

MINUTE of MEETING of the **TAYSIDE JOINT POLICE BOARD** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Monday 19 November 2012 at 10.15 am.

Present: Councillors JAMES BLACK, JOHN ALEXANDER, KENNY ANDERSON, MOHAMMED ASIF, LAURIE BIDWELL, DAVID BOWES, JACK COBURN, ELSPETH MacLACHLAN, ARCHIE MacLELLAN, BOB MYLES, HELEN OSWALD, CHRISTINA ROBERTS, ALEXANDER STEWART, PAUL VALENTINE, SHEENA WELSH, WILLIE WILSON and BAILIE HELEN WRIGHT.

Councillor BLACK, Convener, in the Chair

1. **APOLOGIES/SUBSTITUTES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Bill Bowles and Douglas Pover, with Councillor Kenny Anderson substituting for Councillor Pover.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Helen Oswald declared an interest as a member of her family was a serving member of the Police Force. She indicated that she would participate in discussion and voting on all items.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

(a) **Tayside Joint Police Board**

The minute of meeting of Tayside Joint Police Board of 27 August 2012 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

(b) **Personnel Sub Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Personnel Sub Committee of 10 September 2012 was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX I**).

(c) **Complaints Sub Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Complaints Sub Committee of 10 September 2012 was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX II**).

(d) **Corporate Governance Sub Committee**

The minute of meeting of the Corporate Governance Sub Committee of 17 September 2012 was submitted and noted (**APPENDIX III**).

4. **REPRESENTATIVE ON THE PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP**

The Board were advised that a request had been received to appoint a member from amongst the Perth and Kinross Council members to represent the Board on the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership.

The Board agreed to appoint Councillor MacLellan to the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership.

5. TAYSIDE JOINT POLICE BOARD AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012 AND THE AUDITOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Corporate Governance Sub-Committee of 12 November 2012, there was submitted Joint Report No PB 64/12 by the Chief Constable and the Treasurer appending a copy of the Audited Statement of Accounts for Tayside Joint Police Board in respect of financial year ending 31 March 2012 and also presenting the Report to Members and the Controller of Audit from the Board's External Auditor.

The Audited Statement of Accounts indicated that the difficult financial targets set in the financial year had been achieved. This had been possible due to the implementation of a robust budgeting control system.

In relation to the Auditor's Report, this was in the main a positive one, with only one action relating to preparing for the transition to the Scottish Police Authority being identified. Although the audit process had identified a small number of adjustments to the draft Accounts, these were of a technical nature and did not impact on the Board's bottom line financial position.

The Board, for its interest, agreed:-

- (i) to note and approve the Audited Statement of Accounts for 2011/2012; and
- (ii) to note the contents of the External Audit Report to Members and the Controller of Audit for 2011/2012.

6. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2011/2012

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of the Corporate Governance Sub-Committee of 17 September 2012, there was submitted Report No PB 65/12 by the Treasurer appending a copy of Tayside Joint Police Board's Annual Report on Treasury Management Activities in 2011/2012

The Report indicated that the Board had been able to meet all its financial obligations and cash flow requirements throughout the year without encountering any liquidity problems. Additionally, a higher than benchmark return on investments had been delivered in highly volatile economic conditions and in compliance with the Treasury Management policies and strategies set by Board members.

The Board, for its interest, agreed to note the Annual Report on the 2011/2012 Treasury Management activities for Tayside Joint Police Board, attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

7. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2012/2013 MID YEAR REVIEW REPORT

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 12 March 2012, there was submitted Report No PB73/12 by the Treasurer, providing details of Treasury Management activities in the first six months of 2012/2013.

The Report indicated that Tayside Joint Police Board had operated within the treasury limits and Prudential Indicators set by reference to the Board's arrangements with Angus Council and Dundee City Council and were in compliance with Angus Council's Treasury Management practices. In addition, there had been no variations from agreed policies or practices by the Board during the first six months of the 2012/2013 financial year.

The Board agreed to note the mid year review report on Treasury Management activities for the period 1 April to 30 September 2012, attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

8. POLICE REFORM – UPDATE ON FINANCIAL ISSUES

There was submitted Joint Report No PB74/12 by the Chief Constable and the Treasurer advising members of the current position in relation to financial matters associated with Police reform.

The Report gave details of the current activity within the Police Reform Programme relating to financial management and the funding workstreams and financial aspects of the national Police reform.

The Board agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to note that further updates on progress would be submitted to future meetings.

9. POLICE REFORM UPDATE – PROPOSALS FOR TRANSFER SCHEME FOR PROPERTY, RIGHTS, LIABILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

There was submitted Joint Report No PB85/12 by the Chief Constable and Treasurer advising members of the proposals for transferring property, other assets, liabilities etc from the Board to the new Scottish Police Authority (SPA).

The Report indicated that, whilst the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 allowed for transfers to local authorities, it was generally anticipated that property, rights, liabilities and obligations of the Tayside Joint Police Board would transfer to the Scottish Police Authority as at 1 April 2013, with exceptions to this general position being uncommitted reserves and loan debt. A project board had been established within the Police and Fire Reform Programme, with the key aim to identify all existing properties, rights, liabilities and obligations in relation to the delivery of Police and Fire and Rescue Services and to transfer these as appropriate. Further updates on progress in this regard would be submitted to future meetings.

The Board agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report and the proposals regarding the transfer of property, rights, liabilities and obligations, as set out in Appendix 2 to the Report;
- (ii) to note that arrangements to formally sign off the various transfers were still being developed and that a further report to the Board confirming sign off arrangements would be brought forward to a future meeting of the Board;
- (iii) to note the listing of heritable property which was provided at Appendix 3 to the Report, which had been provisionally identified as requiring to transfer to the SPA; and
- (iv) to note that the Clerk/Treasurer would investigate any specific queries which members may have on the information contained in Appendices 2 and 3 of the Report.

10. CONTRACT AWARDS FOR THE PERIOD 1 MAY 2012 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2012

With reference to Article 9 of the minute of meeting of this Board of 27 August 2012, there was submitted Report No PB75/12 by the Chief Constable, providing members with details of contracts awarded since 1 May 2012.

The Report indicated that the Board's Financial Regulations made provision for reporting on recommendations for tenders to be accepted where the value was in excess of £200,000 and also where the lowest valid tender was not recommended for acceptance. In addition, the Regulations provided for details of all contracts awarded to be reported periodically to the Board and this Report provided the necessary information to comply with the Board's Financial Regulations.

The Board agreed to note and approve the action taken by the Force in awarding contracts, during the period 1 May to 30 September 2012, as detailed in paragraph 3.3 of the Report.

11. REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR SERVICES OF POLICE OFFICERS

There was submitted Report No PB76/12 by the Chief Constable, proposing increases in the charges for services of Police Officers, with effect from 1 September 2012, taking into account recommendations from ACPOS Financial Management Business Area.

The Report indicated that the ACPOS Income Generation Group was currently developing proposals for the introduction of a new charging methodology for the Police Service of Scotland from 1 April 2013, taking cognisance of the current practice in England and Wales where charges were higher. The Report proposed that current rates be increased for inflation with effect from 1 September 2012, complying with Consumer Prices Index (CPI) as at June 2012, which was 2.4%.

The Board agreed to approve the increase in charges for the services of Police Officers, with effect from 1 September 2012.

12. POLICE AND FIRE REFORM (SCOTLAND) ACT 2012: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

There was submitted Report No PB77/12 by the Chief Constable, updating members with the current situation of the on-going Governance and Engagement Project arrangements within Tayside and across Scotland.

The Report indicated that all three local authorities in Tayside had now applied to be pathfinders for the new arrangements, with Perth and Kinross and Angus Councils having pathfinder status for both Police and Fire and Rescue with Dundee City Council having been accepted as a pathfinder for Police and networker for Fire reform. As a pathfinder for Police and Fire and Rescue Reform, the three local authorities have been invited to trial new local scrutiny and engagement arrangements.

Attached at Appendix A to the Report was a summary of the work on-going across Scotland within the various local authorities, along with details of the current stage of their project and governance arrangements.

The Board agreed to note the contents of the Report.

13. POLICE REFORM UPDATE

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 27 August 2012, there was submitted Report No PB 78/12 by the Chief Constable apprising members of a number of key developments relating to Police reform.

The Report indicated that the current Convener of the Scottish Police Services Authority had been appointed as the first Chair of the new Scottish Police Authority (SPA) and that Mr Steven House, former Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police, had been appointed as the first Chief Constable of the new Police Service of Scotland.

In relation to the structure of the new Police Authority, the Report indicated that local policing would be delivered through 32 local policing areas comprising 32 Councils across Scotland, with each local policing area having a local policing commander. The 32 local policing areas would be grouped into three regions (north, east and west) with Tayside forming part of the north area, together with the local policing areas currently covered by Grampian Police and Northern Constabulary.

The Force viewed the decision to form a divisional structure as a very positive step and in particular the Force was encouraged that the proposals for Angus, Dundee City and Perth and Kinross Councils mirrored the structural changes recently completed by the Force. Work was continuing to develop further the service delivery model for local policing, crime, operational support and organisational support.

The Board agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to note that further update reports would be provided, as more detail on the arrangements for policing after 2013 emerged.

14. TRANSFORMING TAYSIDE

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 27 August 2012, there was submitted Report No PB 79/12 by the Chief Constable, providing members with an update on the progress of activity being carried out by the Force within the Transforming Tayside programme.

The Report gave details of the work, including the Force re-alignment process, an update on the Voluntary Redundancy/Early Retirement Scheme, the work underway on National Police Reform and Scottish Government proposals to pilot future working arrangements under pathfinder projects.

The Board agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report;
- (ii) to note the work underway in the formation of a National Police Service;
- (iii) to note the progress being made on Force re-alignment;
- (iv) to note the position of the Force on the Voluntary Redundancy and Early Retirement Scheme; and
- (v) to note the Force and Board's participation in the Scottish Government's Pathfinder Project.

15. TAYSIDE POLICE PERFORMANCE MID YEAR POSITION: SEPTEMBER 2012

With reference to Article 7 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 27 August 2012, there was submitted Report No PB 80/12 by the Chief Constable by the Chief Constable on the most recent key performance results for the period 1 April to 30 September 2012, customer satisfaction in relation to the service provided by the Police and the public perception of Tayside as a safe place to live.

The Report indicated that all the performance information within the Report was used proactively by community inspectors and officers to improve the quality of life for residents within their areas of responsibility. In addition, information about issues raised and what they were doing to address community concerns was published in a monthly performance report available on the Force website.

The Board agreed to note the contents of the Report.

16. EQUALITY ACT 2010 AND PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTIES

With reference to Article 6 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 10 May 2010, there was submitted Report No PB 81/12 by the Chief Constable, providing members with an update on the Equality Act 2010 and the duty it placed on Tayside Police and Tayside Joint Police Board.

The Report indicated that there were no major concerns relating to the introduction of this legislation at this time, with equality outcomes having already been identified through consultation and involvement of diverse communities over the past two years.

In relation to Tayside Joint Police Board, the Board was currently subject to the three aims of the general duty and would remain liable as long as it existed. In addition, the Board was subject to the specific duties which required it to carry out equality impact assessments, where relevant, monitor and review its functions/proposed policies and ensure that Tayside Police was compliant in respect of the general and specific duties.

The Board agreed to note the contents of the Report and the general and specific duties that the Equality Act placed upon Tayside Police and Tayside Joint Police Board.

17. TAYSIDE POLICE COMMEMORATIONS

There was submitted Report No PB 82/12 by the Chief Constable, outlining options and indicative costs for events to commemorate the end of Tayside Police, prior to its amalgamation into the Police Service of Scotland.

The Report indicated that the total cost of the proposals outlined in the Report was estimated to be £5,500 which could be contained within the Force budget for 2012/2013.

The Board agreed:-

- (i) to note the contents of the Report; and
- (ii) to approve the proposals for commemorating the end of Tayside Police as a Force.

18. OPERATIONAL POLICING UPDATE – PART 1

With reference to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 27 August 2012, there was submitted Report No PB 83/12 by the Chief Constable, providing members with an overview of operational matters of interest since the last meeting of the Board.

The Report contained details of:-

- Drug Seizures
- Reducing Violent Crimes
- Domestic Abuse
- Reducing Crime
- Reducing Anti Social Behaviour
- Reducing Youth Offending
- Reducing Racial Offending
- Reducing Missing People Workstream
- Community Engagement/Reassurance
- Roads Policing
- Local Initiatives
- Notable Operational Commitments

The Board agreed to note the contents of the Report.

19. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Board agreed that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in order to avoid the possible disclosure of information which was exempt in terms of Part 1 of Schedule 7(A) to the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, paragraph 14.

20. OPERATIONAL POLICING UPDATE - PART 2

With reference to Article 13 of the minute of meeting of the Board of 27 August 2012, there was submitted Report No PB 84/12 by the Chief Constable, providing members with an update on operational matters of interest since the last meeting of the Board which were not made publicly available.

The Report gave details of:-

- Fatal Road Traffic Collisions
- Registered Sex Offenders
- Serious Organised Crime Groups
- Counter Terrorism
- Murders
- Attempted Murders
- Professional Standards

The Board agreed to note the contents of the Report.

