



**LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY
AUDIT, RISK AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
26 MARCH 2010
2.00PM – 3.11PM**

PRESENT:

Members: Dr B Wookey (Chairman), Mr N Cooper, Mrs A Crowe JP, Mr R Davies, Mr R Palmer, Mr R Sellars

Apologies: P Przyszlak (Vice-Chairman), Mr F Mann JP

Secretariat: Ms J Flint (Treasurer), Mr J King (Committee and Administration Officer), Miss G Mason (Research and Performance Officer)

Force Officers: Mr K Smy (Assistant Chief Constable – Safer Neighbourhoods), Mr P Steed (Director of Finance and Administration), Mrs S Cunningham (Business Services Manager)

Also in Attendance: Mr G Dark, Mr R Must (Members), Ms S Lane, Ms R Bowden (Internal Audit)

51/09. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None.

52/09. BURGLARY DWELLING SCRUTINY

The Chairman advised Members that as the lead Member for the scrutiny of Burglary Dwelling, he considered that it would be more appropriate if another member of the Committee were to Chair the meeting during consideration of the report. It was agreed that Mrs Crowe JP would take the Chair.

Members referred to the recommendations detailed in the report which stemmed from a detailed, evidence based assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Force's prevention of burglary dwelling crimes. Police officers and staff who took part in the scrutiny were thanked for their cooperation and input as was the Authority's Research and Performance Officer.

In welcoming the report, the Assistant Chief Constable emphasised the importance of re-visiting the recommendations in order to assess what value and benefits had been derived from the scrutiny. He shared the Panel's desire to see Community Safety Partnerships working more closely together in disseminating good practice and exchanging knowledge, but warned that they could not be compelled to do so. Whilst Members accepted that such arrangements could not be imposed, they should be encouraged.

Resolved:	Responsible Officer:
That the following recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel be accepted:	
1. That the Force demonstrate how informed decisions are made and how resources are effectively committed to activities that prevent burglary dwelling crimes and update the Authority on any action plans to improve these processes; <i>(page 18, para 2.18)</i>	ACC (Safer N'Hoods)
2. That the Force further utilises Neighbourhood Watch in the involvement of crime prevention initiatives (for example, leaflet distribution); <i>(page 26, para 3.34)</i>	ACC (Safer N'Hoods)
3. That the Force inform the Authority on how it intends/plans to measure the preventative initiatives associated with burglary dwelling in order to assess their impact, value for money and cost effectiveness; <i>(page 30, para 4.22)</i>	ACC (Safer N'Hoods)
4. That the Force reflect on the prevention of burglary dwelling 'evidence base', including information available from the national resource, to support development plans and to indicate how continual improvement will be achieved; <i>(page 34, para 5.4)</i>	ACC (Safer N'Hoods)
5. That the Panel strongly support the sharing of good practice and exchange of knowledge amongst the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and encourage all the CSP Chairmen to meet up on a periodic basis to discuss common issues; <i>(page 35, para 5.9)</i>	RPO
6. That the Force undertake a review to identify any potential efficiency savings within the crime prevention business area; <i>(page 36, para 5.19)</i>	ACC (Safer N'Hoods)
7. That the Force provide an update on progress made in satisfying itself that the governance and performance management processes associated with force wide operations on the prevention of burglary dwelling remain effective and suitable; <i>(page 40, para 6.10)</i>	ACC (Safer N'Hoods)
8. That the Authority be updated on the extent to which PCSOs visit (in appropriate cases) victims of burglary dwelling crime, indicating if this is a corporate initiative across the Force and to consider including the performance indicator 'number of follow up visits to victims of burglary dwelling crimes' in its performance framework. <i>(pg 41, para 7.7)</i>	ACC (Safer N'Hoods)

[Mr G Dark and Mr R Must left the meeting at 2.30pm]

53/09. INTERNAL AUDIT STRATEGY 2010/11 – 2012/13

It was announced that the Authority's Internal Auditors, RSM Bentley Jennison had recently merged with Tenon Group Plc to form RSM Tenon. The Committee was assured that the merger would not affect the provision of internal audit services.

The Treasurer presented the Internal Audit Strategy for 2010/11 – 2012/13, and invited Members to consider whether the Internal Audit Plan for the coming year reflected those areas that the Committee believed should be covered as a priority. As RSM Tenon were also the internal auditors for five other police authorities, the Audit Plan proposed two further reviews which were thematic in nature and considered to be of benefit or of interest to all six authorities. These would focus on the implementation of mobile solutions in front line policing and a review of the East Midlands Collaboration Team.

The Director of Finance and Administration suggested that larger collaborative arrangements within Wales and the Yorkshire/Humberside region could be used to benchmark the review of the East Midlands Collaboration Team.

In welcoming the Strategy, Members emphasised the need to ensure that the Authority/Force Risk Registers continued to inform the development of the Audit Plan going forward.

Resolved: 1. That the Internal Audit Strategy for 2010.11 – 2012/13 attached at Appendix A be approved.	Responsible Officer: -
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54/09. RETIREMENT BENEFITS (FRS 17) ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE 2009/10 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Treasurer presented a technical report detailing the basis used by the Authority's Actuary in preparing the disclosures relating to Retirement Benefits (FRS 17) for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and the Police Officer Pension Scheme (POPS). Members were invited to consider the assumptions proposed by the Actuary's for the LGPS and the POPS and to approve them for adoption in the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts.

Resolved: 1. That the assumptions proposed by the Actuary's for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the Police Officer Pension Scheme be accepted and adopted in the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts.	Responsible Officer: -
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55/09. POLICE AUTHORITY INSPECTIONS

The Chairman invited Members to consider what preparatory work was required by the Committee prior to the forthcoming HMIC/Audit Commission Police Authority Inspection. In particular, what evidence could they supply within the themes of the HMI/Audit Commission document which were specific to the work of the Committee. There would be a further opportunity for Members to discuss areas requiring future development and/or improvement at the next meeting in June. In the meantime, the Inspections Task and Finish Group would be meeting again in April, and an Inspection Training Day for Members was being planned, probably for 30 April 2010.

Resolved: 1. That the report be noted.	Responsible Officer: -
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Chairman