



**LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY
FINANCE AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE
12TH FEBRUARY 2009
2.00PM – 5.36PM**

PRESENT:

Members: Mr R Must (Chairman), Mr B Fippard (Vice-Chairman), Mr J Cooke, Mr F Mann JP, Mr J Marriott, Mrs J Pears, Mr J Walker, Mr B Young

Apologies: Mr J Atter

Officers: Mr N Rhodes (Deputy Chief Constable), Ms D McGovern (Chief Executive), Ms J Flint (Treasurer), Mr P Steed (Director of Finance and Administration), Mr A Tomlinson (Head of Finance), Mr A Hardwick (Temporary Communication and Consultation Officer), Mrs C Horton (Support Services Officer).

57/08 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND/OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None

58/08 MINUTES – 19th DECEMBER 2008

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. That the Minutes of the Finance and Strategy Committee meeting held on 19 th December 2008 be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. | - |

59/08. ACTION SUMMARY

The Chief Executive updated the Committee with regard to Item C2, APACS, CAA and the new Place Survey (14th February 2008). The CAA framework had recently been published and would be the subject of a presentation for a future Police Authority meeting..

The Director of Finance and Administration advised that work on the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) at item D4 (19th December 2008) was progressing well with a site identified. He confirmed that the Treasurer had been consulted on cost sharing with the PCT.

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. That the Action Summary be noted. | - |

60/08. BUDGET MONITORING AND REVISED BUDGET 2008/09

The Director of Finance and Administration summarised the report for the Committee and highlighted the Force's intention for more robust control on expenditure to identify future one-off investment in services.

The Committee was informed that the methodology with regard to the costing of Police Officer posts had been changed and savings had occurred with regard to staff vacancies, both of which had generated funds which could be utilised elsewhere within the Force. The Committee was also reminded that due to a technical change in the way accounts were now reported, a one-off amount of £318,000 would be released and transferred to the General Reserve.

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|--|---------------------|
| <p>1. That the prudent management of the 2008/09 budget to date be noted and that revised budget proposals be adopted with particular regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Chief Constable managing expenditure for the remainder of the financial year in order to increase funds available for reinvestment in 2008/09 and future years from £512,000 to £935,000. • an increase in funds available for Police Officer overtime in 2008/09 of £145,000. • the transfer of £318,000 to the general reserve. • the transfer of £935,000 to the earmarked reserve held for time limited posts. | DoFA |

61/08 REVENUE BUDGET 2009/10 AND FORECASTS 2010/11 – 2011/12 (INCLUDING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/10)

The Treasurer and Director of Finance and Administration gave detailed presentations on key areas of the 2009/2010 budget, including:

- Government Funding
- Budget and Precept Options
- Reserves

- Council Tax capping
- Expenditure Plans

The Treasurer reminded Members that although the decision on Police Precept to be taken by the Authority on 25 February 2009 was in respect of the financial year 2009/10 only, it was also important to take into consideration the impact on subsequent financial years especially 2010/11 and 2011/12. The Government had given an indication of grant for 2010/11 but this had yet to be confirmed. Given the current fiscal and economic outlook it would be wise to minimize future spending commitments and maximize future potential funding streams at this time.

The Deputy Chief Constable emphasised the expected impact on operational policing in detail for each of the suggested precept percentage increases of 7.5%, 5% and 3% respectively.

The Temporary Communication and Consultation Officer updated the Committee on the current returns on the Authority’s budget consultation survey.

Members accepted that whilst all funding options had to be “left on the table” until a final decision on the budget was made by the full Authority on the 25th February 2009, the general consensus was to recommend an increase of no more than 5% in the Police precept of the Council Tax.

The Committee thanked the Treasurer, Director of Finance and Administration, and Deputy Chief Constable for their presentations on both financial and operational matters which had greatly assisted the Committee in formulating their recommendation to the full Authority.

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|---|----------------------------|
| That:- | |
| 1. the Committee recommend to the Authority an increase in Council Tax precept of not more than 5%; | - |
| 2. the Authority and Force explore ways to minimise impact on the precept in future years and that the Treasurer and Chief Constable report on the proposed methodology to the next meeting of the Committee; | T/CC |
| 3. the Committee recommend that the Authority adopt the Capital Programme for 2009/10 to 2012/13 outlined in the report subject to recommendation 2 above; | DoFA |
| 4. the Committee adopt the Treasury Management Policy elements outlined within Section 13 of the report. | T |
| 5. the Committee adopt the Reserves Policy as outline at section 5 of the report. | T/DoFA |

[Mr J Marriott left the meeting at 5.20pm]

62/08 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. That the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the following items involved the disclosure or likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in paragraph 8 of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). | - |

63/08. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/2009

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|--|----------------------------|
| That:- | |
| 1. the programme for 2008/2009 of £7,216,000 and the method of financing that programme be approved; | DoFA |
| 2. reprofiling to 2009/2010 of £700,000 be removed from the 2008/2009 Crime and Intelligence Scheme; | DoFA |
| 3. £100,000 be removed from the 2008/2009 Airwave Replacement Scheme; | DoFA |
| 4. £75,000 be reinstated in the ICT Service Management System (Help Desk) & ISS4PS/ISO2000 Scheme; | DoFA |
| 5. £13,000 be removed from the 2008/2009 Payroll Implementation Scheme. | DoFA |

Inclusion of Press and Public

64/08 POLICE AUTHORITY RISK REGISTER

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. That the report be noted. | - |

65/08 FINANCE WORKING GROUP - UPDATE

| Resolved | Responsible Officer |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. That the report be noted. | - |

Chairman