

CLEVELAND POLICE AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE

A meeting of Cleveland Police Authority Executive was held on Wednesday 23 August 2006 in the Members Conference Room at Police Headquarters.

PRESENT: Councillors Barker, Benbow, Coombs, Coppinger, Lowes, McLuckie, Thompson and Wallace.

Magistrate Members
Mr Cox JP, Mr Fisher JP and Mr Illingworth TD JP

Independent Members
Miss Andrews-Mawer, Mr Gardner, Mr Hanif, Mr Nath and Mr Race

OFFICIALS: Mr McCarthy, Mrs Allaway, and Mrs Leng (CE)
Mr Price, Mr Hogg, Mr Bonnard, Mr Briggs, Mrs Hall and Mrs Llewellyn (CC)
Mr Freeland QC and Mr Wilcox

34 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Womphrey.

35 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

36 **QUESTION TIME**

No questions were received from the public.

37 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

ORDERED that pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

38 **POLICE RESTRUCTURING – HUMAN RESOURCE ISSUE**

ORDERED that the recommendation be agreed.

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RE-ADMITTANCE OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The press and public were re-admitted to the meeting.

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POLICE RESTRUCTURING – JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Chief Executive outlined key developments since the former Home Secretary Charles Clarke served a notice to merge Cleveland with Durham and Northumbria on 3 March 2006 and the progress that the Authority had made against its core remedies / outcomes as sought in its Judicial Review (JR) of the Government's decision of 3 March 2006.

ORDERED that:-

1. the decision of the Authority to withdraw from the Judicial Review process by Consent as all the remedies / outcomes of the legal process had been met by the Home Office be noted.

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RESTRUCTURING PROCESS - COSTS

The Chair presented the report which asked members to agree the claim that would be submitted to the Home Office for the costs incurred by Cleveland Police Authority in the restructuring process.

Following the collapse of forced amalgamations on 13 July 2006, Authorities throughout England and Wales have made strong representations to Government to have the costs they have incurred in this process reimbursed.

As a result of these representations the Home Office Director of Policing wrote to all Authorities stating that 'Police Forces have incurred additional costs preparing for restructuring, and Ministers have indicated that they are happy in principle to assist with those costs'. This was followed by a letter from the Police Reform Unit which reiterated that 'only additional cash costs, not opportunity costs, could be considered'. This letter requested a breakdown of costs against the following criteria, Staff Costs, Travel and Subsistence, Office Charges, Hire of Venues, Research and Consultancy. A breakdown of the costs incurred by Cleveland Police Authority was detailed

at Appendix C to the report.

ORDERED that:-

1. the proposal to claim from the Home Office all costs incurred in the restructuring process excluding Judicial Review costs be supported. The final claim totals £490k.
2. any funding reimbursed to be ring fenced to contribute to Neighbourhood Policing.