

OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

ETHICS COMMITTEE

20<sup>TH</sup> March 2017

Meeting commenced: 17.30

Meeting ended: 19:40

PRESENT: Bishop David Walker – In the Chair, David Arnold MBE, Dr Ruth Bromley, Nasir Hafezi, Dr Shaid Mushtaq, Sean McHale, Dr Peter Joyce, Cym D’Souza, Sally Lester, Paul Horrocks, Ruth Purdie, Roy Walters.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tony Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner, OPCC

Ian Hopkins, Chief Constable, GMP

Jim Battle, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, OPCC

Nicola Spragg, Chief of Staff, GMP

Smyth Harper, Head of Communications

Janette Cross, Business Support (minutes), OPCC

1. Welcome and Introductions to the meeting – Chair

The chair welcomed and introduced the meeting. New Member Ray Walters was welcomed into the committee and gave a summary of his career to date.

2. Apologies

Peter Joyce, Ian Pilling, Catherine Boyd

3. Tony Lloyd PCC and Ian Hopkins CC

Ian Hopkins thanked the committee for the vital support it had provided and the positive impact it had made since being established. He stressed the importance of the committee’s independence and that this should be maintained in the future devolution environment. Tony Lloyd echoed Ian’s comments and said the committee was fulfilling its remit in examining complex and challenging ethical issues faced by policing. He said some issues which the Ethics Committee had advised on, for instance, the guidance offered on Human Tissue had been highly beneficial. He added there was still significant work to do, for example he had recently attended a conference about the use of CCTV cameras, an issue the

committee may need to look at in future. The handover report will enlighten the new mayor and he would recommend the committee should continue in the new environment.

Tony added he was keen that the Ethical Framework which the committee had commissioned MMU to produce in consultation with the committee and other bodies such as the College of Policing and the APCC should be signed off today so it could go to the next meeting of the PCC Forum on 30 March. He said the work was important and could be used not just by GMP but other police forces as an exemplar of good practice. The chair was happy to sign off the framework.

The newly elected mayor has been invited to the next meeting and it was stressed that positive engagement with the new mayor and deputy mayor for policing would be vital.

Ian added the terms of reference needed to reflect the structure, and this will strengthen the independence of the committee.

#### 4. Previous minutes and matters arising – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017

The minutes were recorded as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.

) Comment on reporting crime

The group working on this item had come up with various conclusions including:

) Whether the rules for reporting crime are fit for purpose? – there is a further meeting to discuss this issue.

) Are the standards set by HMRC too high to be achievable?

One of the members was aware of Jeff Farrar CC of Gwent Police and National Police Chiefs lead for Crime Recording regularly meets with the Home Office, the member will pass on his details to the group.

**Action: Member to pass details of Jeff Farrar to the group.**

) Rochdale

Rochdale are ready to deliver their presentation and an invite to the next meeting in May will be extended to them.

**Action: Invite Rochdale to May meeting**

#### 5. Policing and Children

The working group had formulated a letter outlining their findings which was for the committee to accept prior to the letter going to PCC and chief constable for response.

Tony said Ann Coffee had recently reviewed her Real Voices report, which examined how the police and other agencies respond to child sexual exploitation. Her findings include the need for looked after children to be better considered within the system. The report will be shared with committee members.

**Action: Ann Coffey's report to be shared with the committee.**

**Action: The letter will be sent to the PCC and chief constable for response.**

6. Reporting Concerns (formally whistleblowing)

A discussion had originated following some discussion around Hillsborough and the question of whether staff feel confident to raise concerns. The policy was looked at and the focus group met with six members of varying rank of voluntary staff who became engaged.

As a result of the discussions and meeting Professional Standard Branch generated a new policy with the title "reporting concerns". This has now been through consultation and accepted by Chief Officer's Group and will be reviewed two-yearly. There is also a good communication plan in place to escalate the policy to staff.

The group do have the following recommendations/suggestions

- ) How are people made aware of the policy when they join the service
  - ) Revisit in six months to ensure the policy has been fully embedded
  - ) At point 7.2 consultations - does not include Ethics Committee
  - ) Also questions whether any other GMP policies should be looked at by Ethics Committee.
- The chief constable congratulated the group on their great piece of work. Explained how accuracy in the numbers of users was difficult to obtain. Felt it should feed into the HMRC report, as it represented openness from GMP and good work and working together from Ethics.

**Action: Look at in 12 months. Look at meeting with Annette Anderson PSB and to see if there is evidence of how the updated policy has changed how people work.**

7. Ethical Framework for approval

The work on developing the framework was initiated following the committee's examination of the training contract between GMP and Qatari police. Whilst the committee established that ethical considerations had been properly addressed when the contract was being drawn up, there was no organisational ethical framework which would inform future ethically challenging situations. The committee engaged with MMU and at the last meeting the final draft of the framework was agreed upon and a copy of this sent to Alex Marshall – College of Policing and Nasir Afzal – APCC requesting a response. Comments were received, and the document amended to reflect their feedback. The paper is now ready to go to the PCC Forum on 30<sup>th</sup> March and signed off.

8. Prevent in Greater Manchester

A member handed out a paper with questions on which he had written when reflecting on the Prevent issue. The member had been contacted by the PCC's chief executive to seek reassurances around confidentiality for the discussions ahead of a meeting being arranged. to give reassurance that whatever was discussed and information disclosed would not be

made available on a public platform. This had led the member to question whether he should pursue the issue, although he did have a very high level knowledge of the subject. There was a discussion between members where all felt the committee had a high standard of integrity and that the committee should balance transparency and openness with professional responsibilities. Jim agreed to raise the issue with the chief executive for further clarity, and that members would move forward with developing dialogue with GMP around Prevent.

**Action : Jim to discuss the issue with PCC chief executive.**

**9. Body Worn Video**

A member had recently been to a seminar and observed police officers not using BWV – their response was that they had not been issued.

**Action: Continue to push the issues**

**10. Human Tissue Retention**

175 identified, 141 allocated to family liaison officers, 24 remaining allocation. There had been one complaint received, which had generated some media interest where the committee's role in developing the policy was recognised. There have been a small number of cases where GMP had been unable to identify next of kin. The advice from the Ethics Committee was invaluable. The lead on the work has offered to feedback.

**Action: Continue to feedback to meeting**

**11. Work Plan – Committee**

- ) There are currently more than 300 policies in GMP. There was a discussion on how ethical considerations should be reflected within policies, and whether there should be a process in place when they come up for review to reflect ethical assessment this should then be shared with Committee.
- ) HMIC inspection reports are usually made available to the PCC's office the day before issue, which can be shared with the committee.

**Action: Apply ethical framework to GMP policies and then share with Committee**

**Action: PCC's office to share inspection reports with committee**

**12. Report to the newly elected Mayor**

A summary of why the committee was set up, what work it has carried out and plans for future work, with the recommendation for the board to continue for the next 3 years. This will be presented at the PCC forum on 30<sup>th</sup> March.

**Action: For all members to read and if any significance points to get back by next week.**

**13. Committee Composition and Operation**

14. AOB

It was Jim's last meeting with the committee, and all members thanked him for his hard work and insights, and wished him the best for the future.

Next meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017

