

POLICY & RESOURCES / CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT

A meeting of the Policy & Resources / Corporate Development Panel was held on Wednesday 10 December 2008 commencing at 10.00 am in the Media Briefing Centre at Police Headquarters.

PRESENT	Miss Pam Andrews-Mawer, Councillor Barry Coppinger (Chair), Mr Chris Coombs, Mr Ted Cox JP, Mr Peter Hadfield, Mr Aslam Hanif, Mr Alf Illingworth TD JP, Mr Peter Race and Councillor Steve Wallace (Vice Chair)
OFFICIALS	Mr Julie Leng (CE) Mr Sean Price, Mr Derek Bonnard, Mrs Ann Hall, Mr Graeme Slaughter, Mrs Heather Allen and Miss Kate Rowntree (CC).
ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES	Councillor Ron Lowes and Councillor Victor Tumilty

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from, Councillor Dave McLuckie (ex officio) and Mr Joe McCarthy.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

Action

MINUTES OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES – CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT PANEL HELD ON 6 NOVEMBER 2008

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

OUTSTANDING RECOMMENDATIONS

ORDERED that:-

1. the Outstanding Recommendations be noted.
2. a verbal update in relation to the possible use of Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) would be provided as part of the Budget Monitoring Report. A finalised report would be submitted to the meeting of this Panel in January.

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 31 OCTOBER 2008

The Temporary Assistant Chief Officer Finance and Commissioning presented the report. Members had approved a Net Budget Requirement (NBR) of £124,623k and budgeted revenue expenditure of £145,301k, the balance of expenditure being funded by specific grants, other income and transfers from reserves at their meeting on 28 February 2008. This report set out the progress against delivery of that budget and was part of the process introduced by the Authority to maintain prudent financial management.

The position to date and the year end forecast were detailed in Appendix A to the report. Appendix A also reflected the Members' decisions to create a £750k provision against the potential costs of a stand alone air support unit in 2009/10 and the consequent reduction in revenue support necessary to £2,623k in 2008/09. It also reflected Members' decision to use additional underspends of £300k for the non-recurring costs of the exploratory procurement exercise for ICT services.

No material risks other than those mentioned in the report or set out in the Risk Monitor at Appendix D had been identified to the delivery of a break even position against this revised budget.

ORDERED that:-

1. the report be noted.
2. the funding of covert operations totaling approximately £250k from underspending budgets including Police Officer Pay.

CAPITAL MONITORING REPORT TO 31 OCTOBER 2008

The Temporary Assistant Chief Officer Finance and Commissioning presented the progress against the delivery of the Capital Programme for 2008/09 and the Capital Plan for 2008/11 which Members had approved at their meeting on 28 February 2008.

The report set out the progress made in delivering the Capital Programme for 2008/09 and recommendations to make optimum use of the capital resource available to the Authority to refresh and develop the asset base for policing in the 21st Century in line with the vision of 'Putting People First'.

ORDERED that:-

1. the contents of the report be noted.
2. the deletion of the £50k server upgrade scheme be approved.
3. the implications of the deferral of the HQ relocation scheme on the capital and periodic maintenance budgets be considered.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT TO 31 OCTOBER 2008

The Temporary Assistant Chief Officer Finance and Commissioning presented the report to Members.

Local Authorities' (including Police Authorities) treasury management activities are prescribed by the Local Government Act 2003. Essentially a police authority may borrow or invest for any purpose relevant to its functions, under any

enactment, or 'for the purpose of the prudent management of its financial affairs'.

An investment strategy for 2008/09 was agreed by Members at their meeting on 28 February 2008. The report provided an update on the status of the Authority's investments and borrowing. It was part of the process introduced by the Authority to maintain prudent financial management.

Given the current unprecedented turbulence and uncertainty in financial markets and financial institutions, the protection of the Authority's underlying investments is of utmost importance. The investment strategy that underpins this has recently been reviewed and amended to enable a quick response to changes in market conditions as they take place. Consequently, the Authority continued to manage its cash resources in a low risk yet highly liquid manner..

ORDERED that:-

1. the contents of the report be noted.

PROCUREMENT REPORT FOR THE PROVISION OF ARREST REFERRAL SERVICES

The Temporary Assistant Chief Officer Finance and Commissioning presented the report to Members. Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, consisting of Drug Action Teams (DAT's), Criminal Justice Intervention Programme (CJIP), Courts and Probation Services provide a co-ordinated approach to drug related crime reduction.

Arrest Referral Services are a support network to provide continued support and increase the number of offenders taking up the drug and alcohol referral services. Support is provided in custody facilities, court liaison, assertive outreach teams and out of hours service and a 24/7 freephone help line service. Cleveland Police Authority contributes approximately 7% of the annual cost of Arrest Referral Services, however, the Authority take the strategic lead in their procurement through the tendering exercise to award of final contract.

Due to significant changes in service delivery, which included the introduction of a new Alcohol Arrest Referral Pilot Scheme, Cleveland Police Authority and its partners have decided to bring forward the scheduled tender date. The original contract commenced on 1st April 2005 for 1 year with annually renewable extensions of up to 4 years. The Force would not be renewing this contract for 2009/10 as we had to revisit the market to include a programme of change which would continue to support and increase the number of offenders taking up the drug and alcohol referral services.

The purpose of the tender exercise is to ensure that Cleveland Police Authority and its partners achieve best value for the goods and services procured and complies with legislation.

The procurement process had been completed in line with Cleveland Police Authority's Standing Orders and European legislation. The tender submission had fully met the specification required by Cleveland Police Authority and the DAT's. The Evaluation Team recommended that the contractor responsible for Tender 1 be offered the contract due to the reasons detailed in the report.

ORDERED that:-

1. the procurement method and evaluation analysis used be approved.
2. the contract be awarded to Tenderer 1 be approved.

FIRE AND SAFETY UPDATE

The Deputy Chief Constable provided members with an insight into the position with regard to health and safety and fire safety within Cleveland Police for the period 1st July 2008 to 30th September 2008 respectively.

ORDERED that:-

1. the contents of the report be noted.

**POLICE USE OF RESOURCES EVALUTION (PURE)
2007/2008**

The Temporary Assistant Chief Officer Finance and Commissioning provided information relating to the progress made in implementation of the recommendations from PURE 2007/2008.

Appendix A to the report showed positive progress against the majority of PURE 2007/2008 recommendations. Compared with October two areas show slower progress – R8 Financial target setting, and R11 Partnership Guidance.

ORDERED that:

1. the information in Appendix A relating to implementation of the recommendations of the Audit Commission for PURE 2007/2008 be noted.