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west midlands  
police and crime  
commissioner

Our reference: 00033/2014

Councillor Darren Cooper  
Chair, West Midlands Police and Crime Panel  
WMPCP Office  
Birmingham Council House  
Victoria Street  
Birmingham  
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8 January 2014

Dear Darren

Procurement Strategy Mini Inquiry Report 18 November 2013

Thanks you for letter dated 13 December and the Panel's report on my Procurement Strategy.

The seven principles you set out are a very helpful checklist of principles against which I will assess my new Procurement Strategy. As I think the Panel acknowledged on the day, much good procurement practice already exists within West Midlands Police, but developing a new strategy gives us the opportunity to further develop that good work.

I agree with your recommendation that wider consultation will be key to ensuring the quality of the new strategy and I have asked my officers to bring forward proposals for that further consultation as soon as practically possible. I will let the Panel have a further report in due course.

Although there is currently collaboration with some of the West Midlands Districts the proposed summit will provide the forum to explore other opportunities for joint working, which may, of course, also benefit the Districts themselves.

I was pleased that the Panel adopted the scrutiny approach to this subject and I am sure there will be other areas of strategy and policy development where a similar approach will be appropriate and helpful. Perhaps when we next meet informally we can discuss potential further topic areas.

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Jones'.

Bob Jones  
Police and Crime Commissioner