



Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

BUSINESS COORDINATION BOARD

APPROVED MINUTES

Date: 6th January 2016

Time: 14:00

Location: Swansley A, Cambourne

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| Members: | Sir Graham Bright | Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner |
| | Brian Ashton | Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner |
| | Alan Baldwin | Deputy Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary |
| | Josie Gowler | Director of Finance, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner |
| | Alec Wood | Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary |
| In Attendance: | Claire George | Executive Support Officer, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner |
| | Charles Kitchen | Director of Public Engagement and Communication, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner |
| | Colin Luscombe | Director of Estates, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner |
| | Paul Ormerod | Chief Inspector, Cambridgeshire Constabulary |
| | Nicky Phillipson | Strategic Advisor, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner |
| | Cristina Strood | Head of Policy and Performance, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner |

1. Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Dorothy Gregson, Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Mark Hopkins, Assistant Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Niki Howard, Director of Finance and Resources, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Mat Newman, Head of Corporate Development, Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting held on the 16th December 2015

- 3.1 There were no outstanding actions from the last meeting of the 16th December 2015.

3.2 Resolved:

- (i) *The minutes of the meeting held on the 16th December 2015 were agreed and signed.*

4. Medium Term Financial Plan

- 4.1 The Director of Finance presented the latest version of the Medium Term Financial Plan 2016/17 to 2019/20 ("the MTFP") to the Business Coordination Board ("the Board") as the Commissioner's key financial planning document. It was emphasised that the figures within the MTFP are still in draft form and remain subject to ratification and finalisation during January 2016 and will form the basis of the Budget and Precept Paper for 2016/17 due to be presented to the Board on 22nd January 2016.
- 4.2 The Board were asked to note that the long-term aim of the MTFP is to maintain front line policing without increasing the burden on the taxpayer.
- 4.3 In developing the MTFP the Commissioner had taken estimates of a number of factors which were yet to be determined. The Board noted that these were: The Provisional Grant Settlement 2016/17 final figure; Cambridgeshire's allocation of the capital grant from the Home Office which would not be received until February 2016 (although the Commissioner had been advised that there will be a reduction for policing of 40%; confirmation of the Victims' Grant income and expenditure; ; figures for the increase in the number of Band D equivalent properties; the cost of the police helicopter under the National Police Air Service; and finalisation of the budgets for services within the collaborated Bedfordshire Police, Constabulary, and Hertfordshire Constabulary functions of Joint Protective Services, Operational Support and Organisational Support.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- 4.4 The Board were informed that savings and efficiencies including agile working initiatives and collaborative working with Bedfordshire Police and Hertfordshire Constabulary had been identified.
- 4.5 The Commissioner informed the Board that he will be recommending to the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel ("the Panel") an increase of 1% in to the policing element of the Council Tax for 2016/17. This would see the policing element of a 2016/17 Band D Council Tax increasing from £181.35 to £183.16 per annum, an increase of 3.5p per week. The Commissioner confirmed that he had listened to what people had told him, balancing their expectations of police visibility with affordability of tax increases, whilst driving efficiencies.
- 4.6 The Board were informed that for financial planning purposes for the three years from the 2017/18 the MTFP was based on the assumption that the precept increase would be at the rate of 1.99%. However, it was stressed that this was for financial planning purposes only and did not imply any commitment to the figures given with the MTFP.
- 4.7 It was reported that in achieving the budget position, £2.2m of budget assistance reserve would be used to ensure that there was no borrowing during the period, whilst savings from collaboration with Bedfordshire Police and Hertfordshire Constabulary are realised. The Board noted that it was hoped that the reserve would be replenished over time.
- 4.8 The Commissioner commented that the reserves are there to be used when required and that this was encouraged by the Home Secretary. He confirmed that the reserves will be used prudently when required. He also added that he would be issuing a press release on the proposed precept to enable the public to give him feedback on his proposal.
- 4.10 The Deputy Commissioner also reiterated that savings of £16.1m had been achieved in the period from 2013/14 to 2016/17 and commended the Constabulary and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner that this had been possible in four years. The Board were asked to note that he was confident that the Constabulary would be able to maintain policing resources whilst savings are being made and that he believed that proposal of a 1% increase in the policing element of the Council Tax was entirely prudent and would not increase the burden on the taxpayer.
- 4.11 The Commissioner conveyed his thanks to the Deputy Commissioner and both the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Finance and their teams for their work in balancing the budget.
- 4.12 The final MFTP will be brought back to the Board on the 22nd January 2016 for consideration as part of the Precept Report.

5. Finance Sub-Group

- 5.1 The Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner presented the minutes of the meeting on 26th November 2015.
- 5.2 The Board were informed that all Innovation Fund Bids have now been reviewed and submitted.
- 5.3 The Board noted the paper.

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 The Chief Constable informed the Board of a performance issue that he had briefed the Commissioner on. This would be brought to the next Board meeting Performance Group.

7. Date of Next Meeting

- 7.1 The next meeting will be held on 22nd January 2016 at 10:00 at Constabulary HQ.



Sir Graham Bright