



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SHADOW CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND
PETERBOROUGH POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
HELD AT HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ON 21 MARCH 2013**

Members Present: Councillors Ablewhite, Bick, Curtis, Elsey, Khan, McGuire, Palmer Shelton, Walsh, West and Wilkins, Christine Graham and Raja Ali

Officers Present: Liz Bisset Cambridge City Council
Alex Daynes Peterborough City Council
Gary Goose Peterborough City Council

Others Present: Sir Graham Bright Cambridgeshire Police and Crime
Commissioner
Brian Ashton Deputy Cambridgeshire Police and Crime
Commissioner
Dorothy Gregson Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
John Hummersone Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Apologies for Absence

None were received.

2. Declarations of Interest

None were received.

3. Minutes of the meeting held 7 February 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2013 were agreed as an accurate record and the action points were noted.

4. Cost of Officer Support 2012/13 and 2013/14

The Panel received a report that provided details about the budget available to support Cambridgeshire's Police and Crime Panel, including the expenses and allowances of Panel Members. The Panel was advised that no additional costs were expected outside the allocated budget in order to continue its support.

Thanks were given to the support officers for the panel for their work to date.

Following consideration of the report, the Panel:

1. Noted the financial position for 2012/13; and
2. Approved the support budget for 2013/14.

5. Draft Police and Crime Plan 2013-16

The Panel received the Commissioner's draft Police and Crime Plan 2013-16 for review in accordance with its statutory duties. The Commissioner introduced the report highlighting that the previously drafted Local Police Plan from the Police Authority was found to be largely acceptable and had therefore been updated and refreshed to form the Plan now submitted to the Panel for review.

Comments from the Panel included:

- Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) should not be pulled across the county in times of high demand;
- The Commissioner should not look to address all issues requested by the public as some may not be relevant;
- More action needed to tackle illegal drivers; new enforcement cameras and higher prosecution rates would be welcome;
- Need to see what measurements will be used to assess the success of the plan, e.g. what measurement for extremism;
- Public perception was that the number of PCSOs was being reduced even though they were needed;
- Burglary from dwellings should be a priority in the plan;
- Little time to prepare the document so need to revisit most objectives and their definitions; more clarity was needed;
- Need to define the role of Community Safety Partnerships and what value they bring;
- Need to tackle drug dealers not just drug use;
- Little mention of tackling arson in the Plan;
- Issues concerning Gypsy and Traveller communities not mentioned such as 'no go' areas for the Police;
- Must increase numbers of frontline, visible Police Officers;
- Cannot just rely on the internet to advise on the Commissioner's surgery dates;
- Anti social parking, although a minority of offences, was a large concern for many people;
- Need to outline support for witnesses to crime;

The Commissioner's and Deputy Commissioner's responses to questions and comments included:

- The review of PCSOs would look at their deployment and best use across the force area. The numbers of Special Constables continued to increase;
- The series of additional Police and Crime Commissioner pledges within the Plan were driven by public concerns and perceptions.
- The objectives in the Plan include a section on vulnerable groups but do not include a separate section for the elderly as many crimes cross age groups, this could be reviewed;
- In order to tackle drivers with no tax or insurance greater use of automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras would be used in conjunction with an increase in information and communication technologies (ICT) for officers such as handheld vehicle authentication devices;
- Overseas registered vehicle offences were being addressed through the DVLA;
- A task force comprising several neighbouring forces was established along with new laws to address metal theft and incidents had fallen recently (from 2311 in 2011-12 to 801 in 2012-13);
- Monitoring of the Plan was being undertaken and success would be communicated;
- Before another Outreach worker was employed for the south of the force area, the effectiveness of the initial post, in the Peterborough and Fenland areas, must be

ensured; future outreach workers could include the 'middle' of the county too, not just north and south areas;

- Burglaries were expected to receive attendance from a Police Officer on the day of the incident which should help to alleviate the trauma for the victims but also speed up investigations and any prosecutions;
- Greater public engagement was required from the police service to improve relationships with the public;
- The role and ambition of the Community Safety Partnerships would be discussed at a seminar in May;
- Joined up partnership working was considered crucial to the success of tackling crime across the area including the NHS for mental health issues;
- Accident and Emergency data could be added to assess performance and improvements relating to the pledges in the Plan;
- Operations were being coordinated to tackle drug dealers, both large and small scale;
- Do need appropriate sentencing and punishment for offenders but this could include restorative justice, especially for young offenders;
- Methods to tackle arson in Peterborough were being addressed through the Safer Peterborough Partnership for that area;
- Will not accept the conception of 'no go areas' for the Police;
- Need more public involvement in police and crime issues generally, but not for the public or voluntary sector to pick up policing responsibilities;
- Increase in ICT provision should free up more officer time from desk duties – more boots on the pavement;
- Will look to increase officer numbers on the street;
- Must be more proactive to ensure young offenders don't reoffend;
- Support would be given to groups working to tackle drug use;
- A team was already established to tackle domestic abuse including raising awareness and knowledge;
- Regular surgeries were already held with the public and were well attended; could look to promote this more and not just electronically;
- Could also include parking as a priority to reflect that this was a serious concern in some areas;
- Provision for witnesses of crime could be covered in an additional report

Following consideration and review the Panel **AGREED** to endorse the Plan subject to prior circulation to panel members of the report that would be sent to the Commissioner.

ACTIONS:

1. Circulate report to Panel for comment ahead of submission to Commissioner.

6. Decisions by the Commissioner

The Panel received a report enabling it to review or scrutinise the decisions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner under Section 28 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Following a query from the Panel, the Commissioner advised that alternatives to the G4S contract could be presented in due course once further work had been undertaken.

No further scrutiny was requested by the Panel.

7. Agenda Plan

The Panel received the agenda plan for future meetings including provisional dates for the year to March 2014.

ACTIONS:

1. Receive an update on the Police and Crime Plan at the July meeting;

The meeting began at 2.00pm and ended at 3.55pm

CHAIRMAN

ACTIONS

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	UPDATE
7 FEBRUARY 2013	4. Draft Police and Crime Plan	Circulate report to Panel Members for comment and Commissioner ahead of submission.	Completed
	7. Agenda Plan	Add Police and Crime Plan update to July agenda	Completed