

APCC General Meeting Minutes: Wednesday 15th January 2020:

Day 1: Venue: Mary Sumner House, Tufton Street, London, SW1

Welcome from the Chair

- APCC Chair Katy Bourne welcomed PCCs to Day 1 of the General Meeting.

Item 1: Finance Update:

1.1 Funding Settlement, CSR, and Funding Formula:

- PFCC Roger Hirst and PCC Paddy Tipping updated the members that the Policing Funding Settlement would be announced the following week. (To note – the funding settlement was published on 22 January 2020). In advance of that it was not possible to give all the detail but it was likely that there would be £750m for Operation Uplift of which £700m will go to PCCs, which represents around a 9% uplift in central government funding, and £50m which will be retained centrally for national recruitment costs etc. An estimated 20% will also be retained until recruitment targets are met. Continued flexibility on the precept is expected. CSR work will also hopefully re-commence in April and be completed in the Summer building on earlier work undertaken.
- The Policing Minister was attending the General Meeting the next day (16th) when PCCs could ask further questions.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCCs requested that pressure is maintained regarding revising the Funding Formula although it was recognised that devising a new one will take time.
- PCCs asked if special grant funding would be available next year for vulnerable areas. APCC Leads stated that they had lobbied the DG directly regarding the vulnerability of specific PCC areas in relation to funding.
- There were also discussions on mental health funding.

Approved/Agreed actions were:

- The APCC will circulate information on the new NHS local investment fund that has been ringfenced to improve mental health services and could be worth £2.3 bn a year by 2023/24.

1.2 Police Commercial Organisation/BlueLight Commercial:

- PCC Matthew Scott introduced himself as the new Chair of the National Commercial Board and Chair of the Police Commercial Organisation (now BlueLight Commercial) Shadow Board. He thanked PCCs for the work that they and their forces had undertaken to make savings. The organisation remained on track to meet the 2021 targets which totalled £120m of cashable savings and the new company would help to deliver this and identify further savings beyond that.
- Mobilisation of BlueLight Commercial was now taking place at pace with the delivery partner in place, the implementation board meeting every two weeks and the Shadow Board set up. The Board had met in December and agreed to recruit a CEO (the advert is going out very shortly); a go live date of June 1st for the new organisation; and naming the new company 'BlueLight Commercial Ltd'.
- PCCs were asked to approve the draft Articles of Association for the new Company, which they did.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- On the Articles of Association PCCs asked that consideration be given to how the organisation operated during periods of PCC elections and where there may need to be changes to PCC representatives depending on the outcome.
- There were questions about the new legal framework and the timing of appointing the CEO. This would need to be under a section 22 agreement initially but in future BlueLight Commercial would be the contracting authority. On the CEO appointment the plan was to appoint in early March ahead of purdah.

Approved/Agreed actions were:

- PCCs approved the Articles of Association for the Police Commercial Organisation.

1.3 National Management Centre:

- PFCC Stephen Mold set out the context of the National Management Centre (NMC) as one of the enablers under the Police Transformation Fund National Enabling Programme. The NMC would provide 24/7 capability to detect, protect, monitor, and respond to cyber threats. He expected there would be central funding from the Home Office for its continued roll out in 2020/21 but it would then be necessary for PCCs to take responsibility for the costs from 2021/22 which were estimated at around £10m per annum.
- SM highlighted the importance of this capability and that all forces be covered by it or risk not having data sharing with other forces given the risks of infecting networks. For those forces already paying for this protection there were potential costs to be saved.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCCs were supportive of the capability and their need to provide the funding for it in future but there were many who were concerned about the basis on which the costs might be shared (particularly the possibility of Net Budget Requirement). It was suggested that this should be based on the funding formula until such time as the funding formula

was updated. There were some questions on whether the reduction in top slicing for PTF in 2020/21 would mean that money would come back to forces. The view was that while in theory that could be the case, the Home Office were required to find £120m of efficiency savings which the PTF was likely to contribute to.

- Some PCCs were interested in getting more information on the NMC and Simon Parr the Deputy Programme Director offered to visit those who would find it helpful. Some PCCs were also interested in seeing the difference in cost based on the two different funding models.
- SM underlined the importance of confirming that PCCs would provide future funding given the need to novate the NMC to the Police ICT Company by the end of March 2020. In the light of comments made, he suggested it should be based on sharing costs using the funding formula until such time as it was reviewed and updated.

Approved/Agreed actions were:

- PCCs agreed to pay for the future costs of the NMC from 2021/22 onwards if this was based on the current funding formula (or a new formula) – not on NRB (Net Budget Requirement).
- The APCC agreed to circulate the table showing the share of costs by force based on the current funding formula and the NRB.
- Simon Parr would meet with those PCCs that had additional questions and wanted to discuss further.

Item 2: PRTB Chair Update:

Key issues were:

- PCC Paddy Tipping updated PCCs on what we knew so far on the funding settlement in relation to the Police Transformation Fund (PTF). He confirmed that PTF would not continue after March 31st 2020, although some big PTF national inflight projects such as the National Enabling Programme, the Transforming Forensics Programme and support for transformation of the Police ICT Company would continue to receive funding so that they could be completed. There would be no new funding for 2020/21 but a discussion was needed on what might take its place.
- PT noted that the governance landscape was changing. The National Policing Board was expected to develop its role and to have 2 sub boards, one focussed on investment and one on performance. There was some early thinking going on which included discussions on next steps re. Vision 2025. These ideas including work on the NPB and the new governance around it will be brought to colleagues later this year.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- As PCCs felt Vision 2025 was too short term a reference point; the review on what was needed beyond that was welcome.
- PRTB had been unique and very important as a forum for bringing together PCCs, Chiefs and others to have a more strategic discussion of issues and drive agendas rather than just respond to those of others. It would be important to create an appropriate replacement.

Approved/Agreed actions were:

- Further work is needed to develop the new governance landscape, ensure PCCs are well represented, and ensure there are fora to discuss issues, agree common priorities and how they are delivered, which will be brought back to a future General Meeting for further discussion.

Item 3: Serious and Organised Crime Review:

Key issues were:

- APCC Leads Deputy Mayor Bev Hughes and PCC Marc Jones introduced Sir Craig Mackey who is leading on the independent review of SOC. Sir Craig stated that his review is looking at a range of systems issues relating to tackling SOC including capabilities, funding, technology, skills and governance.
- Craig Mackey highlighted some of the initial review findings which were (a) that there is a limit to voluntary agreements; (b) that solutions must include funding reform and multi-year settlements; (c) that the whole 'SOC System' is not well understood and not currently operating as a joined up system; (d) that tasking is too top down; (e) that there is a lack of government join up across and within government departments; (f) that the NCA are not in control of some of the challenges currently presented and do not have the necessary levers; and (g) that many core SOC activities are funded through one off grants which is not sustainable. The important work of ROCUs was also highlighted. Craig Mackey confirmed that the review would be completed at the end of February and submitted to the Home Secretary along with a set of recommendations.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCCs raised several issues regarding how SOC is currently tackled which included some concerns the NCA was too remote from local policing and the local public; the importance of capturing victim and community perspectives; the lack of sustainable funding; and trialing IT to solve problems in different parts of the country.
- PCCs said they were keen to continuing engaging in the SOC review and ensure the importance of local policing, as a key component of SOC, was recognised. Craig Mackey said that he welcomed their input and asked for them to continue to

route their feedback in through Marc Jones and Bev Hughes.

- PCCs believed they can assist this work through promoting inter-agency information sharing including with the health sector; identifying workforce skill gaps with the College of Policing and through FMS; and that if we get the capability model right force governance and resourcing arrangements should follow.

Approved/Agreed actions were:

- PCCs were asked to continue to submit views and feedback to the review via Marc Jones and Bev Hughes.

APCC General Meeting Minutes: Thursday 16th January 2020:

Day 2: Venue: Emmanuel Centre, London, SW1

Item 1: Welcome, Minutes and Corporate Business:

- APCC Chair Katy Bourne welcomed PCCs to the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and it was confirmed that actions relating to writing to the Policing Minister on FTE officers; circulating Brexit Force Readiness Assessments to PCCs; and providing an update on steps Chief Constables can take to tackle hate crime had been undertaken.
- KB updated PCCs on APCC business including recent meetings with the APACE, the PACCTS and the Police Federation; development of the National Policing Board; membership subscription planning; feedback on the NPCC Operating Model; and Equality and Diversity training.
- KB introduced the Special Resolution on two proposed changes to the APCC Articles (formalising the position of Vice Chairs and regularising Chairing arrangements for the AGM before the new Chair is elected each year), which had been approved by PCCs in principle at the October General Meeting.

Approved/Agreed actions were:

- The Special Resolution on proposed changes to the APCC Articles was agreed by 35 PCCs giving more than the 75% needed to agree such a change – please see **Annex A** for a record of the votes cast.

Item 2: Counter Terrorism Policing:

Key issues were:

- APCC Lead David Jamieson introduced AC Neil Basu, the National Lead for Counter Terrorism Policing, who updated the APCC on Counter Terrorism policing. Neil Basu thanked DJ for helping lead this work and then provided an update on the threat, demand, and key operational activity.
- Duncan King, Counter Terrorism Policing Finance Director, then updated the APCC on the current proposal to bring the funding of Special Branch which has long been recognised as a key part of counter terrorism capability, from the general policing grant into the counter terrorism grant, from 2020/21 onwards. A MOU is being prepared to cover this.
- ACC Russ Jackson who is the North West Lead on counter terrorism policing updated the APCC on the benefits that had arisen from regional Special Branch and police force collaboration which had been well supported by PCCs and had been achieved at no extra cost. In particular a North West Counter Terrorism Policing Management Board has helped to provide accountability in his area.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCCs fed back that they recognised the key role of Special Branch in CT policing and that the resilience and consistency of funding need to be improved, though more work was required on the funding mechanism and the need to define the services Special Branch will provide.

Approved/Agreed actions were:

- Further work between APCC and the CT team will be undertaken relating to funding mechanisms from 2020/21 onwards.

Item 3: Update from the Minister of State for Policing:

Key issues were:

- KB welcomed the Policing Minister Kit Malthouse to the meeting.
- Kit Malthouse (KM) confirmed that tackling crime is a key priority for the Prime Minister and that the PCC role is recognised as important and valuable. KM stated the government plan is to set national crime priorities via the National Policing Board that the whole country will be expected to contribute to on a critical few range of issues, including murder, domestic violence, serious violence, county lines, burglary and alcohol related crime. PCCs will be invited to a crime conference in March to discuss these issues and how they can cooperate.
- The Minister confirmed he wanted to move away from process to focus on tackling crime outcomes.
- The Police Funding Settlement should be announced in the next few weeks. Regarding Operation Uplift, KM urged forces to engage with national processes around recruitment to speed this process up. PCCs were also asked to support the campaign to help raise awareness for the recruitment of Special Constables.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCC issues and questions included how will PCCs help to drive these priorities; can partners' activities in contributing to crime outcomes be added to HMICFRS work; can youth intervention be coordinated across departments; and where cybercrime features on the Home Secretary's priorities.
- KB thanked the Minister for attending.

Item 4: Update from the Cabinet Secretary:**Key issues were:**

- KB welcomed Mark Sedwill to the meeting.
- Mark Sedwill, Cabinet Secretary, highlighted the background to government thinking around the wider CJS, particularly the trajectory of current crime trends in the UK; difficulties in tackling online crime; serious violence; county lines; exploitation, of vulnerable youngsters; and serious and organised crime. It was explained that the next CSR will take a whole system approach to crime and the CJS and the role of PCCs in providing democratic oversight would be looked at as part of this.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCC comments and questions were around the importance of maintaining the credibility of the PCC role; the role of big data in government; the need for police collaboration with wider partnerships beyond policing such as Youth Offending Teams and Community Safety Partnerships; maintaining the balance between local and national priorities; the need to get back to core policing, when currently significant amounts of police time is spent dealing with issues such as mental health and vulnerability; and acknowledging links between modern slavery and county lines.
- KB thanked MS for attending.

Item 5: Police Officer Pay (2020/21):**Key issues were:**

- APCC Lead Kim McGuinness (KMc) updated the meeting on the submission of APCC evidence on police officer pay to the PRRB for 2020/2021. The NPCC are considering options for police officer pay of 2.5%; 2.5% and are seeking a potential multi-year deal from 2020.
- KMc confirmed PCCs would not be supportive of the last option as they have not budgeted for it. KM said she would be in contact with PCCs shortly with further updates.

Item 6: PICT Company Chair Update:**Key issues were:**

- APCC Lead Stephen Mold, the PICT Company Chair, updated the APCC on recent developments including how the Company has been collaborating with the APCC and others to develop the new National Policing Digital Strategy and are now ready to help implement it. The PICT Company is also supporting the adoption of the cloud in policing and is developing a business case on future standards.
- The Police ICT Company is working closely with the College of Policing on moving the material on POLKA onto the Knowledge Hub. This will make the Knowledge Hub the main system for sharing good practice and providing guidance in policing. Work is ongoing to novate the National Enabling Programme and potentially some of the Digital Policing Programme to the hub.

Item 7: John Apter, Police Federation:**Key issues were:**

- APCC Lead Kim McGuinness introduced John Apter (JA) Chair of the Police Federation to the meeting, who reflected on the good working relationships with the Home Office, the Treasury, the Prime Minister and the APCC.
- JA updated the APCC on development of the Policing Covenant which is in its infancy; their work with government on better recognition for police workforce through honours and awards. He is also keen to resolve the issue of incorporating Specials into the Fed but knows that Specials would need help with funding. JA will be approaching PCCs re. paying for Specials subscriptions to the Federation.
- KM thanked JA for attending.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCC comments included recognising that PCSOs are an integral part of neighbourhood policing and the importance of national occupational standards for police officers.

Item 8: Closing words in relation to retiring PCCs and Ron Hogg:

- MBW thanked soon to be retiring PCCs for their hard work, commitment, and efforts over the last election period. Barry Copping and MBW then led the condolences for Ron Hogg on behalf of the APCC. The meeting was then closed.

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