

Joint Appointments Committee – Kent Police Authority

Minutes of a Meeting held at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday 14 July 2009

Present:

Kent County Council: Mr B Cope and Mr A King.

Medway Council: Cllr R Andrews (substituting for Cllr Mrs J Bamber), Cllr K Bamber, Cllr T Goulden and Cllr G Juby.

Officers: Geoff Wild – Director of Law and Governance
Peter Sass – Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

1. Election of Chairman

(1) Members present agreed that Mr A King should chair this meeting

2. Membership

(Item 1)

(1) The Committee noted that Mr B Cope, Mrs T Dean, Mr A King and Mr J London had all been appointed by KCC to serve on this Committee until further notice.

2. Minutes – 1 June 2007

(Item 2)

(1) The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 June 2007 were agreed as a correct record.

3. Membership of Kent Police Authority – Vacancies

(Item 3 – Report by Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership, Kent County Council)

(1) The Committee was advised that the terms of office of the seven previous Kent County Council Members of the KPA had expired and so there were seven vacancies which needed to be filled.

(2) The appointments needed to reflect the political proportionality of Kent County Council and Medway Council taken together. New proportionality figures had been calculated following the Kent County Council elections in June 2009 and these indicated that six of the vacancies should be filled by a KCC Conservative Member and one by a KCC Liberal Democrat Member. The Kent County Council Conservative Group had nominated Mr Cubitt, Mr Gates, Mr Hill, Mr Snelling, Mrs Stockell and Mr Wickham and the Liberal Democrat Group had nominated Mr Chittenden to fill these vacancies.

- (4) During the meeting, questions were asked by the Medway Councillors about the terms of reference and constitution of this Joint Committee and the division of seats on the KPA between Kent County Council and Medway Council. Mr Wild advised that the original decision to decide the division of seats was determined on the basis of seven factors; tax base, population, electorate, land area, police incidents, recorded crimes and the number of police officers. Members agreed that a review should be conducted initially at officer level between the two Councils, but that a small Member level group was needed to consider the results of the review, with Members being appointed by the Leaders of each authority and that the outcome of the review should be reported back to this Joint Committee within 12 months' time.
- (5) RESOLVED that:-
- (a) It be noted that, on the basis of the new proportionality figures calculated following the Kent County Council elections in June 2009, the allocation of places between political groups on the KPA change to Conservatives 7, Labour 1, Liberal Democrat 1;
- (b) Mr Cubitt, Mr Gates, Mr Hill, Mr Snelling, Mrs Stockell and Mr Wickham (Conservative) and Mr Chittenden (Liberal Democrat) be appointed as Members of the KPA each for a four-year term expiring in May 2013
- (c) The Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership (KCC) be instructed to carry out a review of the criteria used to determine the division of places between the two authorities on the KPA and, in addition, to clarify the terms of reference and constitution of this Joint Committee; the review to be carried out jointly with officers at Medway Council and to include the creation of a small sub group of Members to be appointed by the Leaders of both authorities, to consider the results of the review and that the outcome of the review should be reported back to this Joint Committee within 12 months' time.