

Time commenced – 6.00pm

Time finished – 7.55pm

**SAFER COMMUNITIES COMMISSION  
31 JANUARY 2011**

Present: Councillor Naitta (in the Chair)  
Councillors Atwal, Davis and Harwood

**13/10 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Barker, Khan and Repton.

**14/10 Late items introduced by the Chair**

There were no late items.

**15/10 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**16/10 Call-in**

There were no items.

**17/10 Councillor Call for Action**

There were no items.

**18/10 Revenue Budget Consultation**

The Commission had received reports in advance of the meeting detailing the budgetary position for the council. Derbyshire Constabulary, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service and Derby Community Safety Partnership.

The council's Director of Finance and Procurement presented the authority's three-year position to members, detailing how Government funding and commitments relating to Council Tax had affected the budget. It was explained that a variety of options had been considered in order to meet the budget shortfall but that the speed with which the savings needed to be achieved made the situation even more challenging. Members sought clarification on the position relating to redundancies. It was explained that negotiations with the unions were progressing but it was inevitable redundancies, whether voluntary or compulsory, would be required. A figure of 536 posts had been identified.

The Head of Service – Resources and Intelligence at Derby Community Safety Partnership presented a report detailing the partnership's pressures in 2011/12. It was explained that the budget was particularly challenging given a 36 per cent overall reduction in funding. It was reported that up to 23 employees would be affected by grants ending in 2010/11, with 10 of these employees 100 per cent funded by income that was

due to cease while the remaining 13 were partially funded. Overall, up to 40 posts would be at risk. The Executive Board would be meeting in February to consider the likely impact of these reductions.

Chief Superintendent Andy Hough, of Derbyshire Constabulary, presented a report on budget options that had previously been considered by Derbyshire Police Authority on 20 January 2011. It was reported that the force's grant funding would reduce by 5.1 per cent in 2011/12 and 6.7 per cent in the next two financial years. A list of operational risks and priorities were detailed showing areas where the force could seek to prioritise its spending. It was reported that the funding reduction was disproportionate and Derbyshire was the third poorest force in the country. Members asked specifically about the cost and use of the force helicopter. It was explained that the helicopter was shared between neighbouring forces but that a review on its use was underway.

Andy Waldie and Simon Allsop, of Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service, presented a report detailing the service's four-year revenue forecast from April 2011. The report detailed how reductions in grant funding had resulted in budget gaps of around £650,000 in 2011/12 and £250,000 in 2012/13. It was recognised that there was scope within existing reserves to cover some of these shortfalls but that this was not a sustainable solution. The report detailed a range of options proposed by Government to achieve savings, such as sharing services and/or senior staff. It was explained that Derbyshire Fire Authority's Effectiveness Programme was already looking across the organisation at savings opportunities and the authority had already begun the process of issuing compulsory retirement notices where appropriate.

## **Resolved**

- 1. To note the updates.**
- 2. To monitor the impact of delivering the budget reduction on community safety in the short to medium term and bring a report to a future meeting of the Commission.**

Chair of the next ensuing meeting  
at which these minutes were signed