

STRATEGIC POLICING & PERFORMANCE

A meeting of the Strategic Policing & Performance Panel was held on Thursday 19 March 2009 commencing at 10.30am in the members' conference room at Police Headquarters.

PRESENT Mr Aslam Hanif (Chair), Mr Alf Illingworth TD JP (Vice Chair), Mr Ted Cox JP, Mr Chris Coombs, Councillor Mary Lanigan Councillor Ron Lowes, Councillor Hazel Pearson OBE, Miss Pam Andrews-Mawer and Mr Peter Hadfield.

OFFICIALS Mr John Bage and Mr Norman Wright (CE).
T/ACC Dave Pickard and Miss Kate Rowntree (CC).

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS Councillor Caroline Barker and Councillor Victor Tumilty.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dave McLuckie (ex officio), Councillor Barry Coppinger, Mr Peter Race MBE (ex officio) and ACC Sean White

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

Action

MINUTES OF THE STRATEGIC POLICING AND PERFORMANCE PANEL HELD ON 28 JANUARY 2009

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

OUTSTANDING RECOMMENDATIONS

ORDERED that:-

1. The Outstanding Recommendations be noted.

FORCE PERFORMANCE REPORT (APRIL 2008 TO JANUARY 2009)

A/ACC Pickard informed Members of actual performance from 1st April 2008 to 31st January 2009 and includes sections on:

- Recorded crime
- Sanction detections
- Incidents
- Statutory Performance Indicators
- Offences Brought to Justice

Members were informed that the performance figures showed that the Force continued to work to make good progress in reducing crime and increasing detections. An improvement in all 13 crime categories had been achieved and the detection rate had improved in 10 of the 13 crime categories.

ORDERED that:-

1. the performance be noted.

FORCE PERFORMANCE TARGETS 2009-10

A/ACC Pickard provided Members with an update in relation to the Force target setting process. Members were informed that the recent Policing Green Paper "From the Neighbourhood to the National: Policing our Communities Together" and its response set out the intention to remove all top-down numerical targets set by the Government for the police service. Instead, a single, top-down numerical target, based on the PSA (23) indicator to improve public confidence will be introduced.

In light of the proposals, a priority indicator set has been identified against which performance improvement targets are proposed. These proposals have been agreed in principle by the Force Executive team, in consultation with key stakeholders who together will work to deliver the required improvements.

ORDERED that:-

1. the report be noted.

REVIEW OF CRIME REPORTING AND MANAGEMENT

A/ACC Pickard informed Members on the progress of the Corporate Action Plan arising out of the Operational Performance Team (OPT) review on Crime Recording and Management. This work took place during June 2008.

Following publication of the review the Chief Constable gave an undertaking to manage the implementation of the recommendations. In order to achieve a structured process that ensured timely development of inter-dependent actions, each recommendation was aligned to one of the following business areas:

- Strategic Management
- Crime Management Units
- Communications Centre Management
- Training

Implementation is progressing satisfactorily with key recommendations either completed or approaching finalisation. The goal is to move the Force towards a 'commonsense' approach to crime recording and management whilst retaining integrity and compliance with National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) and other standards as the foundation of good, ethical performance.

ORDERED that:-

1. the report be noted.

ACTIVITY BASED COSTING (ABC): UPDATE ON ABC

A/ACC Pickard updated Members on the position of Activity Analysis (AA) and Activity Based Costing (ABC). ABC was originally developed by ACPO in conjunction with the Home Office as a method of calculating the costs of policing activities or outputs. At the time of launch (2003/04) the vision was that ABC would become a key tool in enabling more efficient use of resources. However, the pragmatic realities of undertaking the model have proved difficult and the effectiveness of ABC as a tool for forces to improve service delivery at a local level has proved elusive.

The Flanagan Review (2008) and Home Office Green Paper (2008) both identified the need to reassess the balance between the effort expended in undertaking the work and the benefits gained from delivering ABC and AA.

The ACPO response to Flanagan and the Home Office has been the development of the Police Objective Analysis (POA). This aims to provide robust financial information; to give a clearer understanding of the costs of policing and how resources are used within the service. The Home Office has accepted POA as an alternative model to ABC.

ORDERED that:-

1. the report be noted.