

## **Northumbria PCC Minutes**

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**Title:** Business Meeting

**Date:** 18 January 2022 **Duration:** 2:00pm-2:30pm

**Location:** Middle Engine Lane/Teams

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### **Present:**

Kim McGuinness – Police and Crime Commissioner  
Winton Keenen – Chief Constable (CC)  
Debbie Ford – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)  
Ruth Durham – Chief of Staff of the OPCC  
Adrian Pearson – Director of Planning and Delivery (OPCC)  
Tanya Reade – Corporate Governance Manager (NP)  
Laura Repton - OPCC Minute Taker

**Apologies:** Paul Godden – Head of Corporate Development (NP) and Mike Tait – Chief Finance Officer (CFO)

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## **OPEN SESSION**

### **An Interim Business Meeting was held 11 January 2022**

**Present:** Kim McGuinness – PCC; Ruth Durham – Chief of Staff of the OPCC; Debbie Ford – DCC; Winton Keenen –CC; Mike Tait – CFO; Laura Repton – OPCC - Minute Taker

#### **1. Capital Monitoring Report Q3 2021/22**

The Chief Finance Officer presented the report and highlighted the main points:

The forecast for the total capital spend had been reduced from £19m to £14m. The narrative regarding Information Technology and Digital transformation and vehicles and equipment was highlighted. There was particular attention drawn to supply issues for fleet. With regard to IT and digital transformation. There were some issues around buying and procuring technology and phasing of some projects.

A table outlining the Capital Programme figures for 2021/22 had been outlined alongside Appendices 1 and 2.

The Key Decision recommendation was to note the forecast outturn of £14.172m based on payments processed to date and current projections. The PCC **approved** the Key Decision.

#### **2. Group Revenue Monitoring Q3 2021/22**

The Chief Finance Officer presented the report and highlighted the main points. A table outlining the approved budget for 2021/22, the outturn for 2021/22 and the variances had been highlighted. The Chief Finance Officer advised that the OPCC Revenue account would breakeven and updated on the current position around the Chief Constable's revenue

account and highlighted the narrative around changes in respect of income from COP26, and the workforce budget position, which reflects challenging job markets. Other non-paid budget variances were highlighted, specifically utilities and the impact of price fluctuations in recent months, together with a reduction in the Police Now forecast.

The Chief Finance Officer also noted the position around the revenue costs of capital financing. The PCC **approved** the Key Decision.

## **1. Minutes of the open session of Business Meeting held on 16 November 2021**

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

## **2. Matters Arising**

No matters were raised.

## **3. Violence Reduction Unit**

The Commissioner highlighted the VRU is continuing to be successful. As we move into the third year, the PCC is looking to focus on those areas of work that are successful and show local and national value. The PCC also wants to ensure that we are able to share the benefits of the VRU and tell the story of what it is delivering for people.

The Serious Violence Inspection will take place shortly and there will be some input from the VRU team into this inspection.

## **4. National Issues Impacting on Policing**

DCC Ford explained this remains static, awaiting further guidance on COVID restrictions. DCC Ford also noted a slight impact on operational activity post EU exit which has been fed into the Home Office.

## **5. National APCC Workforce Update**

The Commissioner confirmed that she stepped back from this position. The meeting agreed that this would be removed from the agenda moving forward.

## **6. Update from Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC) following JIAC on 22 November 2021 and progress against the Internal Audit Work Plan**

DCC Ford explained JIAC is going well and dates will be set for the meetings in 22/23 with specific focus over the coming months on the final accounts and working with the new External Auditor.

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

From the OPCC perspective updates to the Risk Register focus on the finance risk which now reflects current settlement position. The wording under the confidence risk has also been updated since the last meeting to reflect actions on scrutinising Northumbria Police in relation to the VAWG response and confidence. The most significant change is in the context section for the Public Confidence Risk is reference to LQCs national action which is starting to impact locally and with a risk to misconduct hearings due to take place for Northumbria Police. The Commissioner asked for clarity around the plan to tackle this.

From the Force perspective the updates highlight that 17 officers are suspended currently, demonstrating a potential significant need for misconduct hearings over the next few months. In addition the risk register has been updated in respect of governance in response to feedback from JIAC. The risk Information and Communication Technology has been renamed Digital Policing to better reflect that areas of work and factors updated to include delays in the replacement of NPICCS. It was agreed that the review of the Funding Formula would be added to both risk registers.

#### **8. Late Night Levy Paper**

This paper was withdrawn and will come back to JBM in February.

#### **9. CJI: A joint thematic inspection of Criminal Justice Journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders**

DCC Ford delivered the report and talked through each of the actions highlighting the five recommendations that the Force are working through.

The Commissioner queried whether the Force are working jointly with CPS on this to support individual's mental health and also asked whether voluntary attenders are offered the same access to a MH triage service as those actually in to custody. DCC Ford confirmed this was understood to be the case and will have this confirmed.

#### **10. Forward Plan – Open Session**

The forward plan had been noted, with the addition of the late night Levy paper to be added to the next agenda.

#### **11. Any other business**

There was no other business to discuss.

#### **12. Date and time of next meeting**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 10.30am, Middle Engine Lane/Teams.