

GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD

Council Chamber, Moray Council, Elgin – Friday 1st July 2011 - Minute of Meeting of GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD.

Present:- Councillor Greig, Convener
Councillor Hendry, Vice Convener
Councillor Bell
Councillor Cox
Councillor Dunbar
Councillor Farquharson
Councillor Fleming (as substitute for Councillor Al-Kowarri)
Councillor MacDonald (as substitute for Councillor Shepherd)
Councillor Penny
Councillor Webster

In Attendance:- Mr Colin McKerracher, Chief Constable, Grampian Police
Mr John McNab, Deputy Chief Constable, Grampian Police
Mr Gary Craig, Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Grampian Police
Mr Gary Black, Senior Accountant, Grampian Police
Superintendent Mark Cooper, 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 Karen Riddoch, Committee Services Officer, Aberdeen City Council
Ms Fiona Smith, Policy & Advice Officer, Aberdeen City Council

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Board passed its congratulations to Mr John McNab, Deputy Chief Constable who was awarded the Queens Police Medal in the recent Queen Birthday Honours List.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Shepherd, Councillor Al-Kowarri, Councillor Collie, Councillor Mair, Councillor McGillivray, Councillor McKail, Councillor K Stewart, Ms Jane MacEachran, Clerk to the Board, Mr Colin Menzies, Assistant Chief Constable, Grampian Police, Mr Billy Gordon, Assistant Chief Constable, Grampian Police and Ms Karen Williams, Director of Corporate Services, Grampian Police.

MINUTE OF GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD MEETING OF 20TH MAY 2011

2. The Board had before it and approved as a correct record, the Minute of the Board Meeting of 20th May 2011

The Board Resolved:

To approve the Minute.

MATTERS ARISING

3. Item 9: Councillor Hendry noted that he had not been provided with an update with respect to the business case planning for a new station in Peterhead. The Deputy Chief Constable advised that this work is on-going and a report will be submitted to the Board once completed.

Item 15: The Convener requested an update with respect to the introduction of an Independent Custody Visiting Scheme in Grampian. Ms F Smith advised that the scheme is now in operation with unannounced visits to custody facilities occurring.

The Board Resolved:

To note the matters arising.

MINUTE OF GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD COMPLAINTS SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF 28TH MARCH 2011

4. The Board had before it and noted for information the Minute of the Complaints Sub Committee Meeting of 28th March 2011.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Minute.

MINUTE OF GRAMPIAN JOINT POLICE BOARD STEWARDSHIP SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF 28TH MARCH 2011

5. The Board had before it and noted for information the Minute of the Stewardship Sub Committee Meeting of 28th March 2011.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Minute.

UPDATED BUSINESS STATEMENT

6. The Board had before it the updated Board Business Statement dated 1st July 2011. The Depute Clerk provided a verbal update with respect to the statement as follows:

- 10/09: A report to the Board on this issue will be presented in due course.
- 10/10: A date for the next meeting of the Development Working Group is to be identified.
- 11/01: There has still not been a response received from the Scottish Policing Board, a further reminder has been issued.
- 11/02: A briefing regarding medium to long term financial planning will be given to the Board at the conclusion of the Board Meeting.
- 11/05: A report detailing a proposed Action Plan arising from the Gypsy Travellers Summit will be submitted to the 2nd September 2011 Board Meeting.

The Board Resolved:

To note the updated Business Statement

REVENUE EXPENDITURE MONITORING REPORT – 31ST MAY 2011

7. 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 31st May 2011.

The Treasurer introduced the Report which detailed that the Force is currently projecting an underspend of £337,000 for 2011/12 against an approved net revenue budget of £113.105m. The Treasurer advised that the underspend is primarily as a result of savings due to changes in terms and conditions for Police Officers via the removal of the Special Priority Payments Scheme.

The Board welcomed the report which provided further evidence of the on-going careful management of the Force's finances.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Report

CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING – 31ST MAY 2011

8. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable and the Treasurer to update the Board on the progress of the 2011/12 Capital Plan, 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 2012/12 Capital Plan has a budget of £4.332m 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. Unallocated funds currently amount to approximately £2.5m the allocation of which is being considered by the Force's Programme Board.

Councillor Hendry requested further information with respect of the policy of vehicle replacement. The Deputy Director of Corporate Services advised he did not have this detail to hand and would forward it to Cllr Hendry following the Board Meeting.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Report

DRAFT ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 2010/11

9. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable and the Treasurer which presented to the Board for its consideration a copy of the unaudited Draft Annual Statement of Accounts for the financial years to 31st March 2011.

The Treasurer introduced the reports and advised that the Draft Statements of Accounts have now been lodged with Audit Scotland and will be available for public inspection in the near future. The Draft Annual Statement of Accounts is still subject to audit and is now fully compliant with the new IFRS requirements.

Councillor Bell requested further information regarding the recording of police pension costs within the Accounts. The Deputy Director of Corporate Services advised that the change in net pension liabilities is included in the accounts for 2010/11 however this is a one off costs which will not be included in future years.

Councillor Hendry requested further details on how the saving in telephone costs was achieved. The Deputy Director of Corporate Services advised that these savings arose from the renegotiation of applicable contracts.

The Board Resolved:

To note the Draft Annual Statement of Accounts for the financial year 2010/11.

CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN

10. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which provided an update on the Force's Environmental Impact in relation to Sustainability and to advise that a Carbon Management Plan (CMP) has been completed by Grampian Police.

The Deputy Director of Corporate Services introduced the report and provided an overview of the context in which the CMP has been developed. He advised that the Force has worked with the Carbon Management Trust to develop to CMP and have devised a strategy to reduced carbon emissions where possible.

Mr Craig advised that the purpose of the CMP is to baseline the Forces carbon footprint and set out a series of work streams towards a target of reducing these emissions by 20% by 2015. The Force will provide an annual update to the Board to report on progress made towards the achievement of the target.

The Convener noted the target set was ambitious and asked if the Force was confident this could be achieved. Mr Craig noted that meeting the target would be a challenge by advised the Force was committed to doing so.

Furthermore, the Convener noted that the Board has a role in sustainability. The Chief Constable invited a Member of the Board to join to Forces' Environment Management Group in order to participate in this work.

The Board Resolved:

- To note that Grampian Police has completed a Carbon Management Plan (CMP_ and has set itself a target to reduce its CO₂ emissions by 20% by 2015.
- To note that progress against this plan will be reported to the Board on an annual basis
- To seek a volunteer from amongst the Board Membership to joint to Force Environment Management Group.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

11. The Board had before it the Annual Performance Report from the Chief Constable which summarises the Force's performance during 2010/11. The report is to be considered in conjunction with the document 'Sustaining and Development our Platform for Success 2010/11' which outlines the Force's strategic direction for the year.

The Chief Constable introduced the report and highlighted a range of significant matters which impacted during 2010/11 including the introduction of the Local Policing Team structure and the decrease in Police Officer and Police Staff numbers. The Chief Constable noted that, in this environment, the report is a positive one which, alongside the Best Value Audit and Inspection Report, evidence the strength of policing in Grampian.

The Deputy Chief Constable then provided an overview of the detail of the report and invited Members to seek further information in any area of interest.

Councillor Hendry noted that the report evidence the excellence of Grampian Police. He particularly highlighted the success of Operation Zenith and the continued

disruption of organised crime and drug dealing in the area which are welcomed in communities.

Councillor Cox noted that the Forces commitment to community engagement is most welcome. The Chief Constable confirmed that community engagement is at the heart of the Forces way of working.

Councillor Bell noted that the increase in road fatalities was disappointing and requested information on the causes of this. The Chief Constable noted that over the past five years there has been a marked reduction in road fatalities. He also noted that the Force are continuing to proactively tackle this area however success in reducing fatalities even further relies on motorists taking personal responsibility for their actions.

The Convener congratulated the entire Force on the quality of performance outlined within the Annual Performance Report.

The Board Resolved:

To approve the report.

EVALUATION OF GRAMPIAN POLICE FORCE PRIORITY – COMMUNITY FOCUS

12. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which provided an update on the results of an evaluation of the Local Policing ‘ Closer to You Initiative which was introduced on 1st April 2010.

The Chief Constable introduced the report and invited Superintendent Mark Cooper to provide a detailed presentation of the evaluation to the Board. Superintendent Cooper provided an overview of the survey results, which provide a clear indication that policing services within communities continue to improve through the adoption of the Community focussed policing model.

The Convener noted that the survey evidenced that there may be a disconnect between the Police Board and the community therefore consideration should be given as to how this can be developed.

The Board Resolved:

To note the report.

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

13. The Chief Constable provided a verbal update to Board Members with respect to a range of current operational policing matters.

The Board Resolved:

To note the update

PROPOSED LEASE OF ACCOMMODATION IN THE NEW HEALTH VILLAGE – VICTIMS EXAMINATION SUITE

14. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which requested that approval for a proposed lease from NHS Grampian of accommodation within the new Health Village for a Grampian Police Victims Examination Suite.

The Chief Constable introduced the report and highlighted the Forces requirements for a victims examination suite and provided an update with respect to the accommodation available in the new NHS Grampian Health Village.

The Board Resolved:

- To agree to lease accommodation from NHS Grampian in the new Health Village for a Victims Examination Suite.

FORCE EXECUTIVE STRUCTURE

15. The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which sought permission from the Board for the continued appointment of a temporary Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) within the Force Executive.

The Chief Constable introduced the report and provided an update with respect to the current remits within the Force Executive. The Chief Constable also provided an overview of the current uncertainty regarding the future structure of the Scottish Police Service and the requirement for business continuity in Grampian whilst this matter is being considered.

Following detailed consideration of this matter the Board approved the continued provision of a temporary ACC post for a further six months.

The Board Resolved:

To approve the continued provision of a temporary Assistant Chief Constable post for a further six months.

NEW OFFICE AT THE PROPOSED NEW MEARNS ACADEMY

- 16.** The Board had before it a report from the Chief Constable which sought approval for a grassum lease of office space within the proposed Mearns Academy at Laurencekirk.

The Chief Constable introduced the report and outlined the Forces requirements for office space in Laurencekirk. The report also detailed the financial implication of the options available in this respect.

Following detailed consideration of the report, the Board agreed to enter into a grassum lease with Aberdeenshire Council in relation to a new Police Office within the proposed new Mearns Academy.

The Board Resolved:

To enter into a grassum lease with Aberdeenshire Council in relation to a new Police Office within the proposed new Mearns Academy.

**COUNCILLOR M GREIG
CONVENOR**