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Item No. 9.2.1
Halifax Regional Council
November 8, 2016
December 6, 2016

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Commissioner Russell Walker, Chair, Board of Police Commissioners

DATE: September 21, 2016

SUBJECT: Roles and Responsibilities in Police Service

ORIGIN

September 19, 2016 motion of the Board of Police Commissioners

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Board of Police Commissioners Terms of Reference, By-Law P-100 Respecting the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality, section 6 which states: "The Board shall conduct its business according to the procedure established by the Council for the conduct of its business subject to such modifications as may be required to fit the needs of the Board".

RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Police Commissioners recommends that Halifax Regional Council request that a staff report be prepared to:

1. Review the current governance framework, roles, responsibilities, authorities and budget respecting the Board of Police Commissioners including the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board, HRM and RCMP, Legislation and By-law;
2. Provide police services governance options, including consideration for realignment of the organization reporting structure, and/or responsibility transfer to improve governance, accountability, communication, policy and public service related to police services for the Halifax Regional Municipality and;
3. Provide reporting and funding options for staff support of the Board of Police Commissioners.

BACKGROUND

In response to a request from the Board of Police Commissioners for a legal opinion clarifying its roles and responsibilities, a private and confidential memorandum from the Acting Director of HRM Legal Services dated July 6, 2016 was before the Board for consideration at its September 19, 2016 meeting.

For further information, please refer to the Private and Confidential Information report dated September 21, 2016.

DISCUSSION

The Board of Police Commissioners discussed the private and confidential memorandum during an In Camera (In Private) session at its meeting held on September 19, 2016 and forwarded the following recommendation to Halifax Regional Council as outlined in this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report. The requested staff report, if approved by Council, will outline financial implications.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report. The risks considered rate Low.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

All meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners are open to the public. The agenda and reports are posted to Halifax.ca in advance of the meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES

The Board of Police Commissioners did not discuss alternative recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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