

HUMBERSIDE POLICE AUTHORITY
PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE

10 JULY 2007

PRESENT:- Ms Branton MBE in the Chair

Elected Members:- Councillors De Freitas, Hull and Uzzell

Magistrate Members:- Mr Palmerley JP and Mr Smith JP

Officers: - Ms S Ismail, Chief Executive, Mr J Bates, Director of Performance and Resources, DCS Hunter, Protective Services Lead, Ms Sally Collins, Protective Services Project Manager, and Mr N Kingston, Assistant Chief Executive.

The Authority met at Pacific Exchange, Kingston upon Hull.

- 1 **JPAC** – The Chair informed Members that Councillor Kirk, appointed to the Authority by the Joint Appointments Committee on 12 June 2007, had submitted his resignation to the Police Authority. As Councillor Kirk had been nominated as the Authority’s alternate Member to the Joint Police Authorities Committee for Yorkshire and Humberside (JPAC), nominations were requested from Members to take over this role.

Resolved – That it be recommended to the Police Authority that Councillor Uzzell be elected to represent Humberside Police Authority as alternate Member on JPAC.

- 2 **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.

- 3 **APOLOGIES** – No apologies for absence were submitted.

- 4 (1) **TERMS OF REFERENCE** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that detailed the Terms of Reference for the Protective Services Committee, as approved at the Authority’s AGM on 19 June (minute 10 refers) and sought Members’ views as to the nature of reports they wished to receive at future meetings.

The Chief Executive explained that the report had been submitted to provide officers with clarity as to the reports to be brought to future meetings of the Committee. The Chief Executive talked through the Protective Services Committee Terms of Reference. The following discussions ensued;

(i) In response to a Member's query, the Protective Services Lead explained the distinction between 'civil contingencies and emergency planning' and 'critical incident management' advising that 'critical' was a generic term and that the ACPO definition of critical incident management was anything that occurred that would have to be reacted to, that if not done correctly, could potentially damage the image of the Force. The Protective Services Lead informed Members that a register of critical incidents was held within the Force;

(ii) The Chair referred to Terms of Reference Item 2iii and commented that the recent floods had provided a good example of the civil contingencies and emergency planning systems in place. She recommended that a report be received at the next meeting of this Committee to explain how authorities had worked through the flood situation and to reflect on lessons learnt. She added that such a report would be useful not only for Members but also as a future referencing tool for other authorities;

(iii) The Chair informed Members that when unitary authorities had held emergency planning meetings, they had failed to invite external agencies - she suggested that elected Members take this matter to their respective councils to address;

(iv) A Member commented on the importance of Terms of Reference Item 3, recommending that regular reports be submitted to the Committee to ensure that any gaps and risks were identified and that work was underway to fill them. The Protective Services Lead agreed to take this matter forward;

(v) The Director of Performance and Resources expressed the need for background information to be provided to the Protective Services Committee due to the lack of prior exposure to the Police Authority on protective services issues. It was agreed that information on the numerous issues relating to Terms of Reference Item 2iii be brought to future Protective Services Thematic Panels under individual headings with a confidential briefing of the key sensitive sites (estuary, airports etc) being presented at one of these;

(vi) In response to a Member's query, the Protective Services Lead clarified that a detailed risk register was held by the Force on the key strategic sites;

(vii) The Protective Services Lead confirmed that the risk register included information on the above-ground pipeline that ran through Immingham;

(viii) The Chief Executive explained Terms of Reference Item 4 to Members stating the importance of Members being fully sighted on issues affecting the Force and the Authority prior to decision making at JPAC;

(ix) Referring to Terms of Reference Item 4, a Member expressed concerns over the flow of information that would be possible between the Authorities and JPAC given the differences in frequency of meetings with JPAC meeting monthly and the Protective Services Committee meeting quarterly. The Chief Executive and Director of Performance and Resources assured Members that JPAC had a forward plan which would enable key issues to be brought to the Committee.

The Director of Performance and Resources stated that the vision behind the Committee went beyond Protective Services and could incorporate other issues such as Shared Services. He added that although Authorities could commit resources, the critical issue for all Authorities would be factoring those resources into an approved budget and forward plans.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

- 5 **(2) JOINT POLICE AUTHORITY COMMITTEE FOR YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE (JPAC)** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that explained the rationale for the creation of JPAC and set out its structure, functions and key decisions made to date.

Following a query, the Protective Services Lead confirmed that Serious and Organised Crime and Strategic Roads Policing had been selected out of the six areas of protective services as the two issues that were deemed to be the highest risks for the region. He advised that Counter Terrorism was a national issue and therefore was not seen as core business for individual forces.

Resolved - (a) That the report be noted; (b) that details of the implications of the business cases for Serious and Organised Crime and Strategic Roads Policing on resources and performance within Humberside Police be received at a future meeting of the Police Authority, and (c) that detailed presentations of the business cases for Serious and Organised Crime and Strategic Roads Policing be received at a future Protective Services Thematic Panel.

- 6 **(3) REGIONAL/LOCAL STRUCTURE FOR OVERSIGHT OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES** – The Chief Constable submitted a report that set out the resources in place within the Force in support of the Joint Regional Planning Team (JRPT) and its task of delivering the Regional Chief Constables' Group's (RCCG) commitment to protective services.

The Protective Services Lead introduced Sally Collins, Protective Services Project Manager to the meeting and advised that although he would retire on 22 August 2007, he would continue in his role as Protective Services Lead for the Force.

The Protective Services Project Manager explained her role to Members advising that she was the lead on the micro analysis work – the response from Humberside Police to the Police Minister’s timetable for delivery on protective services. In addition, she had conducted a threat assessment that highlighted areas of major crime such as homicide, live and cold cases, stranger rape and kidnapping. These areas were then broken down to assess the resources required to carry out investigations. The information obtained on potential threats was compared with the asset register to ensure any gaps were identified. These findings would be compiled into a report and were to be submitted to the Home Office by October 2007. The Chair suggested that this report be brought to the meeting of this Committee on 2 October 2007 prior to its submission to JPAC.

Following a query from a Member regarding the breakdown of staff within the Protective Services team, the Protective Services Lead explained that his employment within the team had effectively been a circumstantial occurrence and that any future appointment to his post would more than likely not be of Chief Superintendent rank. A Member expressed concerns over the current makeup of the team, stating that one permanent full time person did not seem enough; the Protective Services Lead advised that although locally, enough staff were in place to deal with current workloads there did not appear to be enough staff in post regionally. The Chief Executive informed the meeting that Humberside’s contribution to the regional team – including media and marketing support, were significant and influential.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

- 7 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC** – **Resolved** - That in accordance with the provisions of Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, minute 7, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 7 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 8 **(4) NATIONAL COUNTER TERRORISM STRUCTURES** – The Chief Executive submitted a report that informed Members of the national structure in place to oversee the governance and accountability of counter terrorism matters that related to the policing service.

The Chief Executive advised that she would inform Members of any updates on the National Counter Terrorism Programme.

A Member commented on profiling and involving the community in this area. The Protective Services Lead advised that he would discuss this matter with the Assistant Chief Constable (OS).

The Chair requested that Thematic Panels be centred on one discussion topic.

Resolved – That Members note the emerging national structures through which policing of Counter Terrorism issues are planned, coordinated and delivered.