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MINUTES

**NATIONAL POLICE AIR SERVICE (NPAS)
NATIONAL STRATEGIC BOARD (MEETING NUMBER 19)**

09 March 2017

PRESENT

NAME	REPRESENTING
PCC Mark Burns-Williamson OBE (MBW) – Chair	Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire police – Lead Local Policing Body
CC Dee Collins QPM (DC)	West Yorkshire Police – Lead Local Chief Constable
Fraser Sampson (FS)	Chief Executive & Solicitor – Office of Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire
Ch. Supt Tyron Joyce (TJ)	NPAS Chief Operating Officer
Captain Paul Watts (PW)	NPAS Chief Pilot
Steven Jones QPM (SJ)	NPAS Assistant Operations Director – North East Region
Glenn Shelley (GS)	NPAS Head of Business Services
Janine Nelson (JN)	Solicitor, Legal Services, West Yorkshire Police
Katherine Johnson (KJ)	Treasurer – West Yorkshire Office of Police and Crime Commissioner
Mark Reeves (MRe)	Temporary Director of Finance & Business Support - West Yorkshire Police
PCC Barry Coppinger (BC)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland - North East Region
CC David Jones (DJ)	North Yorkshire Police – North East Region
CC Simon Byrne QPM (SB) (by phone)	National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) Aviation Lead – North West Region
CC Jerry Graham (JG)	Cumbria Police – North West Region
PCC Stephen Mold (SM)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire – Central Region

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CC Simon Edens (SE)	Northamptonshire Police – Central Region
Cmdr. Matt Twist (MT) (by phone)	Metropolitan Police Service – London Region
DS Andy Bevan (AB)	Operational Advisor and Deputy Director CT Change Portfolio, National Counter Terrorism
PCC Anthony Stansfeld (AS) (by phone)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley - South East Region
ACC Steve Barry (SB) (representing CC Giles York)	Sussex Police – South East Region
CC Suzette Davenport (SD) (by phone)	Gloucestershire Police - South West Region
Jenny Walker (JN)	NPAS Marketing & Communications Manager
Melanie Jaundziekars (MJ)	NPAS Support Officer

APOLOGIES

NAME	REPRESENTING
Ollie Dismore (OD)	NPAS Director of Operations
PCC Peter McCall (PM)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Cumbria – North West Region
CC Neil Rhodes (NR)	Lincolnshire Police – Central Region
PCC Dafydd Llywelyn (DL)	Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed- Powys – South West Region
Rebecca Lawrence (RL)	MOPAC – Mayors Office for Police and Crime

The Chair, PCC Mark Burns-Williamson (MBW) opened the meeting and invited introductions from those in the room and dialling in on the conference call facility and thanked everyone for attending either in person or via the telephone.

APOLOGIES

Noted and recorded.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8 DECEMBER 2016

Minutes were agreed and passed as an accurate record.

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4. ACTIONS

All actions discharged with the exception of the s22 collaboration agreement which was discussed at the meeting – see Item 10.

**5. DEVELOPMENT OF NPAS BUSINESS PLAN
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Ch. Supt Tyron Joyce (TJ) and Captain Paul Watts (PW) gave a presentation around the future business development of NPAS which has now achieved Phases One and Two of the NPAS Programme of Change. TJ advised that NPAS are due to achieve the 14% revenue reduction mandated by the Board within the time specified and that it was important to note the actual savings delivered to policing:- pre-NPAS the baseline revenue cost for national air support was £54.4m, in 17/18 the cost will fall to just over £38m. TJ highlighted the flight operations and service delivery risks reviewed by TJ on a monthly basis and the governance and assessment process that includes review via the Safety Management Boards and the NPAS Local Strategic Board. ■

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

TJ stated that in terms of usage a significant amount of work had been conducted to look at the way NPAS use their assets. The aviation industry advise that, in terms of usage three of the top five flying EC135 aircraft in the world belong to NPAS and three of the top ten flying EC 145 aircraft also belong to NPAS. There is a direct correlation between the aircraft's age, increased maintenance costs, fleet availability and impact on both the revenue and capital position.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PW advised that NPAS had looked at the multi-use of bases for both rotary and fixed wing which included possibilities of bases at Cardiff airport and Biggin Hill. PW advised that £1m had been set aside to initiate the base for NPAS London but currently NPAS do not have any extra capital funding to develop any new bases.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

TJ advised that NPAS are now at a cross-roads and in order to be able to develop a medium term financial plan and a revised business case invited members to consider the recommendations in the paper.

MBW advised that NPAS representatives along with CC Dee Collins (DC) had met with Home Office officials who were aware of the scale and issues that needed to be met.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TJ advised that DC had written to Alex Marshall at the College of Policing twice inviting the College to work with NPAS around measuring the impact of the use of air support. TJ advised at the present time the College felt unable to work with NPAS which is key to determining the benefit.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Fraser Sampson (FS) raised the statutory instrument stating if police require air support they have to get it from collaboration order and asked if any discussions had taken place since the Policing and Crime Act 2017 came into effect regarding any parallel statutory instrument for those services covered by that legislation. SB advised that he had held a number of meetings with the Police and Fire Minister and advised that the Fire Service had delayed signing the MOU due to a change in governance as they move from Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA) to National Fire Chiefs' Council (NFCC).

BC suggested compiling a narrative for each PCC to send to MPs.

The Board agreed the following recommendations:-

1. To seek Ministerial agreement for appropriate funding for implementation of a replacement general policing fleet programme;
2. [REDACTED]
3. To seek Home Office agreement for appropriate funding to implement a capital build programme in the 18/19 fiscal period.

[REDACTED]

SE and BC raised whether an additional recommendation should be considered regarding having a no aircraft situation and alternative scenarios such as the use of drones. TJ advised NPAS had submitted a request to the Police Transformation Fund to develop the use of drones and suggested NPAS look at current drone activity to build a business case and understanding as to how it is used and the potential for a national procurement framework.

KJ advised robust business cases would be provided to the Home Office prior to requesting any detail of the funding.

Action 19.2 - DC to advise Assistant Commissioner Mark Rowley that a letter would be sent to the Home Secretary

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6. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2017/18

Glenn Shelley (GS) provided the Board with a summary of the position in respect of planned capital expenditure in 2017/18. NPAS had received £12.2m capital funding for 17/18 and projects such as fixed wing and the Doncaster base build are ongoing commitments. GS advised that the report sets out projects in development that would need appropriate approval before funds could be committed. KJ advised that since the 2016/17 programme had been approved NPAS had moved the capital airframe credits from 17/18 to the current financial year due to some of the projects slipping and this had been approved by the Home Office.

The Board approved the 17/18 proposed Capital Programme.

7. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Mark Reeves (MR) updated the Board regarding the revenue and capital position for NPAS. As at 31 January 2017 the revenue budget was £298k overspent with a projection to the end of the year of £590k overspend, the capital budget still has a balance of £7.3m to spend. MR advised that pay costs for officers and staff are both overspending, this is attributable to the fact that during the transition to the new operating model bases had not been closed as quickly as anticipated.

The Board noted the budget position as at 31 January 2017.

8. EMERGENCY SERVICES MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS (ESMCP) UPDATE

Steve Jones (SJ) updated the Board on the introduction of the Emergency Services Network (ESN) into NPAS. SJ advised there were still issues with the spectrum being made available to end users. The programme are now exploring whether satellite communications could provide a partial or complete solution. SJ highlighted that the risk still remained around the timeline to procure devices and install into the NPAS fleet. SJ confirmed that the Home Office programme were keen to engage with NPAS and other end users primarily Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA), Air Ambulance and the MOD to understand how long it would take to install the devices once they become available. SJ stated that the MCA are stating between 31 months - 48 months to install into their fleet and Air Ambulance had stated it would take 115 weeks to install into 22 aircraft. NPAS have carried out modelling and to fit two aircraft at a time would take two years. SJ advised that the unavailability of devices remained a risk and there was a growing concern around capacity of the market to install and different agencies would adopt different models.

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SB raised regional concern on behalf of the North West around timeframes and stated PCC Jane Kennedy (North West regional lead) was planning to send a delegate to meet with the Police and Fire Minister as the financial risk post 2019 would pass to forces. SJ advised NPAS do not currently have a user specification and are exploring with the Home Office programme whether NPAS could have a generic specification.

Action 19.3 – JG to raise the issue with PCC Jane Kennedy from an NPAS/North West perspective

The Board noted the update provided.

9. BLUE LIGHT AIR SERVICE PROGRAMME (BLASP) UPDATE

Simon Byrne (SB) advised that the full report regarding the Blue Light Air Service Programme (BLASP) had gone to the National Police Chiefs' Council Uniformed Operations Committee and CC Alec Wood had endorsed the concept. SB advised he intended the report goes to the National Police Chiefs' Council in April and similarly national fire chiefs had received the briefing but not a formal presentation in terms of the report in its entirety. SB advised members that this was a concept paper and was aware it had caused some emotion. SB stated the intention was to get to a clearly defined user position across potential elements of the sector potentially police, fire, border and immigration and possibly NHS England then submit the report to board members in its entirety.

BC asked what input NPAS had and how closely NPAS had been involved. SB stated workshops had taken place with NPAS and advised DC had an open opportunity to sit on the Programme Board where the report had been discussed. TJ advised that the services of Ollie Dismore had been offered to assist with developing the methodology behind the project but unfortunately had not been taken up. TJ confirmed that he represented DC on the Programme Board but none of the content of the work undertaken nor the opportunity to shape or consider it had occurred. TJ confirmed that the first opportunity he had to read the report and consider its conclusions was when it was shared as a finished document immediately before the final BLAS Programme Board meeting.

Board members raised concern around the lack of NPAS involvement in the development of the concept to date and requested a more joined up process involving NPAS. The Board agreed that conceptual work is essential to challenge understanding and to explore opportunities for future collaboration but felt collectively that they were not sufficiently sighted on the development of

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the work. As a result members felt unable to fully endorse the BLAS project at this time or support a briefing to the National Police Chiefs' Council on 5 & 6 April 2017.

DC suggested the appointment of both Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner as NPAS representatives to attend the BLAS Programme Board in order to be sighted on the development work and oversight process for future BLAS related transformation funding bids. SB stated he was in agreement with this.

10. S22 COLLABORATION AGREEMENT - UPDATE

Janine Nelson (JN) advised that the process to review the s22 agreement had begun in September 2016 when NPAS wrote to all forces requesting feedback. NPAS had held an internal working group and had received some feedback from forces stating they would like more involvement with the national procurement framework and training regarding drones. JN advised members that a further internal working group is taking place in April and would look to send out a draft s22 collaboration agreement following the meeting.

11. AOB

NPAS Contributions from South Yorkshire Police

FS brought to the board's attention a letter that had been received from the South Yorkshire PCC Alan Billings questioning the amount of equity that was paid by South Yorkshire following the closure of the Sheffield air base and requested that the Board give formal consideration and a response to the letter. Board members felt that this should be considered in further detail and discussed at the next meeting in June. TJ stated there had been correspondence between NPAS and South Yorkshire Police and they had been given a view but as yet this had not been raised with board members.

The Board agreed that a report be provided for consideration at the next meeting. MT requested that the report be provided with sufficient notice in order to take advice on the content.

Action 19.4 – TJ to produce a summary paper outlining the facts regarding the position with South Yorkshire to be discussed at the meeting in June with a recommendation to the board

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CC Suzette Davenport

MBW advised members that this was Suzette's last meeting and stated that she would be sadly missed as a board member. MBW thanked Suzette for her contributions and wished her all the best for the future.

MBW thanked everyone for their contributions and for attending the meeting.

**Date and time of next meeting – 29 June 2017 – 13:30 – 16:30
Carr Gate, Bradford Road, Wakefield, WF2 0QD**

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