

**SOUTH WEST POLICE AUTHORITIES JOINT COMMITTEE**

Minutes of a meeting of the  
South West Police Authorities Joint Committee (SWPAJC) held at  
Wiltshire Police Headquarters, London Road, Devizes SN10 2DN  
on Monday 9 July 2012 at 10.00am

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Avon and Somerset Police Authority

Dr P Heffer

Mrs C Gordon

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority

Mr M Bull - Chairman

Mr B Preston

Dorset Police Authority

Mr M Taylor CBE DL

Mr B Cooper

Gloucestershire Police Authority

Mr R Garnham

Mr B Crowther

Wiltshire Police Authority

Mr C Hoare – Vice Chairman

Mr B Ford

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mr A Champness (Chief Executive, Gloucestershire Police Authority)

Ms S Howl (Chief Executive, Devon and Cornwall Police Authority)

Mr K Kilgallen (Chief Executive, Wiltshire Police Authority)

Mr J Smith (Chief Executive, Avon and Somerset Police Authority)

Mr R Bates (Treasurer, Dorset Police Authority)

Mr M Baker (Chief Constable, Dorset Police)

Mr P Geenty (Chief Constable, Wiltshire Police)

Mr S Sawyer (Chief Constable, Devon and Cornwall Police)

Mr K Lambert (Deputy Chief Constable, Gloucestershire Police)

Mr R Beckley (Deputy Chief Constable, Avon and Somerset Police)

Mr R Hansen (Assistant Chief Constable, Avon and Somerset Police)

Ms E Zeeman (Director of Human Resources, Avon and Somerset Police)

Mr C Barker (Head of Finance & Procurement, Wiltshire Police)

Mr B Malloy (Head of Business Strategy & Improvement, Wiltshire Police)

Ms J Mead (Human Resources Department, Wiltshire Police)

Mr I Etheridge (Regional Collaboration Programme Coordinator, Dorset Police)

Mr R Martin (Strategic Planning Officer, Devon and Cornwall Police Authority)

**GUEST**

Mr B Simmons (Cheshire Police)

#### **141. Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence**

In the Chairman's temporary absence, the Vice Chairman opened the meeting.

Apologies had been received from:

Mr M Goscomb (Chief Executive, Dorset Police Authority)

Mr B Greenslade (APA) and

Mr C Port (Chief Constable, Avon & Somerset Police)

#### **142. Declaration of interests**

There were no declarations of interests.

#### **143. Open minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2012**

##### **RESOLVED**

- i. That the Open minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2012 be approved as a correct record.*

#### **144. Project Update Reports**

##### **e-Commerce**

Mr Baker reported that the e-commerce workstream was progressing well and remained on-schedule.

*Mr Bull arrived at the meeting and took over as Chair.*

##### **ICT convergence (Business case progress report)**

Mr Geenty provided Members with an update on the progress of the project aimed at developing a collaborative approach between Dorset and Wiltshire following the withdrawal of Gloucestershire at the last SWPAJC.

Mr Geenty reported on the complexities of the regional and national police ICT landscape. The decision by Gloucestershire to disengage from this piece of work meant that the project required a rethink. A significant amount of analysis had been undertaken to understand the picture of ICT provision across the two Forces. However, due to the Olympic period fast approaching and the draw down on resources this caused, it had not been possible to fully understand the financial implications associated with different options for delivery.

It was originally the intention for a business case to be presented to the SWPAJC for consideration at this meeting. However, the delays and changes to the scope of this work had required that this schedule be adjusted. A report proposing convergence options for Dorset and Wiltshire would be presented to the Project Board in due course.

With this initiative now being a two force approach, it was recommended by Mr Geenty that subsequent decisions should be taken in-Force rather than at the SWPAJC, with information on developments passed through the ICT managers from the two Forces and the Regional Collaboration Programme Board. The SWPAJC would be informed of any decisions made and would retain oversight of the progress

of the initiative but the main development activity would be discharged from the SWPAJC to the Project Board.

### **RESOLVED**

- i. That the SWPAJC acknowledge the changes in background circumstances to the ICT Convergence workstream*
- ii. That the SWPAJC notes the emergence of a new potential model*
- iii. That the SWPAJC acknowledges that future decisions on this workstream are taken by Dorset and Wiltshire with information on developments being passed through both Force ICT managers and the Regional Collaboration Programme Board and reported to the SWPAJC.*

### **Harmonised Firearms**

Mr Hansen provided a brief update on the progress towards securing the firearms. The PFI arrangement for the tri-Force Firearms Training Complex near Bristol is on schedule to commence construction in August 2012 with an opening date projected to be during the spring of 2014.

A Full Business case was considered by Chief Constables in March 2012. Further work was requested and Chief Constables are meeting again on 12 July to consider the way forward.

Mr Smith stated the issue of the business case had been discussed at the Regional Chairs and Chief Executives on 6 July 2012. Avon and Somerset supported the operational intent of the proposal but recognised further work was required.

Mr Hoare suggested that the three Forces and Authorities needed to conclude their internal discussions alongside work to prepare the Section 23 agreement. This project was time critical with a need to put arrangements in place by November 2012. The business case was due to be considered in September but Forces and Authorities would need to act swiftly in the lead up to then to prevent slippage.

Mr Beckley and Mr Geenty were in agreement that it is beneficial to all Forces and in the interests of efficiency and effectiveness that this matter is finalised prior to the arrival of PCC's. Delaying the process beyond November 2012 would build in further delay and unnecessary bureaucracy.

The Chairman summarised that the clear view of this Committee was to proceed swiftly.

### **Forensics**

The Chairman stated that this will be considered along with the substantive item later in the meeting

### **Learning and Development**

Ms Zeeman presented a verbal update. It was reported that the pre-assessment project had been delivered. It will be possible to recoup the costs if the scheme is

rolled-out wider. Discussions were underway to nationalise the product with NPIA and Skills for Justice.

Ms Zeeman recommended that this project now be signed off as complete.

The Initial Police Learning & Development update was to be discussed later on this meeting's agenda.

**RESOLVED**

*i. That the pre-assessment project aspect of the Learning & Development workstream be signed-off as complete*

**Transactional Processes**

Mr Lambert reported that the project remained on time and on budget.

Mr Lambert's view was that the Pentip project did not deserve the status of a Tier 1 workstream as it was a Force-by-Force agreement to proceed.

The Chairman supported this view and sought the Committee's agreement that the Pentip project be taken outside the Transactional Processes workstream as a standalone piece of work to be conducted locally by individual Forces.

**RESOLVED**

*i. That the Pentip project be discharged from this Committee to individual Forces to progress as per local arrangements*

**Legal Services**

Mr Kilgallen reported that a working arrangement was in operation whereby Avon and Somerset and Wiltshire were sharing spare capacity in legal service provision. The Section 23 agreement awaits signature.

**145. ICT Convergence**

This item was dealt with earlier during the meeting.

**146. Regional Collaboration – Completion of Collaboration Agreements**

Mr Kilgallen provided the Committee with an update on the progress towards finalising Section 23 agreements for the various collaboration arrangements in place or in the pipeline. Since the report was issued with the agenda papers, several items have progressed further.

Collaboration arrangements currently in operation

Telephony SPOC (Avon and Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire) – this requires completion urgently and is due to be finalised imminently.

Zephyr (Avon and Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire) – It was reported that this agreement has been all but finalised.

Undercover policing (Devon and Cornwall, Wiltshire and the Royal Military Police) – This has seen little progress. The agreement currently awaits Royal Military Police endorsement.

New finance system (Dorset and Wiltshire) - It was reported that this agreement has been all but finalised.

Collaboration requiring completion prior to November 2012

E-Commerce (Avon and Somerset, Devon and Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire) – The collaboration agreement is being settled alongside the other contracts with the suppliers for this matter. The inter-relationship between the Forces using the service cannot be concluded until the supply agreements are settled.

Tri-Force Specialist Operations Unit (Avon and Somerset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire) – Confirmation from each authority that wishes to proceed with this collaboration is awaited. The business case is scheduled for September 2012 with pressure to complete the Section 23 by November.

Tri-Force Firearms Training Facility (Avon and Somerset, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire) – Avon and Somerset has said that it wishes to vary the agreed heads of terms for the collaboration agreement to align it with the PFI contract. The changes are awaited but are on schedule for completion by September.

The Chairman thanked Mr Kilgallen for his work in progressing the Section 23 agreements and asked for a further update to be provided at the next meeting of the SWPAJC on 15 October 2012. The Chairman also called for an interim update to be provided to all Chairs, Chief Executives and Chief Constables by the end of September.

**RESOLVED**

- i. That the report is noted*
- ii. That an update be provided at the next meeting of the SWPAJC on 15 October 2012 with an interim update to be provided to Chairs, Chief Executives and Chief Constables by the end of September 2012.*

**147. IPLDP Pre Join Business case**

Ms Zeeman presented the Initial Police Learning and Development Programme Pre Join Business case for consideration and approval.

Ms Zeeman spoke to the report and made the following key points

- Pre-entry assessment is not mandated but the Winsor review suggests it should be in place by April 2013.
- The NPIA has compiled an options paper proposing a number of different entry routes.
- The Certificate in Policing option comprises a 10-week modular course primarily of law input
- Accreditation of prior learning was considered too complex to account for.

- Foundation entry – currently there are no universities offering this appropriate courses in the south west. Work is ongoing with Skills 4 Justice to procure this for the region.
- Devon and Cornwall is developing an open learning approach.

Dr Heffer thanked Ms Zeeman for explaining a complex subject with clarity. He sought to clarify that PCSOs and Special Constables would not seek an advantage in the pre-entry proposals under discussion and questioned whether this was right.

Mr Baker stated that the Programme Board shared these concerns. However, it was necessary for a cohort of new recruits to be inducted together. This would assist both with logistical arrangements and in garnering a team ethic. It was recognised that this was not a perfect solution but there remained local options, for example Forces/PCC's may choose to subsidise PCSOs and Special Constables.

Mr Beckley agreed that there was no easy answer to this issue but recognised the need to keep PCSOs and Special Constables motivated and engaged.

Ms Zeeman suggested that PCSOs and Special Constables would already hold an advantage in applying to become a police officer given the experience and knowledge they would have accrued within the service.

Mr Garnham questioned whether these proposals accounted for the emerging Police Professional Body (PPB) as announced recently by the Government.

Ms Zeeman felt it was unwise to wait the arrival of the PPB given the uncertainty over how long this would take but thought it unlikely to be of any hindrance to these plans

#### **RESOLVED**

*i. That the Region seeks to recruit student officers primarily via the certificate in policing (CiP) approach. The view is the region should continue to support Devon and Cornwall to develop their programme of pre join so the CiP model to be delivered at weekends and evenings can be used by all forces, until an external provider of the programme is sought.*

*ii. That the South West region procure for a distance learning provider, negotiating with Skills for Justice to fund this development. The working group would determine what local input may be necessary to this certificate and it is likely local satellite colleges and hubs will assist in delivery to provide local inputs.*

#### **148. SWPAJC Draft Risk Register**

The Chairman introduced a draft Risk Register for the SWPAJC. The intention was to ensure that the SWPAJC addresses the appropriate areas of business during the remaining months of the SWPAJC and in the hand over to PCCs in November.

Dr Heffer agreed that the principle of establishing a view of the risks associated with collaboration activity during the transitional period was right.

The Chairman asked Members and Chief Executives to reflect upon the draft Risk Register and pass any comments or suggestions to Mr Martin.

Mr Hoare suggested this should have been addressed months ago but agreed that it was a sensible measure given the significant changes that were coming.

Mr Crowther called for actions to be considered now rather than simply note the risks being faced.

The Chairman agreed that it was the intention to do so and delegate the maintenance and monitoring of the Risk Register to Chief Executives.

**RESOLVED**

- i. *That the draft Risk Register is delegated to Chief Executives for maintenance and monitoring with an update report to the SWPAJC in due course.*

**149. Review of Two Tier Structure Workstreams**

Mr Baker presented a paper setting out proposals for the way workstreams have seen reported upon to the SWPAJC.

Mr Bull thanked Mr Baker confirming this is the clarity that the SWPAJC had called for at its last meeting.

**RESOLVED**

- i. *That the SW Regional Collaboration Programme: Review of Two Tier Workstreams structure and schedule is noted.*

**150. Exclusion of the Public**

**RESOLVED**

- i) *that in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting for the business specified in Agenda Items 11 to 15 because it is likely that if a member of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Act.*

Approved and signed as a correct record



M. I. R. BULL

Mike Bull  
Chair, SWPAJC  
15 October 2012