

GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD

Committee Room 2, Town House, Aberdeen, 20th May 2011 - Minute of Meeting of GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD.

Present:- Councillor Greig, Convener
Councillor Hendry, Vice Convener
Councillor Shepherd, Vice Convener
Councillor Al-Kowarri
Councillor Bell
Councillor Collie
Councillor Cowling (as substitute for Councillor McKail)
Councillor Cox
Councillor Dunbar
Councillor Farquharson
Councillor Mair
Councillor McGillivray
Councillor Webster
Councillor J West (as substitute for Councillor K Stewart)

In Attendance:- Mr Colin McKerracher, Chief Constable, Grampian Police
Mr Colin Menzies, Assistant Chief Constable, Grampian Police
Mr Billy Gordon, Assistant Chief Constable, Grampian Police
Ms Karen Williams, Director of Corporate Services, Grampian Police
Mr Gary Craig, Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Grampian Police
Chief Inspector Nick Topping, Staff Officer, Grampian Police
Mr Ian Robbie, External Auditor, Henderson & Loggie
Mr Barry Jenkins, Treasurer
Ms Karen Donnelly, Depute Clerk
Ms Fiona Smith, Policy & Advice Officer, Aberdeen City Council

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Convener welcomed Councillor John Cox to his first Board Meeting and advised that Cllr Cox has recently been appointed to the Board by Aberdeenshire Council. It was noted that Councillor Albert Howie has stepped down from the Board and the Board resolved to send thanks to Cllr Howie for the contribution he made to the Board during the term of his membership.

Councillor Hendry wished to record the Boards congratulations to Chief Inspector Phil Chapman and all members of his team who were involved in a recent high profile crime investigation which resulted in the conviction of Malcolm Webster. The Chief Constable thanked the Board for this and advised he would pass this message on to the officers involved.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor McKail, Councillor Penny, Mr J McNab, Deputy Chief Constable, Grampian Police and Ms J MacEachran, Clerk to the Board.

MINUTE OF GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD MEETING OF 4TH MARCH 2011

2. The Board had before it and approved as a correct record, the Minute of the Board Meeting of 4th March 2011

The Board Resolved:

To approve the Minute.

MINUTE OF GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD SPECIAL MEETING OF 18TH MARCH 2011

3. The Board had before it and approved as a correct record, the Minute of the Board Special Meeting of 18th March 2011.

The Board Resolved:

To approve the Minute.

MATTERS ARISING

4. There were no matters arising.

MINUTE OF GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD COMPLAINTS SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF 13TH DECEMBER 2010

5. The Board had before it and noted for information the Minute of the Complaints Sub Committee Meeting of 13th December 2010.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Minute.

MINUTE OF GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD STEWARDSHIP SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF 13TH DECEMBER 2010

6. The Board had before it and noted for information the Minute of the Stewardship Sub Committee Meeting of 13th December 2010.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Minute.

UPDATED BUSINESS STATEMENT

7. The Board had before it the updated Board Business Statement dated 20th May 2011. The Depute Clerk provided a verbal update with respect to the statement as follows:

- 09/18: The Board agreed to remove this item from the Business Statement given that the Best Value 2 audit supersedes the draft Internal Audit Report.
- 10/07: It was noted that a report relating to this item would be considered at this meeting.
- 10/08: It was noted that a report relating to this item would be considered at this meeting.
- 10/09: The Assistant Chief Constable advised that discussions are on-going at national level regarding the policing jurisdiction in the North Sea. A report to the Board on this issue will be presented in due course.
- 10/10: The Clerks Office have commenced activity on progressing the approved Action Plan. Regular reports to future Board Meetings will be made following meetings of the Board Development Sub Group.
- 11/01: A response from the Grampian Criminal Justice Board was tabled. A response from the Scottish Policing Board has not yet been received. It was agreed that the Board would await further information regarding the outcome of the Carlaway review prior to considering this issue further.
- 11/02: The Budget Sub Group is scheduled to meet on Friday 1st July 2011.
- 11/03: It was noted that a report relating to this item would be considered at this meeting.
- 11/04: The Board was advised that the Board Response to the Scottish Government consultation was submitted on 5th May 2011.

The Board Resolved:

To note the updated Business Statement

REVENUE EXPENDITURE MONITORING REPORT – 31ST JANUARY 2011

8. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable and the Treasurer that presented the Revenue Budget Monitoring Report for the period to 30th April 2011.

The Treasurer introduced the Report which detailed that the out-turn figures for 2010/11 are being finalised but it is anticipated that the Force will have an underspend of around £2.4m. The aim in 2010/11 was to maximise savings in order to reduce the financial burden for this financial year and beyond. The draft 2010/11 financial statements will be presented to the next Board meeting.

The Treasurer further reported on Scottish Government negotiations which have taken place since the 2011/12 budget was approved by the Board. These negotiations have agreed a number of changes to Police Office pay conditions which will see net savings of £850,000 in Grampian. The Treasurer advised that the approved revenue Budget has not been changed as a result of these savings, rather the budget can now be balanced without the need for reserves of £600,000 and now shows a budgeted £250,000 underspend.

The Convener welcomed the report, noting that the Force is in the position it is due to difficult decisions having been taken regarding spending in 2010/11.

Cllr Hendry requested additional information on the number of secondees currently outwith the Force. Mr Craig advised that he would confirm these details to Cllr Hendry following the meeting,

Cllr Hendry further requested details regarding the potential saving from not providing a police presence at some football matches. The Chief Constable advised that this initiative is in the early stages but, rather than producing budget savings, will increase police officer resources within communities. The Chief Constable further advised of the process of assessing what police presence is required within and around football stadiums.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Report

CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING – 30TH APRIL 2011

9. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable and the Treasurer to update the Board on the progress of the 2010/11 and 2011/12 Capital Plans, provide an updated projected outturn for the year and highlight any changes since the last Board report.

The Treasurer introduced the report and advised that the total spend in 2010/11 is currently anticipated to be £2.828m. In total £1.384m was repaid to the constituent

authorities which then is returned to the Force in the new financial year. The 2010/11 Capital Plan underspend was mainly a result of slippage in two Capital projects, the new Child Protection Unit in Moray and the purchase of digital recording equipment.

The 2012/12 Capital Plan has a budget of £3,787m and the draft capital plan was highlighted within the report. This will be further developed over coming months as the process of allocated funding proceeds.

Councillor Hendry requested details of the timeframe for the business case for the new Peterhead station. The Chief Constable advised that this process is on-going and the Force continue to liaise with partners regarding a possible shared facility.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Report

BEST VALUE AUDIT AND INSPECTION REPORT

10. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable and Depute Clerk which invited the Board to agree and action the Joint Improvement Plan which has been developed to implement the recommendations contained with the joint Audi Scotland and HMICS Audit & Inspection Report.

The Depute Clerk introduced the report and advised that it is a requirement on the Board that it approves an Action plan to address the recommendations arising from the Best Value Audit & Inspection report. She advised that the Joint Improvement Plan has been jointly developed by the Clerks office and the Force and that the actions contained within the plan can be delivered with the resources available.

The Convener welcomed the Joint Improvement Plan, noting that the actions contained within it will continue to support the development of the Board.

Councillor Webster requested further information on how the Board will monitor the performance of the Force in connection with the recommendations surrounding racially motivated crime. The Chief Constable advised that this information would continue to be presented to the Board within the quarterly monitoring reports. This will ensure that there is no duplication of monitoring and reporting methods.

The Board Resolved:

To approve the Joint Improvement Plan detailed within the report.

REORGANISATION OF ESTATE IN ABERDEEN TO SUPPORT LOCAL POLICING TEAMS (LPTs)

11. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which provided an update on estate improvements within Aberdeen City which support the new Local Policing Teams (LPTs) and which sought agreement to terminate the leases at two offices and to declare the office at Cairncry Road, Aberdeen surplus to requirements.

Assistant Chief Constable Colin Menzies introduced the report and advised that estate changes within Aberdeen City have seen Police Offices opening within Cults Academy, Hazelehead, Manor Park, Seaton, Kaimhill and Whinhill. These moves mean that all but one LPT within Aberdeen City is now based within the LPT area.

As a result of this improvements the offices at Silverburn Crescent and 90 High Street, Aberdeen are no longer required. These two offices are leased therefore approval is sought to terminated these leases. In addition the property at Cairncry Road is now surplus to requirements and approval is sought to declare this and move to sell the property.

The Convener welcomed the improvements within the estate in Aberdeen City and requested details regarding the position in Aberdeenshire and Moray. The Chief Constable advised that these are slightly different in that the LPTs in Aberdeenshire and Moray tend to cover larger geographical areas than those in Aberdeen City and therefore the LPT Officers are located according to strategic requirements. On-going discussions with partners, including Grampian Fire & Rescue, are seeking to address estate requirements across the Force area.

The Board Resolved:

- To agree that the leases of accommodation at Silverburn Crescent, and 90 High Street, Old Aberdeen be terminated
- To declare the property at Cairncry Road, Aberdeen surplus to operational requirement
- To otherwise note the report.

POLICE PROPERTY DISPOSALS

12. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which provided an update on progress made in respect of the disposal of surplus Police property.

The Director of Corporate Services introduced the report and advised that capital receipts through property sales in 2010/11 were forecast to be £575,000. However no receipts were received during 2010/11 although two properties are under offer. Therefore the report detailed that the profile in 2011/12 will be increases to £1.205M from £630,00.

The Board Resolved:

To note the report.

FORCE CONTRACTS AND SPONSORSHIP

13. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which advised of procurement activity in relation to contracts let on behalf of the Force and sponsorship entered into by Grampian Police over the period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011.

The Director of Corporate Services introduced the report and advised that, during the financial year 2010/11 the Force let or joined 20 new contracts/arrangements. The value of contracts lets is just over £3.029 and a list of let contracts was detailed within the report. Further, the Force obtained £390,125 in sponsorship / partnership funding during 2010/11 the details of which were also included within the report.

The Board requested further information with respect to the activities supported by a range of the sponsorship monies received including Police cycles, Body Worn camera and Seat Belt Sled. Assistant Chief Constable Menzies provided a summary of the activities undertaken in these areas.

Councillor Collie noted that Aberdeen City Council City Wardens are to use Body Worn cameras and that it would be useful to compare the outcomes of these with the outcomes of the Forces Body Worn Cameras. The Chief Constable welcomed this information and undertook to discuss this matter further with Aberdeen City Council.

The Board Resolved:

To note the report.

GRAMPIAN GYPSY / TRAVELLERS SUMMIT – UPDATE REPORT

13. The Board had before it a report from the Depute Clerk which invited the Board to consider the draft report of the Grampian Gypsy / Travellers Summit held in Inverurie on Tuesday 5th April 2011.

Ms F Smith introduced the report and advised that it the draft report has been prepared by GREC following the Summit. The Summit Steering Group are to meet in late May 2011 to finalise the report therefore the feedback of the Board will be fed into this process.

Councillor Al Kowarri noted that the Summit had been a very useful event and that it had been helpful to hear directly from Travellers regarding their experiences and views. However Cllr Al-Kowarri believed that the format of the event had been a barrier to meaningful involvement of all of those present.

Councillor Collie expressed the view that the event had not been long enough to fully cover all of the topics raised. The main points discussed centred on the lack of halting sites in Grampian, education issues and negativity in media coverage. The report is a good start, however Cllr Collie stated that an Action Plan should be developed to ensure that it is not just a paper based exercise.

Councillor Webster noted that the report did not contain many references to policing and that there should be clearer links throughout the report between the various sections / topics.

The Chief Constable noted that the event and the report evidenced that the issues surrounding Travellers in Grampian and not solely policing issues and required to be addressed by all Community Planning partners.

It was noted that Ms F Smith will ensure that the feedback from the Board is fed into the Summit Steering Group prior to the reports finalisation. Thereafter, in order that the Board can consider how it can progress the outcomes of the Summit, the Depute Clerk was instructed to revert to a future meeting of the Board with a draft Action Plan which should identify the appropriate routes for progression.

The Board Resolved:

- To note the Board's feedback on the draft report would be put forward to the Summit Steering Group
- To instruct the Depute Clerk to revert to a future meeting of the Board with a draft Action Plan which should identify the appropriate routes for progressing the outcomes of the Summit
- To otherwise note the report.

GRAMPIAN INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME – UPDATE REPORT

- 15.** The Board had before it a report from the Depute Clerk which provided an update with respect to the introduction of an Independent Custody Visiting Scheme in Grampian and which sought approval for a revised scheme of Travel Expense rates for volunteers.

Ms F Smith introduced the report and advised that 7 Custody Visitors have now been formally appointed in Grampian. Subject to the finalisation of a number of administrative and organisational processes Custody Visits will commence in the near future.

With respect to expenses rates, the Board were invited to agree that the Inland Revenue rate for mileage, currently 45p per mile, should be applied to the scheme with all other travel expenses being reimbursed based on cost on the production of a receipt.

The Board Resolved:

- To approve the Volunteer Expenses Scheme detailed within the report
- To otherwise note the update provided.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Prior to considering the remaining items of business the Board resolved that in terms of section 50 A (4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration on the items on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the consideration of these items that there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of part 1 of schedule 7 A of the said Act.

VERBAL UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

16. The Chief Constable and Assistant Chief Constables Billy Gordon and Colin Menzies provided a verbal update to Board Members with respect to a range of current operational policing matters.

The Board Resolved:

To note the update

PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS

17. Prior to the Board commencing consideration of this item, all Members of the Force Executive declared an interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting for the duration of discussion on this item.

The Board had before it two reports from the Depute Clerk. The first provided an overview of the Performance & Development Review Scheme and the second provided details of the outcome of the Chief Constable's Performance and development review for 2010/11 and to agree performance objectives for the coming year.

The Depute Clerk provided a detailed overview of the content of both report and thereafter Board Members sought additional information and clarification on a range of issues.

The Board Resolved:

- To note the overview of the legal status of Performance & Development Reviews

- To endorse the performance assessment on the Chief Constable set out within the report in accordance with the recommendations of the Convener and Vice-Conveners following their detailed appraisal of the Chief Constable's performance in 2010/11
- To note that an agreement between ACPOS and the Scottish Government has been reached and that performance payments for 2010/11 will be foregone,
- To otherwise note the report.

**COUNCILLOR M GREIG
CONVENOR**