

HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY

COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

4 DECEMBER 2007

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| <u>PRESENT:-</u> | Mr Palmerley JP in the Chair |
| Elected Members:- | Councillors Jawaid, Hull, Parsons and Uzzell |
| Independent Members:- | Mr Doherty and Mr Shipley |
| Officers: - | Mr N Kingston, Assistant Chief Executive, Mr J Mabbett, Consultation and Partnership Manager, Ms V Wise, Consultation and Partnership Officer, Mr A Leaver, Assistant Chief Constable (O) and Ms S Blair, Better Times Ltd. |

The Committee met at Pacific Exchange, Kingston upon Hull.

- 19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/OFFERS OF GIFTS OR HOSPITALITY** – The Chair reminded Members of the need to record any personal or prejudicial interest in items on the agenda and to disclose any relevant receipt or offering of gifts or hospitality.

No interests were declared or disclosures made.

- 20 **APOLOGIES** – There were no apologies for absence submitted.

- 21 **MINUTES** – **Resolved** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2007, having been printed and circulated amongst Members, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Chair.

- 22 **UPDATE ON THE MINUTES** – The Consultation and Partnership Manager referred to minute 9 and advised that the Consultation reports for A and B Divisions had been broken down into neighbourhood teams as requested.

The Consultation and Partnership Manager then referred to minute 11 and advised that the possibility of rewards being offered for the completion and return of precept questionnaires had been explored. It had been decided that this would not take place, however, the leaflet had been made more user friendly and clearly indicated that the sender would not be required to pay postage for the return of the form.

Resolved – That the updates be noted.

- 23 (15) **ACTION SCHEDULE** – Members received a rolling schedule of actions arising from previous meetings of this Committee.

The Assistant Chief Executive referred to minute 30 and advised Members that an Equality and Diversity Officer had been appointed and had commenced employment on 3 December 2007. The post was to be utilised across all four regional Police Authorities. The Assistant Chief Executive went on to advise that a report would be brought to the next meeting of this Committee to provide Members with an update on the various equality Schemes with a view to amalgamating them into a singular comprehensive scheme.

The Consultation and Partnership Manager referred to minute 59 and advised that due to unforeseen circumstances the NCPE Implementation Officer had not been able to attend the meeting as proposed. The Consultation and Partnership Manager provided an update on Every Child Matters for both the Police Authority and the Force.

In relation to the Police Authority, the Consultation and Partnership Manager referred Members to minute 15 and advised that following their request to receive a steer from the Chief Executive prior to a decision being made on the adoption of the APA recommendations, a paper would be brought to the next meeting of this Committee detailing the Chief Executive's views on the matter.

The Consultation and Partnership Manager went on to advise that following recommendations made at the last meeting of this Committee (minute 16 refers), the Force had established a Joint Working Group of which Mrs Helen Groves (the Police Authority lead for Every Child Matters) and the Consultation and Partnership Manager were members. At the first meeting of this Group, the Force had requested the Force Audit Manager to undertake an audit of the activity around Every Child Matters to provide clarity on the work being done. Members were to receive a further report in March (minute 16).

Resolved – (i) That the action schedule and updates be noted and (ii) that a report be submitted to the next meeting of this Committee (4 March 2008) detailing the Chief Executive's advice on the APA recommendations to be adopted.

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(16) POLICE AUTHORITY PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY 2007 – The Chief Executive submitted a report that informed of the Police Authority Public Opinion Survey conducted by MRUK research in July and August 2007.

The Consultation and Partnership Manager advised that the percentages relating to the four police functions did not add up to 100% due to a number of non-respondents.

Resolved – (a) That the significant themes arising from the survey, particularly the public opinion of the police in 'A' Division be noted; (b) that the information (i) be distributed widely to communities as outlined in the report; (ii) assist negotiations when setting the next round of Local Area

Agreements and inform Joint Strategic Assessments to allow them to reflect local priorities and (iii) inform the Police Authority budget and target setting workshops to be held by the Authority in January 2008, and (c) that the Consultation and Partnership Manager work with Humberside Police to address how the Force and the Authority will deal with the outcomes of the survey, with a view to establishing how far, at a strategic level, the Authority is addressing the needs of local people.

- 25 **(17) HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY MYSTERY SHOPPER EXERCISE** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that informed Members of the results of the Humberside Police Mystery Shopper Exercise conducted in September 2007.

The Consultation and Partnership Manager talked through the report and Members made particular reference to (i) there being no change since 2005 in the number of stations displaying opening times, and (ii) operators being unable to relay specific station opening times on a quarter of calls to the switchboard. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) assured Members that work was underway to rectify the issue of the display of opening times and informed Members that a conscious decision had previously been made by the Force to remove answering machine facilities from stations due to the problems they had caused. He advised however that this issue would be further discussed at future Call Handling meetings.

A Member commented on the Authority's use of market research companies and suggested that future exercises be conducted by local organisations such as HANWaG to encourage engagement with members of such groups and to also assist in the funding of such key agencies. The Consultation and Partnership Manager advised that although the Authority had been well served by the current contractor in the past, alternative options, such as citizen panels, would be investigated; he thought the potential use of organisations such as HANWaG a good idea and advised he would look into this further.

Resolved – (a) That further actions to be taken with the survey include (i) consideration of the results by the Citizen Focus and Neighbourhood Policing Boards with a view to identifying and addressing areas for improvement; (ii) extensive circulation in the media, and (iii) provision of information to the HMIC to enable the exercise and results to be taken into account during the next inspection of the Force on how it is developing Neighbourhood Policing; (b) that the Assistant Chief Constable (O) include in future reports to this Committee on Citizen Focus and Neighbourhood Policing, information on how the Force has addressed the issues identified within the survey, and (c) that the survey be repeated in two years (September 2009) to assess any discernable changes in standards.

- 26 **(18) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that outlined the results of public consultation and community engagement events held across the four divisions during September, October and November 2007. The report also informed of activity relating to incidents of

anti-social behaviour and associated sanctions.

The Chief Constable submitted a report outlining the Force's response to the concerns raised and the actions taken by the Division as a consequence.

In response to a query on the fall in vehicle crime numbers within D Division shown at paragraph 9 of the Chief Executive's report, the Assistant Chief Constable (O) advised that this drop reflected a series of measures adopted by the Force to allow a more targeted approach to be achieved. Examples provided were that of Smartwater and track cars.

In response to queries on the fluctuations of figures shown within the tables detailed within the Chief Executive's report, the Assistant Chief Constable (O) reminded Members that the figures compared a three month rather than a twelve month period (with the exception of paragraph 11) and that as a result of this, 'peaks and troughs' would always occur. Members suggested future reports also include the three month figures from the previous year to allow comparisons to be made and any trends highlighted.

Referring to paragraph 202 of the Chief Constable's report, Members commented on the outstanding policing that had been described and it was agreed that a letter be sent from the Police Authority commending the officers involved.

A Member referred to paragraph 167 and queried whether improvements were being made with regards to the recruitment of PCSOs within the Goole/Howden/Pocklington Neighbourhood Policing Team. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) advised that within this area, the Force had widened the catchment area in a bid to combat recruitment difficulties. He warned that the target number of PCSOs may take slightly longer than initially anticipated however would be achieved as quickly as possible; it was estimated that the full quota may be achieved by June/July 2008. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) concluded that although this matter was still an issue for the Force, it was one that was being actively worked upon.

In response to a Member's comment that the report should be shared with the public, the Police Authority's Press Officer advised that a press release was distributed after each Communities and Partnerships Committee highlighting the details raised within the consultation reports. Members agreed that the Consultation and Partnership Manager write to Parish Councils across the Humberside area and Area Directors for Hull outlining the policing developments within the area and drawing attention to the fact that all reports and items of public interest were published on the Authority's website.

A Member referred to paragraph 219 and queried the possibility of Hull University funding the recruitment of a PCSO to provide the campus with a dedicated position. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) advised that the Force were keen to work with other agencies and organisations to increase officer numbers.

Resolved – (a) That the issues and concerns raised at community consultation events across the Humberside Police force area be fed into the planning of the budget and setting priorities; (b) that matters of operational policing continue to be referred to the Chief Constable for his action; (c) that this report be forwarded to the Chairs of all community consultation events across the Humberside Police Force area for their information; (d) that future reports contain the three month figures from the previous year to allow comparisons to be made and any trends highlighted; (e) that the two PCSO's referred to at paragraph 202 of the Chief Constable's report be sent a letter from the Police Authority commending them for the outstanding policing displayed, and (f) that the Consultation and Partnership Manager write to Parish Councils across the Humberside area and Area Directors for Hull outlining the policing developments within the area and drawing attention to the fact that all reports and items of public interest were published on the Authority's website.

27 **(19) LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS UPDATE** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that informed Members of current developments in respect of Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and Local Area Agreements (LAAs).

The Consultation and Partnership Manager introduced the report and updated Members that the 198 indicators of the "National Indicator Set" referred to at paragraph 12 of the report had been finalised. The Assistant Chief Constable (O) advised that the Force had inspected the indicators and were in the process of analysing the information to allow further direction to be provided to Divisional Commanders.

Resolved – (a) That the actions being undertaken by the Authority in respect of its work with LSPs and LAAs be approved, and (b) that the Assistant Chief Constable (O) provide a report to a future meeting of this Committee detailing how the Force is addressing the challenges of the emerging partnership agenda and the influence that the Force will have in determining LAAs.

28 **(20) CRIME AND DISORDER PARTNERSHIPS** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that informed Members of national and local developments relating to Crime and Disorder Partnerships including performance information.

The report contained a matrix that outlined the framework of how CDRPs would function (National Minimum Standards) and provided a commentary for how these may relate to the role of Police Authorities.

The Consultation and Partnership Manager introduced the report and advised Members that the "Partnership Fund" referred to within the matrix had been included as an item for discussion. The Assistant Chief Executive explained that such a fund would allow the Chief Executive's representatives to play an active part within Partnership meetings when items were raised in relation to funding allowing the Police Authority more effective decision making within

Partnerships. The Assistant Chief Executive advised that a Scheme of Delegation was being developed within the Secretariat and it was hoped that this would be brought to the December meeting of the Authority following further discussions with the Chief Executive and Chief Constable. In response to a Member's query, the Assistant Chief Executive advised that this matter would also be raised at the Finance Committee prior to it being brought to the full Police Authority.

A Member commented that when working towards being a strategic partner, the Police Authority also be mindful of paying for something twice; through the Police and the Authority. The Member went on to suggest that attendance at such meetings be given further thought with the possible requirement of the Chief Executive attending should decisions relating to funding be made.

Resolved – (a) That further reports be received on both national and local developments that affect Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships; (b) that these reports continue to include CDRP performance information and (c) that the idea of Partnership Funding be further explored.

29 **PRESENTATION – REVIEW OF THE COMMON TASKING FRAMEWORK**

– The Consultation and Partnership Officer updated Members on developments made at Area level within the Common Tasking Framework in Hull. Due to the difficulties in engaging communities at this level, the amalgamation of the Common Tasking Framework with the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) strategy was being explored – this had been trialled at North Carr and would be further discussed at the next Common Tasking Framework board meeting.

A Member commended the work of the Project advising that at a recent conference, the positive work achieved in Hull as a result of the Project had been highlighted.

Resolved – That the update be noted.

30 **(21) NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING** – The Chief Constable submitted a report that updated Members on the progress being made by the Project Team in relation to embedding Neighbourhood Policing (NHP).

A Member referred to paragraph 40 of the report that stated that the Force had achieved its target for minority ethnic recruitment; he suggested that the Force revisit the targets that had initially been set with a view to further increasing these numbers.

The Assistant Chief Constable (O) advised that the Chief Constable was to submit an extended version of this report to the full Police Authority meeting in December.

Resolved – (a) That further reports be received on Neighbourhood Policing and (b) that Supt. Mike Duggleby be thanked for the report.

31 (22) **POLICE PROPERTY ACT FUND** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that informed Members of applications made for funding under the Police Property Act Fund.

Resolved – (a) That the report be noted, and (b) that awards for the following bids, that are in accordance with the criteria for the disbursement if the Police Property Act Fund, be agreed as follows:-

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| Bridwatch | £3000 |
| Community Anti-Bullying Project | £3000 |
| Get Hooked on Fishing | £2000 |
| Grimsby & Cleethorpes District Scouts | £3000 |
| Groves Neighbourhood Watch | £1125 |
| Haltemprice Skatepark Association | £2500 |
| Lighthouse Project | £2000 |
| Lonsdale Community Centre | £750 |
| North East Lincolnshire Carelink | £2500 |
| North Ferriby Playing Fields | £646 |
| Reading Assistance Teaching Scheme (RATS) | £500 |
| Riddings Drop In | £1117 |
| Spring Bank Community Association | £702 |
| Tickton Recreation Ground | £2000 |

32 (23) **HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY YOUTH FUND** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that detailed applications to the Youth Fund.

The Consultation and Partnership Officer noted that four bids had been received from North East Lincolnshire in contrast to the previous submission of this report when the majority of bids received had been from Hull and Scunthorpe.

Resolved – (a) That the report be noted; (b) that that the following awards be made from the Humberside Police Authority Youth Fund:- (i) £500 to the Northern Pocket Bike Club; (ii) £500 to the Giving Young People Opportunities Project; (iii) £500 to the Open Door Youth Project; (iv) £500 to the Dance Mania Project, and (v) £500 to the Pavilion Youth Project Healthy Eating Project, and (c) that further updates on applications to the fund be submitted to future meetings.

33 (24) **HUMBERSIDE INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME MONITORING REPORT** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that provided a monitoring account of the Humberside Independent Custody Visiting Scheme for the period June to November 2007.

The Consultation and Partnership Officer introduced the report to Members advising that reports of this nature would be submitted every 6 months.

Resolved – (a) That the report be noted; (b) that a further report on the Custody Visiting Scheme be received in six months.