputy Chief Constable also provided reassurance that restorative justice is used appropriately in Cambridgeshire.

The Commissioner was supportive of the Constabulary's approach, he was keen to ensure that young people are supported to keep out of trouble. The Commissioner informed the Board the he was engaging partners on these issues. The Constabulary would be holding a briefing for the Police and Crime Panel on 16 October.

Resolved:

(i) *To note the report*

8. Operational Update

The Assistant Chief Constable provided an update on operational matters. The Commissioner was reassured that Cambridgeshire Constabulary has not been involved with RSPCA prosecutions. It was clarified that should the RSPCA ever wish to obtain any information from the Constabulary, they must request this through a single point of contact within the force.

The Assistant Chief Constable reassured the Commissioner about non-emergency call handling and that staff sickness in the Force Control Room was being managed.

The Board were informed that across the force a high volume crime month was reported, though total crime had reduced from the same period last year. This was reflecting national trends. The Commissioner noted that any increases in crime would

be of concern but emphasised that victim satisfaction was paramount.

Resolved:

(i) *To note the report*

9. To review the minutes of the Finance subgroup meeting held on 27 August 2013

The Deputy Commissioner informed the Board that the marginal underspends were significantly lower than in the prior year.

Resolved:

(i) *To note the report*

10. To review the minutes of the FEB meeting held on 06 August

The Board noted the minutes of the Force Executive Board meeting held on 6 August. It was further noted that the proposal that the Constabulary provide estates and valuation services to Huntingdonshire District Council had not been approved.

Resolved:

(i) *To note the report*

11. Response to HMIC Recommendations

The Board noted HMIC Inspection activity since November 2012 and the requirement for the Commissioner to publish a copy of comments on HMIC reports and then forward these to the Home Secretary.

The report from the Chief Constable summarised relevant inspection activity from November 2012. There would continue to be regular updates in future to enable the Commissioner to discharge his duties. The Commissioner noted the report. He highlighted that he would wish to see further information at a future meeting on the follow up and action plans in relation to the reports on stop and search, the use of police cells and stop the drift.

The Commissioner informed the Board that he had recently accompanied an Independent Custody Visitor on visits and stated that he commended the work of the Custody Officers for their hard work and for keeping people safe.

Resolved:

(i) To note the report.

(ii) To bring forward further information on follow up and action plans in relation to the reports on stop and search, the use of police cells and stop the drift – a continuing focus on 21 Century Criminal Justice, at a future meeting.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 22 October at 11:00, in the Swansley Room, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne.

Sir Graham Bright