



MINUTES

**NATIONAL POLICE AIR SERVICE (NPAS)
NATIONAL STRATEGIC BOARD (MEETING NUMBER 8)**

29 January 2015

PRESENT

NAME	REPRESENTING
PCC Mark Burns-Williamson OBE (MBW) Chair	Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire police – Lead Local Policing Body
Fraser Sampson (FS)	Chief Executive & Solicitor – Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire
T/CC Dee Collins QPM (DC)	West Yorkshire Police – Lead Local Chief Constable
Ch. Supt. Ian Whitehouse (IW)	NPAS Accountable Manager
Ollie Dismore (OD)	NPAS Director of Flight Operations
Supt Tyron Joyce (TJ)	NPAS Programme Director
Susan Carte (SC)	NPAS Business Development Manager
T/Commander Keith Surtees (KS)	Metropolitan Police Service (CT) – Representing AC Mark Rowley
Cmdr. David Musker (DM) (by phone)	Metropolitan Police Service – London Region
Camilla Black (CB) (by phone)	MOPAC
CC David Jones (DJ) (by phone)	North Yorkshire Police – North East Region
PCC Barry Coppinger (BC)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland - North East Region
ACC Ian Wiggett (IW) (by phone)	Greater Manchester Police – North West Region – IAG Chair
PCC John Dwyer (JD) (by phone)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire – North West Region
PCC Ron Ball (RB)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire – Central Region
ACC Andy Frost (AF) (by phone)	Northants Police – Central Region Representing CC Neil Rhodes
PCC Anthony Stansfeld (AS)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley - South East Region
ACC Stephen Barry (SB)	Sussex Police – South East Region
T/Chief Supt Simon Hawkins (SH)	Suffolk Police - South East Region

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PCC Christopher Salmon (CS) (by phone)	Police & Crime Commissioner for Dyfed Powys – South West Region
CC Pat Geenty (PG) (by Phone) (Wiltshire Police)	Representing CC Suzette Davenport - South West Region
Jan Blomfield (JB)	Suzette Davenport's Staff Officer – South West Region
ACC David McCall (DM) (by phone)	British Transport Police
Rachel Watson (RWa)	Home Office –Head of Police Workforce and Capability Unit
Jonathan Scanlan (JS)	Home Office – Workforce and Capability Unit
Mark Reeves (MRe)	Financial Accounts and Projects Manager
Sophie Abbott (SA)	T/Chief Finance Officer – West Yorkshire Office of Police and Crime Commissioner
Martin Rahman (MRa)	Business Change Manager – Force Performance Improvement Unit (FPIU)
Gail Mawdsley (GM)	Business Change Officer – Force Performance Improvement Unit (FPIU)
Melanie Jaundziekars (MJ)	NPAS Secretary

APOLOGIES

NAME	REPRESENTING
Supt. Richard Watson (RW)	NPAS Director of Ground Operations
CC Mark Polin QPM (MP)	North Wales Police – North West Region
CC Colette Paul	Bedfordshire Police – South East Region
CC Neil Rhodes	Lincolnshire Police – Central Region
AC Mark Rowley (MR)	Metropolitan Police Service – Counter Terrorism
CC Alex Marshall QPM (AM)	CEO College of Policing

1. APOLOGIES

Noted and recorded. It was noted that a number of members had attempted to physically attend the meeting but adverse weather on the day meant they dialled in.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were raised.

3. MINTUES OF MEETING HELD 11 DECEMBER 2014

Minutes were agreed and passed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING/ACTIONS

See Actions list for updates.

MATTERS ARISING

- (1) AS congratulated NPAS for the positive comments received from Brian Baldwin from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) with regards to the operation of NPAS and the work carried out so far.
- (2) MBW raised that under 'Chair's Urgent Items' at the last Strategic Board, NPAS were still in discussion with the Metropolitan Police (MPS) regarding their intention to join NPAS. Following a recent meeting between MBW, Helen Bailey (MOPAC), Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe and T/CC Dee Collins, NPAS were now working on a joining date of 31 March 2015. NPAS recently met with DM to discuss details around transition work and what needed to be put in place for the MPS to be part of NPAS by 31 March 2015. IW stated the main issues were contractual HR matters.
- (3) AS raised the communications received from PCC Tim Passmore, Suffolk Police. MBW informed the Board that he had now responded in detail and would circulate a copy of the correspondence to Board members at the end of the meeting.

5. NPAS SIMULATION MODELLING

Presentations were given around the simulation modelling by MRa and GM who explained that the current model compares the various options against a fully operational 23 base model whereas NPAS was only funded to operate a 20 base model. The model assumed all bases were 24/7. Based on a CSR assumption of a 5-7% reduction in budget per annum from April 2015, MR presented to the Board the following 3 options for consideration:-

A total reduction after 3 years of approx :-

14% reduction - [REDACTED]

21% reduction – [REDACTED];

28% reduction – [REDACTED]

A presentation based on a [REDACTED] along with a 7% reduction that involved changing of current base operating hours.

BC raised concerns with the financial model and given the recent change of Assistant Chief Constable in Cleveland, requested that between now and the next Board meeting in February that appropriate officers from NPAS could meet with an officer from each of the North East forces to go into more detail on the modelling.

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Action 8.1 – TJ and BC to arrange a meeting for the NPAS National Strategic Board presentation to be given to PCC's/senior police officers in the North East

DJ raised the issue of discussing this with Government and asked whether it represented an area of infrastructure that the Government would want to see cut or just presenting an option of covering the NPAS structural deficit.

DC stated this would be fed back to ACPO (Terrorism & Allied Matters) and a letter would be sent to the Home Office to let them know the decision that would be made and the relevant planning assumptions.

KS gave an update from a CT policing perspective and stated that Counter Terrorism policing currently give a grant to the MPS of just over £1m. KS had held discussions with AC Mark Rowley and confirmed that the CT grant would come to NPAS from 1 April 2015 for the next year while an assessment was made on requirements.

After discussions around urban/rural factors, resilience and timeliness of response, various members of the Board stated that they would prefer either the 21% or 28% option but the unanimous decision of the Board was the 14% reduction with a review in 12 months' time.

It was agreed that the Board will meet on 19 February 2015 where NPAS will present the implementation plan based on the 14% reduction with detailed information on actual bases.

Action 8.2 – MBW to write to the Home Secretary regarding the decision of the Board to move to 14% savings.

6. UPDATE ON INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE GROUP (IAG)

IWi requested that NPAS meet with forces. He asked for a series of roadshows around regions with a regional lead for air support to run through the modelling and the budget and what that meant in terms of impact. IWi would be asking forces to start to assess what pre-planned requirement they will need in relation to strategic policing.

TJ stated that DC had written to CC Lynne Owens (Surrey) around NPAS support to CT development and other uniform ops business areas. MBW asked that he received any updates around this as, from a PCC perspective on behalf of the Board, it may need taking to Ministerial level.

Action 8.3 – T/CC Collins to write to Lynne Owens to inform of the decision made by the Board.

7. FORCE HOURS 2015/16

SC stated that since the papers presented had been written an update had been received in relation to Sussex and Surrey hours and there had been a change to Appendix A (attached to the minutes).

Most forces wanted to move to a position where their hours in the collaboration agreement reflect the number of hours being flown against their forces. One exception was South Yorkshire who pay additional money to retain the base in Sheffield.

Discussion took place around contributions remaining as they are until the implementation of the 14% changes and development of the financial model that allows NPAS to reflect overhead costs as overheads and usage costs as a usage figure.

MBW referred to the letter from Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore in Suffolk and how, despite some of the issues raised, the cost to Suffolk was being charged at a reduced rate from that which had been delivered prior to NPAS. It was acknowledged further work needed to be done to reach an agreement and achieve a consensus around the funding formula. The point was made that the national collaboration would not be viable if forces did their own thing. Concern was raised from BC regarding Cleveland paying disproportionate costs as it looked like their service was to change. MBW stated these factors needed to be addressed in future funding arrangements.

IW stated that South Yorkshire have a unique agreement and completely separate to any other arrangements. FS explained that the South Yorkshire arrangements were collateral to the national collaboration agreement and any changes would need to be achieved by consent. The report needed to reflect this.

Agreed – the Board were content for the NPAS team to revisit the South Yorkshire collateral arrangements.

IWi asked how quickly an indication of savings would be achieved. MRe stated that in terms of the budget an indication would be given at the February meeting.

MBW acknowledged the need to revisit the work undertaken by CS and colleagues on a funding model and suggested forming a working group of PCC's to look at the issue.

MBW asked that the Board work through where savings could be made in the next financial year.

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SC proposed that the working group also look at external organisations joining NPAS and what they should be charged. The following members indicated that they wished to be part of the working group.

Ron Ball
Anthony Stansfeld
Mark Burns-Williamson
John Dwyer

It was agreed that a representative of MOPAC should also be present.

Action 8.4 – the working group to meet as soon as practicable – MJ to arrange.

8. NPAS BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

MRe gave a brief update on the financial position as at 31 December 2014 reporting a £112K overspend in revenue and a balance of £4.5m to spend in capital. The forecast revenue underspend position at the end of the financial year was £1.4m and there was likely to be an underspend on capital projects of just over £1m. The Home Office had given permission that this would be carried forward in 15/16 to help fund the capital projects from 14/15. It had been agreed at the previous meeting that any revenue underspend could be used to develop and implement the new operating model and help deliver the savings.

Work had been prepared around the infrastructure and a 14% model had been agreed. An optimised operating model with a fully costed budget behind it would be prepared for the meeting in February.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MBW expressed his appreciation and thanks for the work carried out by Alex Marshall as ACPO Aviation Lead who was now standing down from this role.

The advert for the ACPO Lead would be advertised via the uniform operations business area and DC would ensure CC Lynne Owens was aware of the importance of filling the vacancy.

Action 8.5 – MBW to write to Alex Marshall to express appreciation on behalf of the Board.

MBW also wished Richard Watson a speedy recovery following his recent operation and would write to RW on behalf of the Board.

Action 8.6 – MBW to write to RW to send the regards of the Board members.

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SC updated on the work NPAS are undertaking with UK Borderforce [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Action 8.7 - SC to progress with RWa.

DEFRA had also approached NPAS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SC was progressing.

DJ asked that any internal communications around NPAS were circulated and IW stated that a briefing video to all NPAS staff was being produced on Friday 30 January and that all NPAS staff have been updated and were aware that a decision was due to be made at the Strategic Board meeting.

MBW stated that continuous messages to all Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners regarding decisions made at the Strategic Board meeting need to be communicated.

Action 8.8 – MBW to write to all Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables to inform them of the decisions made at the meeting so they can inform their respective police and crime panels for budget planning.

**Date and time of next meeting - 19 February 2015 - 1.30pm – 4.30pm
Carr Gate, Bradford Road, Wakefield, WF2 0QD.**