

STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD

**Notes of meeting held on Tuesday, 6 October 2015
in Committee Room 6, Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham**

Present: Jamieson, David – Police and Crime Commissioner
Abbott, Faye – Board Member
Connor, Brendan – Board Member
Foster, Cllr Judy – Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
Hendricks, Ernie – Board Member
Mosquito, Cllr Yvonne – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Sawdon, Cllr Tim – Board Member

In attendance: Thompson, David – Deputy Chief Constable
Jardine, Jonathan – Chief Executive (OPCC)
Kenyon, Mark – Chief Finance Officer (OPCC)
Wilkin, David – Director of Resources
Nicholson, Andrew – Chief Supt PSD
Rowson, Chris – Head of Human Resources

Observers: 8

084/15 Opening Remarks 084/15

The Commissioner welcomed Board members and members of the public to the meeting. Attendees were reminded that the meeting was being webcast` <http://www.westmidspcc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcasts>

085/15 Conflicts of Interest 085/15

None

086/15 Apologies 086/15

Apologies had been received from Chris Sims, Chief Constable.

087/15 Notes of the Last Meeting 087/15

The Board approved the notes of the meeting dated, 1 September (held in public)

088/15 Public Questions 088/15

No questions were received.

089/15 Questions from the Board on matters not on the agenda

089/15

No questions were received.

090/15 Professional Standards and Quality of Service

090/15

The report from Chief Superintendent Nicholson, head of Professional Standards provided an overview of the recent work of the Professional Standards Department of West Midlands Police. The report provided statistics and explanation regarding the number of complaints dealt with by West Midlands Police, the type of allegations to which the complaints relate and the number of complaints that have been referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission. The report detailed the outcome of cases, the timeliness of investigations, results of appeals and outcomes of proceedings. It was stated that disproportionality work analysis would be conducted later in the year.

- The *Rate Your Police* website was now online. More promotion of the site was required.
- Deaths following Police contact had increased over previous years statistics. The majority of the increase in this category involved missing persons.
- Following a question regarding which departments have the most complaints it was identified that response officers who served in inner city areas received the most complaints. It was requested that future reports show information relating to LPUs and departments.
- The IPCC target is for all local investigations to be completed within 110 days. WMP is currently taking 201 days to complete an average investigation. Investigations were detailed but not timely. More work was needed to proportionally investigate complaints and this will be included in the next report to the Board.

091/15 HR Update

091/15

David Wilkins, Director of Resources presented the report which gave an update on the delivery of the HR elements of the Police and Crime Plan. An additional report was circulated which gave details of the ethnicity of new police recruits. The Delivery Plan for the HR is split into five themes which are

- a) Pride in our Police
- b) Stronger, safer, more prosperous communities
- c) Making better use of people and resources
- d) Creating a new era in Policing
- e) Responding to national threats

A number of additional points were raised:

- It was confirmed that staff had 'back to work' interviews as part of their return to work following illness. Ongoing support was also given to staff sustaining injuries whilst on duty

- Regarding the retention and aspirational support of new recruits it was a vision of 2020 that a move to a more creative and empowered workforce was planned.

092/15 Dip sampling of Completed Complaints Files

092/15

The report which gave an update on the dip sampling of completed complaints files undertaken by members of the Strategic Policing and Crime Board on Tuesday 7 July 2015.

It was suggested that when members of the SPCB identified that a follow up was required they be informed of any further action taken.

093/15 Body Worn Camera - Update

093/15

Inspector Darren Henstock presented the report which gave the results of the Body Worn Camera (BWC) pilots which have been carried out by West Midlands Police and completed in December 2014.

Outcomes from the pilot included an overall increase in charge rate of 10%. This also included an increase of early guilty plea rate of 9%. In addition the response team wearing the cameras received no complaints compared to 10 complaints received by the three response teams not wearing cameras.

Overall there was a 54% reduction in force used during confrontational encounters when officers were deployed with cameras. One of the key findings from the study was an increase in the recording of assaults against officers wearing cameras.

094/15 Estates Strategy and Front Office Update

094/15

David Wilkins, Director of Resources presented the report which gave an opportunity to consider a plan for the disposal of a first tranche of non-core buildings identified in support of the Estates Strategy and to provide an update on the In-Flight Estates and front Office projects.

The current estate comprised 124 properties, covering over 214,00m² and costing £16.4m per year to maintain. Many of the buildings have high running costs, are poorly located and are not fit for future operational purposes. This plan comes in the context of an anticipated overall West Midlands Police budget reduction in number of police officers and staff (and therefore linked reductions in estate requirements). Similarly, revised working practices, notably mobile working for police officers and staff, also reduces the estate need, as officers and staff will no longer be as dependent on police buildings to fulfil their duties.

The board supported the proposed disposals subject to a period of public engagement. Information on the outcome of the engagement period will be presented to the December 2015 SPCB. The updates provided on the In-Flight and Front Office projects were noted.

095/15 Work Plan

095/15

The work plan for the Strategic Policing and Crime Board was noted

096/15 Chief Constable Update

096/15

David Thompson, the Deputy Chief Constable, updated the SPCB on the following issues

- A recent bus crash in Coventry city centre.
- The death of a Police officer whilst on duty in Merseyside.
- The arrest on a European Arrest Warrant of a person for serious crime by West Midlands officers based in Magaluf.
- High profile weekend which included world cup rugby matches and the opening of Grand Central shopping centre in Birmingham.
- Association of Women in Policing event
- Black and Asian Police Association national conference
- PC Rob Pedley had been awarded the Bob Jones Memorial Award for his work in anti gang/weapon projects.

Meeting ended at 12:43pm.