



CHIEF OFFICER GROUP MINUTES

Tuesday 19th November 2019
Conference Room, Runcorn Police Station

Attendance:

Mr D Martland	Chief Constable (Chair)
Ms J Cooke	Deputy Chief Constable
Ms J Gill	Assistant Chief Officer
Mr M Welsted	T/Assistant Chief Constable
Mr D Bryan	Head of Legal Services
Ms L Marsh	Head of Corporate Communications
Ms N Bailey	Head of People Services
Mr A Duggan	Head of Crime
Ms W Bebbington	Head of Finance
Mr P Woods	Head of Planning and Performance
Mr B Dutton	T/Chief Superintendent Local Policing

Observers:

Mr B Dutton	Superintendent Association
Mr J Thompson	Federation Secretary
Ms J Moorcroft	Unison Secretary
Ms L Marler	Superintendent, Halton LPU
Mr L Moss	Staff Officer
Mr F Khan	A/Chief Inspector, LPU Command Runcorn

Apologies:

Mr M Burton	T/Assistant Chief Constable
Mr S Roscoe	Head of Strategic Change
Ms D Worth	Chief Superintendent Public Protection Department

1. Minutes and action updates

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 15th October 2019 were agreed as a true record without amendment. The actions were updated.

2. Chief Constable update

CC Martland thanked Runcorn LPU for hosting the meeting and explained the purpose of COG and that decisions are taken at COG within the Scheme of Financial Delegation, other decisions go to Joint Management Board for approval by the PCC.

CC Martland gave the following updates:

- There is no clarity on the likely precept levels for the budget at present due to the general election. The Commissioner has organised a working group tasked with how the shortfalls can be filled.
- National Officer Uplift - Cheshire's initial allocation is 90, additional 30 in 2019/20 and then an additional 60.
- Joint JCC – There are a number of surveys at present for staff to complete. A decision has been made for a small team to look at the outcomes of the surveys and what we can do to address the issues raised.
- The force has been very busy over the last few months and had a number of good outcomes operationally.
- Operation Bienna – CC Martland explained that the public have strong feelings around the election. A command structure is in place and T/ACC MW is the main contact.

3. Finance Budget MYR

Ms Bebbington gave an overview of the paper:

- Forecast an underspend of £152,000 by September 2019. The overtime is rising and needs to be kept to a minimum.
- Central government information is not clear, but the view is that the Constabulary will receive the same funding as last year, which will leave the Constabulary with a multi-million pound shortfall. The PCC is considering a potential precept uplift but the precept cap is unknown.

4. PCC Election 2020

Mr Bryan gave an update. The PCC election is on 7th May 2020. Planning taking place for data packs for candidates, as it is imperative that all the candidates standing for election have the quality data/ information they require. Any comments on initial drafts of Terms of Reference contact Mr Bryan.

Mr Bryan stated the Candidate joint protocol on interaction with candidates, document was attached to the agenda for information.

ACTION COG/A/015/2019 - Any comments return to DB within the next 3 weeks

5. Search Vehicle Proposal

Mr Welsted outlined the proposal: The Underwater Search Team have received funding for a new vehicle and the existing vehicle would normally be sold at auction. The proposal is for Cheshire to purchase the vehicle before it goes to auction. The search team state that at present they have no vehicle that is fit for purpose. The proposal was supported by attendees upon the condition that:-

DECISION COG/D/044/2019 The proposal to purchase the vehicle by the Search Team was approved subject to the below actions.

ACTION: COG/A/016/2019 MW to check

- the governance around purchasing the vehicle from a collaborated team and do other forces/departments need to be informed.
- to ensure the market valuation is correct

- to ensure that fleet are agreeable to the proposal as it is an extra car to maintain in fleet.

6. ID Card Replacement

PW explained the reason for the new ID replacement card. The Force is having Telematics introduced in the New Year and new ID cards are required to support this software. The proposed design for the warrant card was discussed and the following outcomes agreed:

- The rank of officer should be visible on the warrant card
- The word 'police' needs to be more visible.

ACTION: COG/A/017/2019 JC to agree the template to avoid further delays.

7. Taser Training Proposal - MOD

MW/ NB gave overview of the Taser Training Proposal. The proposal was to provide training for the Ministry of Defence staff over a period of three years. The proposal would bring a net contribution of seventy five thousand pounds a year. The plan would be to use existing staff and additional overtime. JT stated that it would have to be planned appropriately as overtime could not be planned more than 15 days in advance. MW explained that the proposal was added to the COG agenda to collate views.

ACTION: COG/A/018/2019 All agreed that the paper is for further development, ring fenced team for three years and to ensure that the staff are adhering to regulations regarding overtime.

8. Chief Constable's Scheme of Financial Delegation

Last review was August 2018. A detailed review of the overall scheme of corporate governance will not be undertaken by OPCC until early 2020. The decision was made to get the updated Chief Constable's Scheme of Financial delegation approved at COG in preparation for 2020. All agreed.

DECISION COG/D/045/2019 The Chief Constable's Scheme of Financial Delegation was approved for submission to the review of the Scheme of Corporate Governance.

9. Estates Strategy

JG presented the draft estates strategy. JC / OPCC / JG have met and agree that this reads well. It is planned to progress to joint management board next month. It will be turned into a corporate document in terms of presentation but the principles of the strategy are agreed.

ACTION: COG/A/019/2019 JG to change wording of 'borrowing over 20 years' it was suggested that this should be over forty or fifty years.

DECISION COG/D/046/2019 – The draft Estates Strategy 2020-2030 was approved and will go forward to 18th December 2019, Joint Management Board for agreement by the Commissioner.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

10. Update on additional one off funding expenditure

Paper was added for information purposes only. MW is liaising with ROC to rollover the budget. A discussion took place regarding the communication budget that LPU's are able to submit funding bids for e.g. purchasing banners and gazebo's etc.

11. Police Education Qualification Framework

The first intake of Police Degree Constable Apprenticeship has begun. The intake consists of 18 males / 11 females participating in a three year degree. NB gave overview of report. Cheshire Constabulary has a close working relationship with the University of Chester which has enabled us to be one of 14 forces that have gone live with the apprenticeship.

12. Performance Updates from Collaboration Meetings

NWMPG paper was discussed.

13. Joint Management Board Decisions

DM gave overview of the following reports:

- Budget Mid-Year review 2019-20
- Treasury Management Strategy
- Joint Strategic Risk Register
- Section 22A Collaboration Agreement CTPNW

14. A.O.B

Next meeting will be held in December.