



## Regional Collaboration Board

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Cleveland Police Headquarters, Ladgate Lane, Middlesbrough, TS5 7YZ

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### PRESENT

Mark Burns-Williamson	PCC	West Yorkshire	Jayne Sykes	T/CEO	West Yorkshire
Julia Mulligan	PCC	North Yorkshire	Frasor Sampson	CEO	North Yorkshire
Alan Billings	PCC	South Yorkshire	Michelle Buttery	CEO	South Yorkshire
Keith Hunter	PCC	Humberside	Rachel Cook	CEO	Humberside
Dee Collins	CC	West Yorkshire	Justin Partridge	T/ACO	Humberside
Dave Jones	CC	North Yorkshire	Richard Armstead	ISNP	West Yorkshire
Steve Watson	CC	South Yorkshire	Emma Robertshaw		West Yorkshire
Chris Rowley	DCC	Humberside	Neil Denison		West Yorkshire
Jo Ashworth					

### **1 Introductions and Apologies**

Mark Burns-Williamson opened the meeting and welcomed guests.

### **2 Minutes and actions of the previous meeting (27/09/17)**

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and any outstanding actions were discussed and resolved.

### **3 Transforming Forensics**

Jo Ashworth attended the meeting to deliver a presentation around the Transforming Forensics Programme. The programme have received a large amount of support from 44 Forces including the British Transport Police, City of London and the National Crime Agency to deliver a business case and progress to implementation. Currently the two Forces who do not support the programme are the Metropolitan Police Service (who are committed to their own transformation programme and whilst they would like to contribute ideas they are unwilling to consider movement in line with anything that is being proposed by the programme) and Northumbria Police.

The programme have undertaken work around understanding the challenges and the approaches required to tackle them, and are aiming to standardise scientific process by

creating an integrated fingerprint network. This will lead to more uniformed efficiencies and help tackle some of the national problems around achieving ISO accreditation.

Please find the PowerPoint presentation as delivered by Jo Ashworth attached below.



Item 3 Transform  
Presentation

#### **4 Regional Scientific Support Unit Organisational Change Paper**

Neil Denison attended the meeting to propose adjusting the existing structures and roles within the Regional Scientific Support Unit (RSSU) to maintain effective service delivery. This would involve dissolving existing posts in business areas which are becoming more efficient and is effectively cost neutral. Please find a summary of the decision paper below:

##### **Accreditation**

The Forensic Science Regulators Codes of Practice aim to have all forensic activities accredited to an appropriate standard (ISO 17020/25) by 2020. RSSU need to create a structure capable of both implementation and maintenance of the codes of practice. The proposal creates eight Lead Quality Representatives working across a number of different business areas within RSSU.

##### **Biometric Sampling**

Since August 2012 RSSU have been meeting the challenges of biometric sampling by processing, searching and match reporting fingerprints and DNA samples taken from Police Officer and Special Constable Trainees in all four YaTH Forces, and PCSO's in some Forces. The proposal is to dissolve one specialist post and appoint one (full time equivalent) 'Biometric Vetting Officer' to act as a single, regional point of contact, taking responsibility for the administrative procedures associated with biometric sampling.

##### **RSSU Control Room**

The original business case for RSSU Control proposed 21 Control Operators however, at the time of presentation and due to available finances, this was reduced to 18 in order to ensure that the unit was not over-resourced. Following implementation, it is clear that more resources are needed. The proposal is to recruit an additional three RSSU Control Operators.

##### **Training**

On 11 October 2016 the College of Policing issued a letter informing all police forces that they would cease to deliver forensic training. The RSSU therefore needs to consider how it wants to move forward regarding training its Crime Scene Investigators to the highest standards. There is a requirement to employ a full time administrator to maintain training records and course administration.

## **RSSU Video Editing Services**

There continues to be a general increase in workloads within the Video Editing Team which is putting significant strain on current resources. The proposal is to create an additional Video Editor Role.

The cost of implementing change will be absorbed by the RSSU budget through the disestablishment of vacant posts held in the CSI, Imaging Units and Identification Bureau with a slight benefit of £1849.00. It is anticipated that in-sourcing training delivery and income generated from external course attendees will make anything from £9040.00 to £80,040.00.

The Board agreed to support the recommendations outlined above.

West Yorkshire Police are unable to deliver a number of courses because the College of Policing doesn't have the capacity to formally accredit them. CC Collins suggested writing to CEO Mike Cunningham on behalf of the Board to make him aware of this issue.

## **5 Counter Terrorism Policing Lead Force Roles**

CC Collins presented a paper on behalf of DCS Snowden in relation to CTP Lead Force Roles.

The paper details that to finalise implementation formal agreement is sought for Regional Prisons staff and allocated PCC funding for this function previously within the Y&TH ROCU transfers to NE CTP from the start of the new financial year April 2018. Staff affected from regional forces have already been subject of TUPE and will see no change in their terms and conditions.

The paper complies with the national direction of travel with no cost implications for PCC's.

The Board agreed to the proposal outlined above.

## **6 UWSMU Annual Budget Request**

Justin Partridge presented the Underwater Search and Marine Unit Annual Budget Report which required two decisions:

- 1) The Regional Collaboration Board to approve the 2018/19 budget with the agreed compliment of 1 Sergeant and 9 Constables as in the 2017/18 annual budget, incorporating the 2% pay award.
- 2) RCB to consider a one-off cost pressure of £21,600 to recruit and train a new diver to replace an existing diver due to retire when the need arises.

### **ACTION:**

- i. Following a number of concerns DCC Rowley assured the Board that some more meaningful performance data would be circulated next quarter.

**CR**

As agreed, for sign-off as accurate at the next Board.

**7 ESMCP Latest Correspondence**

The papers were noted by the Board.

**8 NPCC/APCC Update**

There has been a number of bilateral meetings with Amber Rudd regarding the budget situation. There is likely to be some movement on the precept flexibility and PCC's would welcome the lifting of any caps.

**9 Any Other Business**

None.

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018**