

## NORTHUMBRIA PCC MINUTES

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**Title**

Business Meeting

**Date**

14 May 2020

**Location**

Virtual

**Duration**

10.00am-11.30am

An Interim Meeting was held

1 June 2020 (Item 7)

Virtual

12:00pm-12.30pm

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**Present:**

Kim McGuinness – Police and Crime Commissioner

Winton Keenen – Chief Constable

Ruth Durham – Chief of Staff of the OPCC

Debbie Ford – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)

Joscelin Lawson – Director of People and Development (Item 7 Only)

Adrian Pearson – Director of Planning and Delivery

Tanya Reade – Corporate Governance Manager, NP

Mike Tait - Joint Chief Finance Officer (Joint CFO)

Vicki Wilson – Minute Taker

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### **OPEN SESSION**

**1. Minutes of the Open Session of the Business Meeting held on 24 March 2020**

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

**2. Minutes of the Open Session of the Business Meeting held on 16 April 2020**

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **4. Violence Reduction Unit**

The Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) is successfully working from home. Board meetings have been suspended due to the majority of members being involved with COVID-19 Response; however papers have continued to be circulated in order to keep members informed and give opportunities to ask any questions.

The PCC and the VRU Team are extremely mindful of the mental health effects of lockdown for young people due to the lack of close contact and safe places. This will be a priority in Phase 2. Certain projects within Phase 2 will need to be changed or tweaked due to lockdown. The PCC is very pleased with CI Karen Murray and the collaborative work within the VRU Team. The process is currently on-going to recruit a Domestic Abuse Specialist.

The DCC noted that the mental health of young people is also a priority for the Force and will seek to include the OPCC and the VRU Team in joint working to ensure the best outcomes. Director of Planning and Delivery **agreed** to assist with internal communications to promote joint working.

#### **5. Transformation 2025**

The DCC highlighted the main points of the Transformation Programme. There are two main platforms of work; IT and Operations.

##### **IT**

##### **Digital Case File**

This has been a complex project; a debrief of the project approach and structure will be undertaken. Relevant staff have been trained and file quality is improving, which it is hoped will lead to better outcomes in Court.

##### **HRIT**

This is expected to go live in July/August 2020.

##### **Business Analytics**

Two apps are now available which are being used to monitor data to assist with COVID-19 Response.

##### **NPICCS Replacement**

**Storm** - This will be implemented in April/June 2021, earlier than planned. The Communications Department will be trained closer to the launch period.

**Northgate Connect** - This new IT system project is complex and challenging. Management of the data transfer from the old system to the new system is under consideration and could affect the live date. The Chief Constable advised that the timeframe targets for this were ambitious but hopefully achievable.

The PCC was pleased with the work being carried out especially under the circumstances of COVID-19.

### **Operations**

There are six main projects under Operations. The DCC outlined the main highlights:

#### **Force Operating Model (FOM) 1.0**

This was the most significant of the six projects, implemented 4 November 2019. Since COVID-19 and the lockdown, the way in which the Force operates has changed and adapted with regards to shift patterns, work bases, and demand periods. These are being monitored to review whether the new working methods could be implemented for future working and what could remain to ensure the learning from the current response is include within the recovery plan.

#### **Force Coordination Centre**

Implementation was accelerated to enable business analytics, data and intelligence, to be use to assist with effective deployments.

#### **Telematics**

This involves fleet management. The go-live date is expected at the end of the year and will support future strategic decisions over the use of the fleet.

#### **Communications Review**

This is one of the most important regarding the first point of contact with police, and involves calls from the public and greater use of digital channels, along with monitoring the ensuing data.

#### **Victims and Witnesses**

The PCC was fully aware of this project.

#### **Body Worn Video**

This has been removed; now business as usual.

Following a query from the PCC regarding the changing of radios, the Chief Constable advised the airwave system was in the process of being transferred. It had proven to be a lengthy and costly process and had been extended until the end of 2022.

The PCC asked if the finances had been accounted for, and the Chief Constable assured that this had all been costed and was part of the Joint Strategic Risk Register.

The Chief of Staff queried whether this would have an impact on day to day operations, however the Chief Constable advised there were no negative effects and operations were able to continue as normal.

The DCC advised a patrol plan had been put in place at particular 5G masts due to protestors causing damage to them. This was noted to be an international issue.

## **6. Item moved to the Closed Session**

### **7. Joint Strategic Risk Register**

The DCC presented this item at an interim meeting held on 1 June.

The Joint Strategic Risk Register is reviewed on an annual basis; however, some of the work involved in this year's review had slowed due to the pandemic.

An internal assessment of the Register was taking place to support a more concise and clear document. It was hoped this would be ready to present to JIAC on 22 June.

The DCC highlighted the main points from the current Register as follows:

Risk2: Organisational Learning has been reassessed and is no longer classed as a high risk.

Risk 28: A plan is in place to support patching processes.

The risk in relation to Employer's Pension Contributions has been removed and merged with Risk 20 – Further cuts to police funding.

Risk17: Accreditation in line with the Forensic Science Regulator Codes of Practice had gone from high risk to low risk, demonstrating the excellent work that had been carried out.

Risk 6: The DCC was holding a meeting in the following week to discuss the impact of Brexit as it is anticipated this will now move to the forefront of the Government agenda.

With regard to risks arising as a result of COVID-19, there is a response plan and full structure in place supporting Operation Talla.

The DCC highlighted the work and effort from those involved in maintaining the Uplift Programme during the pandemic.

PPE remained an ongoing challenge; however, there was no longer an issue with supply of PPE. The focus was now on the usage of PPE, which would continue to be the main focus.

The PCC was supportive of the three extra Covid-19 risks and noted that the LCJB had started a Recovery Group to discuss post Covid-19 issues going forward and suggested a link in with this. The DCC agreed to pursue this.

The PCC also noted the Courts Backlog and was yet to receive the weekly data of these figures. The DCC would check if the Force had received any information.

Following a request, the DCC agreed to share the aide memoire with the PCC regarding frontline safety and wellbeing.

The PCC also suggested adding in risks to future funding due to the pandemic. The DCC agreed to reflect this in the Register.

## **8. Forward Plan**

The Forward Plan was noted. It was agreed Op Talla (COVID-19) Recovery Planning would be a standard item on the Business Meeting agenda going forward. There were no further updates to discuss.

## **9. Any Other Business**

There was no further business to discuss.

## **10. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 17 June 2020 – 10.30am – Skype Meeting.



NORTHUMBRIA  
**POLICE & CRIME  
COMMISSIONER**

