



NORTHUMBRIA PCC MINUTES

Title

Business Meeting

Date

27 June 2024

Location

Teams/MEL

Duration

2pm-2.45pm

Present:

Susan Dungworth – Police and Crime Commissioner
Vanessa Jardine – Chief Constable (CC)
Ruth Durham – Chief of Staff of the OPCC
Jayne Meir – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)
Adrian Pearson – Director of Planning and Delivery (OPCC)
Tanya Reade – Corporate Governance Manager (NP)
Sarah Robson – Chief Inspector Staff Officer (NP)
Andrew Hill – ACC Communities (NP)
Debra Alderson – ACC Force Coordination (NP)
Gail Thompson – Deputy Head of Finance (NP)
Paul Godden – Head of Corporate Development (NP)
Steven Hume – Director of the VRU (OPCC)
Vicki Wilson – Minute Taker (OPCC)

OPEN SESSION

1. Minutes of the open session of Business Meeting held on 25 April 2024

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that had not been included in the agenda.

3. National Issues Impacting on Policing

The Chief Constable gave an overview of current issues and operational plans that had been put in place.

The PCC felt it would be useful to have information of planned protests across the summer.

4. Violence Reduction Unit Update (VRU)

The Director of the VRU highlighted the main points from the report.



From April 2023 to April 2024, hospital admissions for assault with a sharp object had increased by 7%. From April 2023 to December 2023, Newcastle had the highest admissions of all age groups and of under 25s. It was noted that the A&E Navigator initiative had not been successful at Newcastle due to data access and data sharing issues, due to the way the system had been set up.

Community Safety Partnerships across South of Tyne and Wear had developed a Serious Violence Charter to enhance their commitment to the Serious Violence Duty. This was now up for consideration from the remaining Community Safety Partnerships across North of Tyne and would be discussed at the next Strategic Violence Reduction Board in July.

The Engagement Working Group sought to enhance communication, engagement and reassurance with individuals, families and communities in relation to serious violence. The group comprised of representatives from across the six Local Authority areas, taking a proactive and inclusive approach to engaging communities, and ensuring all voices were heard in the efforts to reduce and prevent serious violence. The first meeting of the reviewed membership would be held on 18 June 2024.

Following a query from the CC, an update was given regarding the external evaluation being carried out by Rocket Science. This was proving to have mixed results and it was hoped more in-depth recommendations would come from the report.

5. HMICFRS: National Crime Agency Inspection – Vetting and Anti-Corruption Pt 2

The DCC highlighted the main points from the report.

The only recommendation that related to police forces was Recommendation 4:
By 30 June 2024, chief constables should make sure they tell the National Crime Agency the outcome of investigations into suspicious activity reports relating to their force's personnel. The National Crime Agency should include a summary of this information in its annual national strategic threat assessment, The Threat to UK Law Enforcement from Corruption.

The NCA Intelligence Cell Coordination Manager had been consulted and the latest national strategic threat assessment (STA) was due to be published so it was too late to incorporate this information into that assessment. This recommendation would form part of the commissioning of the new STA, which was moving to a two-year process. The information and detail would be requested from police forces by the NCA, as part of the new adopted process.

6. Capital Strategy 2024/25 – 2027/28

The Deputy Head of Finance highlighted the main points from the report.

A table outlining the 2023/24 Scheme Expenditure had been referenced.



At Quarter 3, £6.255m was re-phased to the MTFS 2024/25 to 2027/28 as appropriate. The outturn position reflected a further £4.723m of identified slippage to 2024/25 and £0.330m as variance to the budget. The total variance against the revised budget was £11.308m.

The PCC approved the recommendations as outlined in the Key Decision.

7. Reserves Strategy Statement – 31 March 2024

The Deputy Head of Finance highlighted the main points from the report.

A table outlining the Revenue Outturn position 2023/24 had been highlighted.

The final revenue outturn position had an under-spend of £5.332m. The total movement in the Commissioner's revenue reserves for the 2023/24 financial year reflected an increase of £3.802m. This had been outlined in detail within a referenced data table.

The PCC approved the recommendations as outlined in the Key Decision.

8. Forward Plan – Open Session

The Forward Plan had been noted.

9. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

10. Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting would take place on Thursday 8 August – 2pm – Middle Engine Lane/Teams.