



Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner

FINANCE SUB-GROUP

APPROVED MINUTES

Date:	29th October 2015	
Time:	10:00 hours	
Location:	OPCC Office at Cambourne	
Members:	Brian Ashton	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
	Niki Howard	Director of Finance & Resources
	Josie Gowler	Director of Finance for OPCC
	Dorothy Gregson	Chief Executive for OPCC
	Alec Wood	Chief Constable
In Attendance:	Nancy Leversha	Strategic Accountant

1. Welcome and Apologies

The DPCC welcomed everybody to the meeting.

2. Actions arising from minutes of meeting 30th September 2015

Action 6(ii) should have referred to all bids rather than just Speedwatch, as the paper at Item 5 covers this, no amendment to be made.

The minutes were signed by the DPCC.

3. Force Revenue Monitoring report Month 5 2015/16

There is currently a £1.5m projected underspend to the end of the year and this has been steady over past couple of months. The fluctuations in the JPS budget make it difficult to predict but the Collaboration budget overall is nearly balanced.

The full impact of Athena being postponed may not have filtered through to the budget process yet particularly around the training budget and overtime budgets, as this report predates the decision to postpone Athena.

The group asked whether the figures for Police pay under Local Policing and Organisational Support were the effect of posts being moved. NH informed the group the figures were coincidental, Local Policing figures overspend is due to anticipated recruitment and the Organisational Support underspend is due to supervisory posts being removed. The group agreed to publish this table ahead of any potential PCC candidates requesting financial information and to provide transparency.

- (i) The group noted the report.*
- (ii) Budget table to be made available on OPCC website and JG to prepare narrative to accompany table.*
- (iii) NH to provide detail over recruitment numbers with M6 budget figures.*

4. Capital Programme Monitoring M5

The group noted that it was anticipated that 93.9% of the 2015/16 capital programme would be spent or committed by the end of the year.

The group agreed the £106k for tuServ development. The DPCC welcomed the additional box in Appendix 3 showing the source of RCCO.

- (i) The group approved the recommendation and noted the report.*

5. Constabulary Bid for Casualty Reduction and Support Fund

The paper from the Constabulary requested £14k for Speedwatch administration; funding for ANPR cameras (£146k) and Safety Camera vans (£83k) requested in the paper had been agreed previously however it was now agreed to source these items from this fund. £5k was also requested for a trial in Fenland equipping six patrol cars with defibrillators.

The Chief Executive asked for privacy impact assessments to be completed on ANPR cameras.

The DPCC stated there would be approximately £250k remaining in the fund and following discussion the group agreed to speak to road safety partners in the council and utilise their expertise and advice regarding bids into the fund. It was suggested a workshop/conference approach led by them may be of benefit. It was also suggested this could be run along the lines of the Youth Fund.

- (i) The group noted the report.*
- (ii) AW to ensure privacy impact assessments are completed for ANPR cameras.*
- (iii) DG to speak to Strategic Advisor and work with road safety partners to identify a structure and way forward for bids into Casualty reduction fund.*

6. Treasury Management Annual Report 2014/15

JG presented the paper which is the report on full year 14/15. The report shows total borrowing in 14/15 fell from £10.6m at the beginning of 14/15 to £10.2m at 31 March 2015. The Capital Financing Requirement was £24.4m as at 31 March 2015, therefore the OPCC has capacity to borrow further funds for long-term projects if necessary. There was a small increase in returns in 14/15 and the OPCC is well placed to achieve a further small increase for 15/16 as a result of its broadened Treasury Management Strategy, as agreed by the Finance Sub Group at its meeting on 21 May 2015. It is pleasing to note that the OPCC are receiving interest rather than paying interest and the total level of debt has declined.

The group recognised the prudent management and holistic view of finances that this is one element of.

(i) The group noted the report.

7. Cashflow

The Cashflow demonstrates a comfortable position and that the Budget Assistance Reserve (£9.8m as at 31 March 2015) is cash backed. A pensions payment is due to be made in December 2015 and this will be reimbursed by the Home Office in June/July 2016. NH informed the group there overall are currently three large cases being heard at Court which could impact upon Cambs. They are:

- Undercover officer(s) claiming underpayment when working undercover;
- Pensions being wrongly applied – backdated to 2001;
- Bear v Scotland which relates to shift allowances being applied to holiday pay.

There may be a call upon reserves depending on the outcomes.

(i) The group noted the report.

8. OPCC Budget Monitoring Month 6

The predicted overspend has reduced to £7k but the Strategic Accountant and Chief Finance Officer remained confident the budget will balance by year end. DG informed the group the Home Office had been in touch asking whether Cambs OPCC could accommodate a secondee to gain experience. This would incur some travel expenses and we would need to ensure we have ICT for them.

(i) The group noted the report.

9. MTFP

JG informed the group she and NH were working together but the MTFP is very much a work in progress and no conclusions can be drawn at this stage as we are

awaiting key data from the Home Office. The review of assumptions and forecasts feeding into the budget and MTFP is an iterative, ongoing process.

(i) The group noted the update.

10. ESG Minutes

The group received and noted the minutes.

(i) The group noted the minutes.

11. AOB

a. ICT Convergence costs

NH has received a spreadsheet from ICT which lists specific projects with costs and less specific projects with no known costs. The group discussed the scrutiny and governance process with regard to collaborated units requesting capital expenditure. NH stated she needs early notification of potential requests in order to build them into the budget. The group agreed that collaborated units and boards do not have the authority to commit to costs on behalf of other forces. NH will review the spreadsheet from ICT and assess Cambs costs and which years they will require funding. A paper is to be requested from ICT and presented at the Organisation Support Governance Board on 30 November 2015 outlining potential costs in order that Beds and Herts can be notified at an early stage for inclusion in their Capital programmes.

b. Funding Formula

The Home Office had replied with a number of refinements to their first consultation. JG has drafted a response which will be agreed with the Deputy Commissioner and Constabulary Director of Finance and Resources prior to submission.

c. Innovation Fund

Feedback from the Home Office regarding expressions of interest (EOI) into the bid had been received. The group agreed to support and strengthen the following Cambridgeshire bids:

- Number **97** – ‘Beds, Cambs and Herts strategic alliance delivery of an integrated multi-force finance/human resources system’.
- EOI number **22** ‘a common site security system that is fit for the future meeting the operational needs of any given facility at any time whilst reducing the fiscal footprint’; and
- EOI number **80** ‘roll out of evidence based approach to conditional pre-trial diversion within the context of devolution in Cambs’.

The group agreed EOI number **87** ‘cell point kiosk development within Athena’ would not be supported at this stage as Athena has been postponed until later in 2016.

The feedback from Herts EOI 65 'delivery of integrated multi-force customer relationship management system as an enabler of the wider innovative collaboration through shared process, intelligent call handling and self-service' is also supported by the group.

- (i) Ian Bell to be asked to prepare ICT paper for Organisation Support Governance Board at end of November.*
- (ii) JG to share draft reply to Home Office on funding formula revisions with DPCC and CC DoF.*
- (iii) Paper for Innovation Fund expressions of interest for November FSG.*

12. Date of next meeting

Thursday 26th November 2015 at 10:00am, OPCC Cambourne.



Brian Ashton

