



Devon & Cornwall Police

Resources Board

Wednesday 4 January 2023

In the Executive Conference Room and commenced at 2.00pm

Attendance

Fran Hughes (OPCC Chief Executive) (Chair)
Will Kerr (Chief Constable)
Sandy Goscomb (Director of Finance and Resources)
Nicky Allen (OPCC Treasurer)
Mike Saltern (Independent Advisor) (OPCC)
Jo Warburton (Specialist Support Coordinator)

Alison Hernandez (Police and Crime Commissioner)
Jim Colwell (Deputy Chief Constable)
Jim Nye (Assistant Chief Constable, Local Policing and Partnerships)
Alexis Poole (Assistant Chief Officer, People)
Bex Ousley (Specialist Support Coordinator)

Guests

Matt Bourne (Superintendent Call Management and Communications Unit) (for minute ref 01/23/07)

Apologies

Neal Butterworth (Chief Finance Officer)

01/23/01 Opening and Declaration of Interests [FOIA Open]

Fran Hughes opened the meeting, welcoming members and noted apologies. No declarations of interest, Health and Safety, or equality concerns were raised.

01/23/02 Draft Minutes from previous meeting 14 December 2022 [FOIA open]

The minutes from the previous meeting held on Wednesday 14 December 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record, following amendments to:

- a. Minute reference 12/22/123 Annual Report of the Museum of Policing in Devon and Cornwall:

The Board:

1. Noted the provisions within the paper.
2. Noted the carried forward balances.
3. Noted the continued funding as per the original agreement.

- b. Minute reference 12/22/125 Long Term Workforce Planning, last bullet point:

Members noted there was cultural audit work being undertaken on how to lead differently, and what to do when someone was not delivering the Force's expectation of leadership. The work would be carried out over the next couple of years, and updates would be provided to the Board sporadically. Fran Hughes would add the item to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Work Plan.

For action by:

Fran Hughes

- c. Minute reference 12/22/127 Stock Condition Update, first bullet point:

A concern was raised regarding bullet points 3.8 and 3.9 which indicated annual surveys were required but would not be completed within 2022, which could cause a potential delay. The surveys had not been carried out due to a resourcing issue which had now been resolved, and those surveys were a priority and would be completed promptly.

- d. Minute reference 12/22/128 Estates Update:

The Board:

1. Noted the updates provided within the paper.
2. Approved the grant of a full repairing lease of Beacon Park Road, Plymouth, of up to 15 years to the Transforming Futures Multi Academy Trust (or similar). With a review for selling the site with its tenants, to be carried out in 2024.

01/23/03 Action Log [FOIA open unless exemptions below]

- a. **Action 365 Section 27 Drugs Fund (previous minute reference 04/22/37, 06/22/47 and 12/22/122a)**

Action owner to be amended to Sandy Goscomb and Fran Hughes, who would hold a discussion in due course.

Action to remain open.

- b. **Action 413 Group Budget Monitoring Report (previous minute reference 09/22/93, 10/22/97k, 11/22/107d and 12/22/112b)**

A meeting had been arranged with Alexis Poole, Sandy Goscomb, and Jim Nye on 24 January 2023. A further update would be provided to the Board once the meeting had taken place.

Action to remain open.

- c. **Action 426 Fire Policy and Procedures Paper – Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs) (previous minute reference 11/22/108 and 12/22/112e)**

Nicky Allen and Alexis Poole had a meeting booked with Health and Safety on 9 January 2023. An update would be provided to the Board at the next meeting 1 February 2023.

Action to remain open.

- d. **Action 428 Capital Monitoring Report 2022/23 – Financial Management (previous minute reference 11/22/111 and 12/22/112f) [FOIA Closed s.42 Legal Professional Privilege]**

- e. **Action 430 Seized Cash Update (previous minute 11/22/112 and 12/22/112g) [FOIA Closed s.43 Legal Professional Privilege]**

- f. **Action 431 Estates Compliance – Fire Extinguisher Compliance (previous minute reference 11/22/113 and 12/22/112h)**

Action complete.

Action discharged.

- g. Action 436 Draft Minutes from previous meeting 17 November 2022: a. Minute reference 11/22/110 Group Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 September (previous minute reference 11/22/110 and 12/22/121)**

Alexis Poole would obtain information from Darrol Morris and circulate the design. Work was ongoing as to the best way to present the information.

Action to remain open.

- h. Action 437 Draft Minutes from previous meeting 17 November 2022: b. Minute reference 11/22/115 Estate Cost Inflation (previous minute reference 11/22/115 and 12/22/121)**

Feedback had been provided to Karen Mellodew and Lisa Vango.

Action discharged.

- i. Action 438 Long Term Workforce Planning (previous minute reference 12/22/125)**

The review of leadership development by the College of Policing would take place over the next 12 months. Updates would be provided as critical phases were completed. Fran Hughes would add the item to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Work Plan.

Action discharged.

- j. Action 439 Public Enquiry Offices Update (previous minute reference 12/22/126) [FOIA Closed s.22 Information Intended for Future Publication]**

- k. Action 440 Stock Condition Update (previous minute reference 12/22/127) [FOIA Closed s.43 (2) Commercial Interests]**

- l. Action 441 Estates Update (previous minute reference 12/22/128) [FOIA Closed s.43 (2) Commercial Interests]**

- m. Action 442 S106/CIL Position Update (previous minute reference 12/22/129) [FOIA Closed s.43 (2) Commercial Interests]**

01/23/04 Group Budget Monitoring Report [FOIA Open]

Members received and noted the Group Budget Monitoring Report provided by Sandy Goscomb. The paper outlined the position for 2022/23 as of 30 November 2022. The forecasts provided within the paper were prepared in liaison with budget holders and considered the latest workforce information. The report focused on the key issues, risks, and direction of travel, with focus being given to compiling the medium-term financial strategy.

The following key points were highlighted:

- An increase had been seen in Police Officer overtime. There was no one department that had presented as an outlier. However, members noted the implementation of Niche during November 2022, and an increase in absence due to Covid, would have had an impact on overtime spend.
- Levels of abstraction remained high, and reasons included Student Officer training, sickness, and Officers abstracted to other areas such as the Voyager project and Call Management and Communications Unit (CMCU).
- Operation thresholds were set and defined and had been impacted by short term sickness. They were discussed daily; breaches would only be escalated to the risk register if they were not being managed through the daily briefings.

- Overtime was seen by the organisation as a good management tool if managed at a local level.
- The Force currently had 1000 Student Officers in training, so deployable rates would increase with time.
- Members noted some of the underspend was reducing, and there were no concerns in terms of budget monitoring.

01/23/05 Summary of PCC Budget Engagement Survey [FOIA Open]

Fran Hughes provided a brief verbal update to the members regarding the online poll which would close on 8 January 2023. Members noted a focus group was ongoing and the following headlines were provided:

- So far 2,441 respondents – with a few more to add.
- Reduction in those who agree or strongly agree with the statement “all things considered I have confidence in Devon and Cornwall Police” from 50% of respondents to 45%.
- Increase in those who agree that current financial year precept rates offer value for money from 34% to 40%.
- Continued strong support for reopening of police enquiry desks, with 71% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing in further investment in this project.
- A total of 73% of respondents were aware of the fact that police and crime commissioners and their respective forces were collaborating to tackle drugs in the region (Operation Scorpion).
- A total of 85% of respondents said they were supportive of further investment in joint operations between Southwest police forces to tackle drug dealing in the region.
- ‘Preventing crime’ was the preferred area for further investment from our ‘list of five’ with 93% of people selecting it.
- Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) and drug dealing were again the issues that most needed addressing in respondents’ communities (55% and 46% respectively).

Members noted the feedback provided assurance to the PCC, and it was good to see what the main areas of focus were so far.

Once the full data had been scrutinised following the survey deadline, the results would be shared with the Board at the next meeting on 1 February 2023.

For action by: Fran Hughes

01/23/06 Agreement of Final Budget Position 2023/24 [FOIA Open]

Sandy Goscomb and Nicky Allen provided a verbal update to the members regarding the agreement of the final budget position for 2023/24 and the panel perspective and key decision-making process.

The following key points were highlighted:

- Nicky Allen confirmed a meeting was to take place 5 January 2023 to discuss tools which would aid balancing the budget.
- A panel briefing would be conducted 10 January 2023 to provide facts around the budget.
- A final sign off meeting for the panel papers was to take place 18 January 2023. However, it was agreed for an additional meeting to be arranged week commencing 9 January 2023, to

ensure the Chief Constable was in agreement with the papers that were due to go to the panel for decision.

- Key decisions included identifying where savings could be made and how, and where investments would be made.
- It had been identified that small individual business cases had not been received as per previous years. Short business cases for Firearms Licensing, Forensics, and the Resource Management Unit (RMU) were requested for the meeting week commencing 9 January 2023. It was agreed that sufficient detail was already available for the front desk investment.
- A key decision to be made was the level of council tax increase.
- The papers would be published and sent to the panel on 19 January 2023. It was noted this was a legal deadline.
- The report to the panel would include two elements: one element from the PCC with recommendations, and a second element with an overview of budget planning. The report had been drafted and was being reviewed. It could be circulated to individual members on request.
- The Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) booklet would remain the same as previous versions, as it was easy to follow.
- The Intentions Plan, Risk Assessment, and Glossary of Terms had all been drafted.
- An Efficiency Plan would be included at the panel and would highlight national inefficiencies and blockers.
- A suggestion was made to include the Chief Constable's thematic priorities to maximise access to services, and for better community visibility.
- The detail to be submitted to the panel needed to be clear and transparent to ensure a good understanding.

Following discussion, the following actions were created:

1. Nicky Allen would arrange a further PCJE sub-meeting in the week commencing 9 January 2023.
For action by: Nicky Allen
2. One page business cases for Firearms Licensing, Forensics, and Resource Management Unit (RMU) to be provided to that meeting.
For action by: Sandy Goscomb

Matt Bourne joined the meeting in person.

01/23/07 Public Enquiry Offices Update [FOIA Closed s.22 Information intended for future publication]

Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 3.31pm. The next Resources Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 1 February 2023, commencing at 2.00pm via Teams.