

# **MINUTES OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2009**

Members present:

Sherma Batson (Chair), Anne Wright (Vice-Chair), Tony Dodd, Bernard Engel, Brenda Griffiths, Ian Laidlaw-Dickson, Kevin McGetrick, Richard Smith, Bengie Walden, Sue Warman

Sarah Coffey, Stuart Nagler, Michael Colne

Penny Fletcher      Vice-Chair of Bedfordshire Police Authority

Officers in attendance:

Emily Anderson      Communications and Consultation Officer, Hertfordshire Police Authority

Roger Barrett      Chief Inspector of Quality and Service Improvement, Hertfordshire Constabulary

Sally Patient      Communications Manager, Hertfordshire Police Authority

Brian Pereira      Performance and Operations Manager, Hertfordshire Police Authority

Emma Reed      Members' Services Officer, Hertfordshire Police Authority

Andrew White      Chief Executive, Hertfordshire Police Authority

## **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None

## **3. MINUTES**

### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the Community Engagement Committee held on Friday 17 October 2008 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **4. ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION**

### **ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**

The Chief Executive explained that it was necessary to revise the Community Engagement Strategy because Government was seeking to ensure that the public have a greater say in policing their communities. The Police Authority was seen as the main conduit for these views. The Chief Executive noted that Hertfordshire Police Authority did not undertake sufficient public engagement or consultation by any substantial measure. However, the Authority's engagement with partners, largely through the CDRP structure, was strong but resource intensive. In summary, the Chief Executive explained the Police Authority:

1. Does not do enough public engagement;
2. Does not record effectively the outcomes of any engagement activities;
3. Does not undertake engagement as part of strategic plan.

Members undertook a full discussion of the proposed strategy paper.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

The Committee discussed different approaches to engaging with the community and raising the profile of the Police Authority. Members discussed and commented on the draft Strategy and Action Plan.

### **RESOLVED**

The Committee agreed the draft Strategy and Action Plan, subject to more detailed costings and information being circulated to members in April for agreement, once the budget had been approved by Resources Committee.

### **ACTIONS**

1. Sally/Andrew to prepare budget paper with detailed costings for Resources Committee on 22 May;
2. Andrew to prepare a report form for members to complete to provide evidence of their work on behalf of the Police Authority;
3. Andrew and Stuart to formally approach the Constabulary regarding co-branding of buildings and equipment.

**5. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

Friday 24 April 10.00am

Friday 10 July 10.00am

Friday 16 October 10.00am

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Chair