



CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2023, 1.30 PM
Bourges/Viersen Rooms - Town Hall, Peterborough
Contact – jane.webb@peterborough.gov.uk

AGENDA

Page No

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 July 2023 3 - 12
4. Review Actions and Recommendations from previous meeting
5. Public Questions /Statements

Questions must be received before 12 noon on Friday 15th September 2023 to be guaranteed acceptance in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.
6. Harm to Hope Drug Strategy 13 - 16
7. Serious Violence Duty 17 - 22
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9. Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel's Annual Report 27 - 42
10. Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 43 - 44



**Members of the public wishing to submit questions or a statement to the Panel can do so by contacting the secretariat no later than 12 noon on the third working day following the publication of the meeting agenda. Further details can be found within paragraph 7, Public Participation within the rules of procedure:
[Rules of Procedure](#)*

Membership

Councillors: A Bradnam, S Ferguson, J Gowing, M Beutell, D Jones (Vice Chair), S Barkham, B Tyler, B Thaitala Varkey, S Wallwork, A Sharp and H Leeming

Independent Co-opted Members

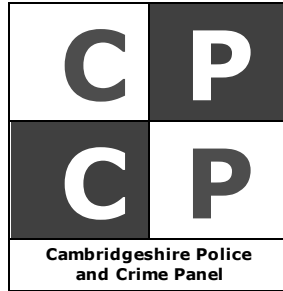
Edward Leigh
Claire George - Chair

Substitutes

Councillors: G Wilson, T Sanderson, M Goldsack, C Lowe, M Jamil, C Hogg, S Warren, A Gilderdale, L Foice-Beard, J Huffer and P Sandford

Officer Support

Jane Webb, Peterborough City Council



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
ON 19 JULY 2023**

Members Present: Claire George (Chair), Councillors A Gilderdale, A Bradnam, S Barkham, A Sharp, J Gowing, M Jamil, H Leeming, L Foice-Beard, and Edward Leigh.

Officers Present: Jane Webb Senior Democratic Services Officer, Police and Crime, Peterborough City Council
Adesuwa Omoregie Monitoring Officer, Peterborough City Council

Others Present: Darryl Preston Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Jim Haylett Chief Executive OPCC (Office of Police Crime Commissioner)
John Peach Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Jack Hudson Director of Governance and Compliance
Nicky Edwards Director of Commissioning
Cristina Turner Director for Strategic Partnerships

1. Election of Chair

The Senior Democratic Services Officer asked for nominations for the role of Chair. Claire George was nominated by Edward Leigh and seconded by Councillor Jamil. There were no other nominations and therefore Claire George was appointed Chair for the municipal year 2023/24.

2. Election of Vice Chair

The Chair asked for nominations for the role of Vice Chair. Councillor Dennis Jones (in his absence) was nominated by Councillor Jamil and seconded by Councillor Barkham. There were no other nominations and therefore Councillor Dennis Jones was appointed Vice Chair for the municipal year 2023/24.

Claire George thanked Edward Leigh for his work as Chair over the previous five years and more as a Panel Member and the Panel were grateful for his help and support.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Jones, Ferguson, Varkey, and Wallwork. Councillor Jamil was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Jones. Councillor Foice-Beard was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Wallwork.

Councillor Gilderdale was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Varkey.

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 March 2023

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

6. Review Actions and Recommendations from the Previous Meeting

The Commissioner congratulated the Chair on her new role and looked forward to working with the new and existing Members of the Panel. The Commissioner also gave his thanks to the outgoing Chair, Edward Leigh, stating he had found him to be both supportive and challenging and they had played a significant part as a collective role in keeping Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's communities safe.

The Commissioner had taken several questions from the previous meeting and acted upon them:

- *District Days* – There had been a requirement for advance notice of these; this was now happening, and he offered the new Members an opportunity for him to visit in their wards, should they wish.
- *Hard to Reach Communities - Diversity of Panels* – The scrutiny panel has 25 volunteers (11 female, 14 males) and 8 identify as ethnic minorities.
- *Independent Custody Visitors* – 29 volunteers (11 female and 18 males) and 26 identify as white British and 3 others.
- *Ongoing Vetting of Police Staff* – the national “data wash” including Cambridgeshire Constabulary was now completed and there had been no significant vetting issues identified for Cambridgeshire staff including the OPCC.
- *Culture Statement* – This has now reached local media interest and has been seen as best practice across the country.
- *Share a link to the Eastern Region Cyber Resilience Centre* – this has been circulated.
- *Lessons Learned from Covid* – The Local Resilience Forum and their review as a collective/multiagency approach was the primary focus rather than individual agencies – this work was ongoing.
- *Vision Zero Partnership* - This was a multiagency group which could not be scrutinised by the Commissioner, as it is funded and supported by the Commissioner. The Councils are statutory partners to the Vision Zero partnership and therefore it would be the Councils that would have the right to scrutinise the partnership.
- *OPCC Logo* – With elections only next year, it would be wrong to spend public money and rebrand currently.
- *Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Fund* – Great news, successful bid received of £786,000.

7. Public Questions/Statements

There were no public questions or statements received for the meeting.

8. Public Complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Year 2022/23

During the year 2022/23 no public complaints were received that met the criteria for recording concerning the Commissioner.

Councillor Barkham enquired as to what the criteria was, Jim Haylett, Chief Executive of the OPCC explained there was a specific regulation, which stated it dealt with conduct matter, with serious criminal matters being referred to the IOPC (Independent Office of Police Conduct). As with all complaints there was a threshold that should be met. Complaints against OPCC staff or constabulary do not fit the criteria, it would need to be the personal conduct of the Commissioner himself.

ACTION

The Panel **NOTED** the item

9. Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report

The Panel received a report to review the draft Annual Report for 2022/23 issued by the Police and Crime Commissioner (the "Commissioner") under Section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the "Act").

The Commissioner highlighted several points from the report:

1. *Additional Police Officers* – Thanks to the Chief Constable and his team, the Commissioner was pleased to report that Cambridgeshire had met and exceeded their national uplift target, attracting additional monies from government to enable this. There was now a record 1,732 warranted police officers across the county. To retain these numbers, there was a significant ongoing recruitment campaign which over the last three years had recruited 500 police officers. The Commissioner added he was pleased with the diversity mix of police officers, with 44% being women.
2. *Neighbourhood Crime* – This was a government priority (domestic household burglary, robbery, and vehicle crime). A 30% decrease had been seen in neighbourhood crime (baselined against 2019 - pre-covid).
3. *Other Crimes – Bike Crime* – The Commissioner reported that Cambridge had seen a 60% reduction in bike crime, whilst across the county, a 49% decrease had been recorded. *Rural Crime* – The Commissioner stated there had been significant decreases in rural crime, particularly in hare-coursing.
4. *Community Safety* – Up to £730,000 had been invested in Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), the Commissioner stated these were now moving in the right direction.
5. *Crime Prevention, Safer Streets Funding* – This funding had enabled the recruitment of two additional Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinators for Peterborough and Fenland. Training had also been delivered to over 150 people from various agencies to deliver a more consistent approach to problem solving.
6. *Youth Fund* – The Commissioner stated he was particularly proud of the Youth Fund as early intervention for young people was extremely important – this year a total of 35 projects had been granted, totalling £100,000.
7. *Road Safety – Vision Zero*. The Commissioner stated he continued to support the partnership and the constabulary; resulting in enforcement equipment having been bought for the Special Constabulary.
8. *Supporting Victims and Witnesses* – The Commissioner had invested £4.4m in Victim Services, supporting over 11,000 victims across Cambridgeshire.

The Panel made comment, asked questions, and received responses from the Commissioner and his staff regarding the draft Annual Report, these included:

- 1) Councillor Barkham referred to a question brought up at the previous meeting by Councillor Hogg regarding improving the live webchat and asked had this been carried out. The

- Commissioner explained that the webchat was a national system that they could feed back into but there had been no other complaints received regarding the webchat system.
- 2) Councillor Barkham stated fox hunting and trail hunting still existed and this caused problems for rural landowners with hounds and horses crossing their land, had this issue been investigated. The Commissioner explained that Cambridgeshire has the best rural crime team in the country who were aware of the legislation and if any reports were received by the Constabulary, he would expect the Chief Constable to investigate and deal with any acts of criminality.
 - 3) Councillor Barkham stated that often vulnerable women were exploited within the prison system and once released were addicted and in turn, exploited and therefore remained “captive” outside of prison, Councillor Barkham asked if this was recognised within the prisons and were these types of people receiving any help once released. The Commissioner stated he had visited Peterborough prison several times where the Governor pointed out that most women in prison were victims to far more serious crime than they were in prison for. The Commissioner’s office had carried out some work with the prison but does not hold the prison system to account. Cristina Turner, OPCC, added the prison has a female lead in this area who was highly active and working with local partners for continuity of pathways between the prison and the communities. The Commissioner also stated that anyone leaving prison needed a place to live and a job to stop them reoffending.
 - 4) Edward Leigh stated he was pleased to see the report was short, well-structured and fact filled. He added that some of the facts were led or originated from the Chief Constable, making them operational and therefore credit should be attributed to where it was due for the public to be aware of where the Commissioner’s and the Chief Constable’s powers lie, particularly regarding robust enforcement, to avoid any misunderstanding. The Commissioner explained that he gave credit not just to the Chief Constable, but to the men and women of the constabulary under the direct leadership of the Chief Constable, supported by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
 - 5) Edward Leigh commented that Vision Zero as a Partnership was under-delivering and therefore asked if the partnership should be rebooted. The Commissioner agreed with Edward Leigh and stated he would investigate this as there had been no drop in the numbers of fatalities on Cambridgeshire and Peterborough roads.
 - 6) Edward Leigh commented that the statistics provided by the Rape Crisis Partnership were horrifying and was a huge problem for many people. The Commissioner explained he did not think the issue was worse, but that people were now more confident to come forward and report and this would always remain a top priority.
 - 7) Edward Leigh commented that the Commissioner had provided a link within the report to the 20/21 HMIC Report; this report stated there were two areas requiring improvement and one that was inadequate and therefore an explanation should be provided stating what has now changed in response to the report. The Commissioner stated he was not aware of this and would therefore take this away to look at.
 - 8) Councillor Jamil stated he was pleased to hear that the number of police officers was growing, and that Cambridgeshire was now at a record level; yet the public still did not see this. Councillor Jamil asked what the Commissioner was doing, with the Chief Constable, to ensure that the public were aware of more police. The Commissioner stated that it was for the Chief Constable to deploy officers and staff and not the Commissioner. He explained that new officers were young and new in service, and it would take some time before this impact would be seen.
 - 9) Councillor Jamil asked the Commissioner what could be done to ensure continuity of local contact between Members and Police Officers when Members were dealing with constituents’ problems. The Commissioner stated the neighbourhood policing teams were now more

consistent, but he would encourage Members to speak to their Community Safety Partnerships going forward.

- 10) Councillor Sharp asked if the bike crime figures were due to better detection, better advice and had these perpetrators been dealt with. The Commissioner explained that the Constabulary had taken this issue as a task and tackled this problem.
- 11) Councillor Sharp asked if there were any statistics around tackling knife crime, had the number of incidents reduced. The Commissioner explained that knife crime and serious crime had gone up across the country over the last 10/15 years whereas most other crimes have reduced significantly; this was attributed to County Lines and drug dealing, which was why the government introduced a Serious Violence Strategy which states that all agencies have a duty to reduce serious violence. The Commissioner explained it was important for early intervention, to ensure that young people did not get involved in criminality. The Commissioner made it clear that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough did not see the violence that many other parts of the country did; this was a safe county.
- 12) Councillor Sharp asked how to change the mentality of speeding drivers on Cambridgeshire roads. The Commissioner explained that different measures were used, such as education, enforcement, and technology but it was down to people not driving safely or being a victim of someone else who was driving unsafely. The Commissioner stated he would continue to be heavily involved in this issue.

ACTION

The Panel **AGREED** to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report for 2022/23

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10. Police and Crime Commissioner's Approach to Integrity Assurance

The Panel received details of the mechanisms the Police and Crime Commissioner has in place to hold the Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire Constabulary to account for ethics and integrity.

The Panel made comment, asked questions, and received responses from the Commissioner and his staff regarding the draft Annual Report, these included:

1. Edward Leigh stated there was a gap around the public's contact and the feedback from the police and asked why this was not monitored, learnt from, and fed back to the Commissioner. The Commissioner stated this was not included in the report as it did not come under integrity assurance, but it was an issue the Commissioner recognised. Although operational, he would continue to discuss this with the Chief Constable as it related to public confidence in policing. The Commissioner explained he had received more direct feedback that this issue had improved due to the local embedded policing teams, and he encouraged Panel members to ensure their residents did report, not just for the police to prioritise issues but because it would also help the Commissioner hold the Chief Constable to account, which he could not do without this information.
2. Councillor Barkham stated that an automated response system that thanked the member of public for the information they had provided and inform them that if there was no need for the police to get back to them due to an ongoing issue, would solve the communication issue, as it would manage expectations. The Commissioner explained there would always be a resource

implication, but it would be a worthwhile investment, but he was also cautious as he was aware that the police also received a lot of positive feedback too.

ACTION

The Panel **AGREED** to **NOTE** the report.

11. Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2021-24 – Progress Report

The Panel received an update on the approach for successfully delivering the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2021-24.

The Panel made comment, asked questions, and received responses from the Commissioner and his staff regarding the draft Annual Report, these included:

1. Councillor Gilderdale asked about the work the Commissioner was involved in regarding hate crime. The Commissioner explained hate crime was a priority for the constabulary, there was a team that dealt with this issue and if a Panel Members wished to speak to him about this issue, he would be happy to have a conversation.
2. Councillor Gilderdale asked what could be done to help the safety of non-car users regarding road safety (electric bikes, scooters, mopeds). The Commissioner explained that road safety involved everyone that used the roads, not just car users. Regarding the tragic accident regarding the charging of an e-scooter battery, the fire service reacted quickly, sending out emails to parents via the schools and the Commissioner's thoughts were with the family, community, police officers and fire fighters involved.
3. Edward Leigh stated the report gave a clear picture of how many projects the Commissioner's small team was involved in, and it was gratifying to see how much progress had been made. Edward Leigh stated there did not seem to be a specific report on the actions regarding ways to improve 999 and 101 call handling and asked if this could be included in future reports. Edward also stated he had looked at the new OPCC website which was a huge improvement and now much easier to find content within the website. The Commissioner explained that the Improvement Plan around the Demand Hub had been published, this would be circulated to Panel Members.
4. Edward Leigh stated the report referred to the BCB (Business Coordination Board) Board papers from 18 May 2023 (community trigger update), but that agenda item paper has not been published. The Commissioner stated this would be investigated.
5. Edward Leigh stated he was concerned that after looking at the Constabulary's Sustainability Strategy and noting that the Commissioner's Office were not represented at the Combined Authority regarding the fleet strategy; asked why the Combined Authority would be acting on this issue when clearly the Police and Fire play a significant role. The Chief Executive (OPCC) stated this would be investigated and brought back to the Panel, but he suspected it was due to the fleet arrangements being carried out through a broad consortium within policing.
6. Councillor Barkham asked what influence the Commissioner could have on school curriculums, regarding adding elements of policing to education for young people to understand what the laws were and how they were expected to behave. The Commissioner explained that he spent a lot of time in schools, of all age levels. Commissioners were able to lobby and had political inroads into government. Good feedback had been received from the police officers that currently visit the schools.
7. Councillor Bradnam asked for clarification that the Victim and Witness Support Hub still supported victims that chose to withdraw their allegations. Nicky Edwards, OPCC confirmed that victims were able to access all the services, whether they had reported their allegations or not. If a victim withdrew from the process; none of the support is withdrawn, they can remain with the services as long as they feel necessary. Some of the services available: IDVAs

(Independent Domestic Violence Advisor), Peterborough Women’s Aid, Cambridge Women’s Aid, Refuge, County Outreach Service, Peterborough – Lithuanian Support Worker, Countywide Specialist Worker for Male Victims of Domestic Abuse and Specialist Post for Minority Communities etc. Significant investment has meant that there are now the best support services available to victims.

ACTION

The Panel **AGREED** to **NOTE** the report.

The Chair thanked the Commissioner, his staff, and the constabulary for organising the Panel visit to the Demand Hub Police Headquarters in Huntingdon the previous week. The Panel had learnt that regarding the volume of 999 calls, there had been two days in June where there had been more than 800 calls, when the expected amount was usually approximately 400. The Chair fully appreciated that monitoring 999/101 calls would remain an issue.

(THE COMMISSIONER AND HIS STAFF LEFT THE MEETING)

12. Rules of Procedure and Panel Arrangements

The Panel received a report to review the Rules of Procedure.

ACTION

It was **AGREED** to **NOTE** that no changes were required

13. Administration Costs and Member Expenses

The Panel received a report detailing the budget claimed to support Cambridgeshire’s Police and Crime Panel, including the expenses of Panel Members.

ACTION

The Panel **AGREED** to **NOTE** the report.

14. Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan

DATES	ITEMS
<p>13 SEPTEMBER 2023 1:30pm</p> <p>Civic Suite Huntingdonshire District Council</p> <p>Huntingdon</p>	<p>Public Questions</p> <p>Serious Violence Strategy</p> <p>Harm to Hope Drug Strategy</p> <p>High Harms Board</p> <p>Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan</p>

<p>29 NOVEMBER 2023 1:30pm</p> <p>Civic Suite</p> <p>Huntingdonshire District Council</p> <p>Huntingdon</p>	<p>Public Questions</p> <p>Commissioning and Grants</p> <p>OPCC – Forward Plan</p> <p>Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan</p>
<p>31 JANUARY 2024 1:30pm</p> <p>Civic Suite Huntingdonshire District Council</p> <p>Huntingdon</p>	<p>Public Questions</p> <p>Precept Report 2024/2025 (full meeting – given importance) OPCC – Forward Plan</p> <p>Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan</p>
<p>14 FEBRUARY 2024 1:30pm</p> <p>TBC</p>	<p>If needed (Veto)</p>
<p>13 MARCH 2024 1:30pm</p> <p>TBC</p>	<p>Public Questions</p> <p>Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan</p>

ITEM	ACTION
<p>1. Public Complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Year 2022/23</p>	<p>The Panel AGREED to Note the report.</p>
<p>2. Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report</p>	<p>The Panel AGREED to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report for 2022/23</p>

3. Police and Crime Commissioner's Approach to Integrity Assurance	The Panel AGREED to NOTE the report.
4. Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2021-24 – Progress Report	The Panel AGREED to NOTE the report
5. Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel – Annual Report	The Panel AGREED to NOTE the Annual Report.
6. Rules of Procedure and Panel Arrangements	It was AGREED to NOTE that no changes were required
7. Administration Costs and Member Expenses	The Panel AGREED to NOTE the report.
8. Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan	The Panel NOTED the forthcoming meeting dates.

The meeting began at 2:00pm and ended at 4:22 pm

CHAIR

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 6
20th September 2023	Public Report

Report of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Contact Officer – Jim Haylett. Chief Executive Officer.

Contact Details – cambs-pcc@cambs.police.uk 0300 333 3456

HARM TO HOPE DRUG STRATEGY

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel (the “Panel”) with details of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) approach to supporting partners in delivering against the Government’s Harm to Hope Drug Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to note the contents of this report.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 3.1 Item 6 – to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner’s functions.

Item 8 - To support the effective exercise of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the “Act”) the Panel has a role in scrutinising the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) in the exercise of his statutory functions.
- 4.2 As well as the Commissioner’s duties for holding the Chief Constable to account, the Act places wide-ranging statutory duties and powers on Commissioners relating to working in co-operation with community safety partners.
- 4.3 The levers in the partnership arena are different from policing. The legislation does not provide for a holding to account role, rather reciprocal duties, and powers for co-operation. This includes:
- mutual duties for co-operative working;
 - having regard to respective priorities;
 - PCC powers to convene community safety and criminal justice partners and ask for reports; and
 - PCC power to make grants.
- 4.4 The Commissioner is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan (“the Plan”) which sets out how he will deliver against his statutory role set out in the Act. At the heart of the Plan

for 2021-24 is the Commissioner's role in preventing and reducing crime, as well as his expectations of robust enforcement.

5. CROSS-GOVERNMENT STRATEGY

- 5.1 The Government's 'From harm to hope' 10-year drug strategy (the "strategy") was published in December 2021 and picks up on the findings of Dame Carol Black's review. Drugs are a global problem, causing considerable harm around the world. Dame Carol Black was commissioned by the Government to carry out a two-part review of drugs policy. Part one was a broad assessment of the evidence on illegal drug supply into the UK and how criminals meet the demands of users. Part two made specific recommendations for improving prevention, treatment, and recovery.
- 5.2 The strategy aims to cut crime and save lives through:
 - Breaking drug supply chains
 - Delivering a world class treatment and recovery system
 - Achieving a generational shift in the demand for drugs.
- 5.3 This is important. The Government has stated previously that the financial cost of drug misuse is £20 billion a year, something like £350 for every person in England. The human costs are also significant, sadly including in lives lost. There are impacts on communities from those vulnerable victims drawn into being exploited, to burglaries, shoplifting and anti-social behaviour.
- 5.4 Breaking drug supply chains is about making it harder for organised crime groups to operate. Tackling all stages of the supply chain. From preventing drugs entering the UK, disrupting drug gang operations nationally, regionally, and locally, and protecting prisons.
- 5.5 Delivering a world class treatment and recovery system is about providing additional capacity in substance misuse services, to improve quality and outcomes to help people to break the cycle of addiction. This includes ensuring appropriate referrals from the criminal justice system and keeping people engaged in treatment after release from prison. But it also links to the wider integration of services, making sure that people's physical and mental health needs are addressed, improving access to accommodation, and improving employment opportunities. It also includes reducing drug-related deaths.
- 5.6 Achieving a generational shift in the demand for drugs is about changing attitudes in society – recreational drug use is not harmless. This includes building the evidence base and supporting prevention and early intervention in school and with those young people and families most at risk of substance misuse.

6. WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

- 6.1 Policing clearly plays a key role in breaking drugs supply chains through their enforcement work. In the year ending 31st March 2023, targeted police work to disrupt county lines and take drugs off our streets led to police identifying 36% more drug trafficking and 34% more drug possession offences. Operation Hypernova, the county's biggest ever operation set up to tackle exploitation and illegal drugs resulted in 31 people charged for 139 drug and human trafficking offences, the dismantling of 30 county lines and the seizure of £600,000 worth of drugs. In June, targeted work against cannabis growing facilities across the county saw cannabis worth more than £3m seized following 19 drug raids. Arrests and charges were made. An imitation firearm was also recovered and a vulnerable adult safeguarded.
- 6.2 Drug treatment and recovery services for adults and young people are commissioned through public health. Change Grow Live are the current provider of these services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust running the child and adolescent service for Cambridgeshire. Additional national

funding has been allocated in 2022-25 to boost treatment services. This includes early 'enhanced' funding for Peterborough. A 'menu' of suitable interventions is provided by the national team. The additional grant investment has been primarily invested in front line and support staff, as well as additional rehab placements. As part of the increased capacity, additionality within the treatment services includes bespoke support for people from ethnic minority backgrounds, a young person worker, hospital discharge workers, additional dedicated criminal justice workers and targeted support to those impacted and exploited by county lines. The additional funding means more staff are available to support more clients. Also, in terms of improving quality as increased capacity should result in smaller caseloads. It has also helped with ensuring specialist skills are in place (e.g., mental health) and upskilling staff and partners through specialist training. These services continue to perform well against national indicators. Oversight is undertaken through the relevant Committees within Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

- 6.3 Partnership working is key. A local delivery plan is overseen by the Drug and Alcohol Misuse Delivery Board. Previous priorities were mapped against the new national strategy and also updated in light of the needs assessment. Links to wider services such as housing, health, employment and targeted support for young people and families are supported through the delivery plan and Board membership. Local performance is also monitored through the Drug and Alcohol Misuse Delivery Board, with oversight through the High Harms Board.
- 6.4 Additional grants are also received by the two upper-tier local authorities which are also connected to the national drugs strategy. Recently these have included grants for rough sleeper outreach and specialist housing support. Additional funding linked to the drugs strategy has also been received by other local organisations. This includes the Constabulary, to further develop drug testing on arrest. Probation have also put in place funding for a Health and Justice Co-ordinator and for drug and alcohol support workers to be co-located in probation. The partnership arrangements at both an operational and strategic level help to ensure these different, and complex, funding streams work in tandem to improve pathways for service users.
- 6.5 A successful pilot project to prevent avoidable deaths from overdoses from drugs like heroin was also extended to Fenland last year after several lives were saved across Peterborough and Cambridge since the pilot was launched. This is also being rolled out to Huntingdonshire. The nasal spray 'Naloxone' counters the effects of an overdose and can be administered by trained police officers if they are first to attend an overdose situation. It has been used by officers on a number of occasions, potentially saving lives in these cases.

7. PCC ROLE

- 7.1 There is no statutory role for PCCs in relation to the drug strategy. However, the Commissioner recognised the importance of galvanising the partnership response from the outset, this included hosting a visit and partnership discussion with Dame Carol Black in the summer of 2022. This links to the wider PCC role in supporting co-operative working across the system.
- 7.2 Furthermore, the Commissioner has taken on the role of 'Senior Responsible Owner,' to provide oversight for the delivery of the drug strategy locally. This has included supporting and ensuring national governance expectations have been met, and reporting on these to

the Government. The OPCC supports the Commissioner in carrying out this role, forging links, supporting, and monitoring progress.

7.3 The Commissioner also chairs the High Harms Board which provides oversight across four priority issues:

- Harm to Hope Drug Strategy;
- serious violence;
- violence against women and girls; and
- serious and organised crime.

The OPCC has ensured that regular updates on progress against the national strategy are brought to the Board for consideration.

7.4 The Commissioner provides Crime & Disorder Reduction Grants to public health as a contribution to both Cambridgeshire & Peterborough treatment services. In Cambridgeshire this supports the criminal justice pathway within the service. In Peterborough it supports a high needs support worker post which is able to provide more intensive support for some of the more complex criminal justice cases.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

'From harm to hope: A 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives', HM Government
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/from-harm-to-hope-a-10-year-drugs-plan-to-cut-crime-and-save-lives>

Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2021 – 2024
<https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/police-crime-plan/>

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents>

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 7
20th September 2023	Public Report

Report of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Contact Officer – Jim Haylett. Chief Executive Officer.

Contact Details – cambs-pcc@cambs.police.uk 0300 333 3456

SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel (the “Panel”) with details of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) approach to supporting partners in delivering against the statutory Serious Violence Duty.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to note the contents of this report.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 3.1 Item 6 – to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner’s functions.

Item 8 - To support the effective exercise of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the “Act”) the Panel has a role in scrutinising the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) in the exercise of his statutory functions.
- 4.2 As well as the Commissioner’s duties for holding the Chief Constable to account, the Act places wide-ranging statutory duties and powers on Commissioners relating to working in co-operation with community safety partners.
- 4.3 Increasingly, the Government is also placing a convening role with Commissioners across a wide range of issues (including the Serious Violence Duty), sometimes with a role in allocating national funding locally.
- 4.4 The levers in the partnership arena are different from policing. The legislation does not provide a holding to account role, rather reciprocal duties and powers for co-operation instead. This includes:
- Mutual duties for co-operative working.
 - Having regard to respective priorities.
 - PCC powers to convene community safety and criminal justice partners and ask for reports.

- PCC power to make grants.

The landscape is complex with a wide range of partners, each with specific duties. Good partnership working is, therefore, key. The PCC and the OPCC are uniquely placed to provide system leadership, facilitating and enabling these agencies to work effectively together.

- 4.5 The Commissioner is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan (“the Plan”) which sets out how he will deliver against his statutory role set out in the Act. At the heart of the Plan for 2021-24 is the Commissioner’s role in preventing and reducing crime, as well as his expectations of robust enforcement.

5. SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY

- 5.1 Serious violence has devastating impacts on victims and their families, instils a culture of fear within communities and is exceptionally costly to society. To address the national increase in public space violence, particularly among young people, the Government published the Serious Violence Strategy in 2018. The strategy sets out the Government’s response to serious violence and the increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide across England and Wales since 2014.
- 5.2 Between the year to June 2014 and the year to June 2020, offences involving a knife or sharp instrument increased by 84% in England and Wales. Within this context of increased violence, the Serious Violence Duty (the “Duty”), a statutory duty, was introduced as part of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. The Duty, which came into effect on 31st January 2023, places a requirement on organisations to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence in their local area through the adoption of a public health approach. This means taking a whole-system, multi-agency approach to preventing serious violence, implementing interventions across all levels, from the individual through to communities.
- 5.3 As part of the Duty, agencies are obliged to share data and information, identify the types of serious violence that occur locally, and determine what is causing that violence. Named organisations must work collaboratively to produce an evidence-informed Strategic Needs Assessment, publish a Local Serious Violence Response Strategy, and engage in impact evaluation and monitoring.
- 5.4 The Duty states that the following “specified authorities” within an area are required to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence:
- Police
 - Probation
 - Youth Offending Teams
 - Fire and Rescue
 - Local Authorities
 - Integrated Care Boards (Health)
- 5.5 It also requires the following “relevant authorities” to be consulted by the specified authorities in the preparation of the strategy, and their involvement is requested:
- Prison
 - Youth Custody
 - Education
- 5.6 The Home Office has set three key success measures for the prevention and reduction of serious violence, which are:
- 1) A reduction in hospital admissions for assaults with a knife or sharp object.
 - 2) A reduction in knife and sharp object enabled serious violence recorded by the Police.
 - 3) A reduction in homicides recorded by the Police.

6. THE ROLE OF THE PCC

- 6.1 Although PCCs themselves are not subject to the Duty, they have been given convening powers to assist the Duty holders (by arranging meetings) and monitoring how duty holders carry out those functions. Through this central convening role, the PCC is responsible for administering national grant funding and monitoring progress through submitting quarterly monitoring reports to the Home Office.
- 6.2 The Serious Violence Duty Home Office grant funding is intended to enable the OPCC to assist the specified and relevant authorities in delivering the Duty. The Home Office has allocated grant funding to each police force area to cover the work required for partners to fulfil the core requirements of the Duty, and to support the delivery of serious violence reduction strategies. The Home Office have provided provisional funding allocations until March 2025. This amounts to nearly £1m across just over two years.
- 6.3 Serious Violence Duty Home Office grant funding is provided and split by the Home Office to cover the 'labour' and 'non-labour' costs associated with delivering the Duty.
- **Labour costs** broadly include those associated with preparing and developing the Strategic Needs Assessment and Local Serious Violence Response Strategy, including familiarisations costs, training, meeting costs, analysis, and strategy development.
 - **Non-labour costs** include those associated with implementing interventions to reduce serious violence in accordance with the local strategy.
- 6.4 Progress against the Serious Violence Duty is being monitored through the Countywide High Harms Board. All funding allocations are formally agreed by the specified authorities (a requirement of the Duty) at the Board.

7. PROGRESS TO DATE

- 7.1 Since the Duty came into effect, extensive progress has been made in relation to the initial needs assessment, the Serious Violence Youth Listening Project, and the Cambridgeshire Partnership Serious Violence Duty Partnership Workshop, supported by the national funding. Crest Advisory (an organisation of crime and justice specialists) were commissioned by the Home Office to work with Duty holders and local partners to provide tailored support to develop their delivery against and compliance with the Duty. Local partners have been able to join sessions run by Crest to support them in relation to understanding the duty, evidence gathering, data sharing, strategy, and evaluation. Tailored support is being provided locally to assist with the development of the Strategic Needs Assessment through a data, information sharing and analysis workshop.
- 7.2 **Initial Needs Assessment**
In preparation for the Duty, Cambridgeshire Constabulary conducted an initial Serious Violence Needs Assessment, which drew upon police data, as well as (some partner-held) information such as ambulance and A&E data. This analysis provided a baseline assessment of serious violence across the county and was a useful starting point to help identify both data and knowledge gaps. Going forwards, a more comprehensive Strategic Needs Assessment will be completed, along with the Local Serious Violence Strategy. Both documents are core requirements of the Duty, and first iterations will be completed by the partnership by January 2024.
- 7.3 **Serious Violence Youth Listening Project**
The Serious Violence Youth Listening Project was commissioned as part of the initial evidence base. The aim of the project was to capture the perspectives of and produce analysis on young peoples' views around how safe they feel in their local areas. While safety was discussed in a general sense, issues relating to knife crime, drugs and gang

violence were covered. More than 1,700 young people aged 11 to 18 from across the six Community Safety Partnership (CSP) areas engaged with the project. The voice of young people is crucial, and the findings of the Youth Listening Project will help to shape and influence some of youth-focused interventions that will be introduced as part of the Duty, as well as the broader local strategy.

7.4 Cambridgeshire Partnership Serious Violence Duty Workshop

In March 2023, the OPCC held the Cambridgeshire Partnership Serious Violence Duty Workshop, which brought more than 50 local partners together, with all the specified and relevant authorities represented. The workshop provided the opportunity for presentations about the Duty and Duty funding, as well as interactive discussion about what Duty means in practice locally. Partners also heard about lessons learned from another area which had already established a Violence Reduction Unit with Home Office funding. Gap analysis was also conducted to identify where the gaps exist in current service provision. The findings from the gap analysis, along with wider discussions with partners, have helped to inform the interventions that will be introduced across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough as part of the Duty.

8. INTERVENTIONS

8.1 The national Serious Violence Duty grant funding will support a variety of interventions over the next two years. Intensive work is currently underway with partners to agree the funding plans. Interventions that have been already agreed by the specified authorities at the Countywide High Harms Board include (but are not limited to):

- Key Stage 2 County Lines video
- Hotspot detached youth work and primary school outreach and engagement
- Knife crime awareness-raising
- Night-time economy hotspot policing

8.2 Key Stage 2 County Lines videos

Building on the success of the County Lines video aimed at secondary school aged students, partners identified that there is a lack of age-appropriate educational content and resources for end of primary school/Key Stage 2 children on issues such as County Lines, grooming/ exploitation, knife crime and violence. This lack of knowledge/understanding leaves children vulnerable to exploitation and presents a significant safeguarding issue. To address this concern, three educational videos about County Lines and associated topics are being developed specifically for primary age pupils (in years 5 and 6) across the county. In addition, lesson plans and other resources will also be provided to allow teachers to incorporate the videos into a classroom learning session. Cambridge CSP are leading this work.

8.3 Hotspot detached youth work

Hotspot detached youth work is a form of youth outreach that involves engaging with young people in the spaces they choose to meet. This programme intends to work with select groups of young people in specific localities that have been identified as hotspots for problematic/risky behaviour and/or youth-related violence. There will also be some provision for some one-to-one work. This builds on existing youth work provision to support a younger age group and therefore act more preventatively. The project for Cambridgeshire is going live for the start of the new school year. A separate Peterborough offer is also being discussed.

8.4 Knife crime awareness-raising

This intervention aims to increase awareness of the risks associated with carrying knives among young people, their parents, and the wider community. A launch event was hosted

in Peterborough on Saturday 15th July 2023 at which local community groups and youth groups could sign up for pop-up knife awareness sessions. The pop-up events will be delivered at local community centres and youth clubs across Peterborough between July and December 2023. Peterborough City Council is working with partners, including community groups and the police, on this initiative.

8.5 **Night-time economy hotspot policing**

To prevent and reduce violence in night-time economy locations and the surrounding area, additional policing resource will be delivered in identified violent crime hotspot areas.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Serious Violence Duty Statutory Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-violence-duty>

Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2021 – 2024

<https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/police-crime-plan/>

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents>

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 8
20th September 2023	Public Report

Report of Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Contact Officer – Jim Haylett. Chief Executive Officer.

Contact Details – cambs-pcc@cambs.police.uk 0300 333 3456

HIGH HARMS BOARD

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel (the “Panel”) with details of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) approach to supporting partnership working through the High Harms Board.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to note the contents of this report.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 3.1 Item 6 – to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner’s functions.

Item 8 - To support the effective exercise of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

4. BACKGROUND

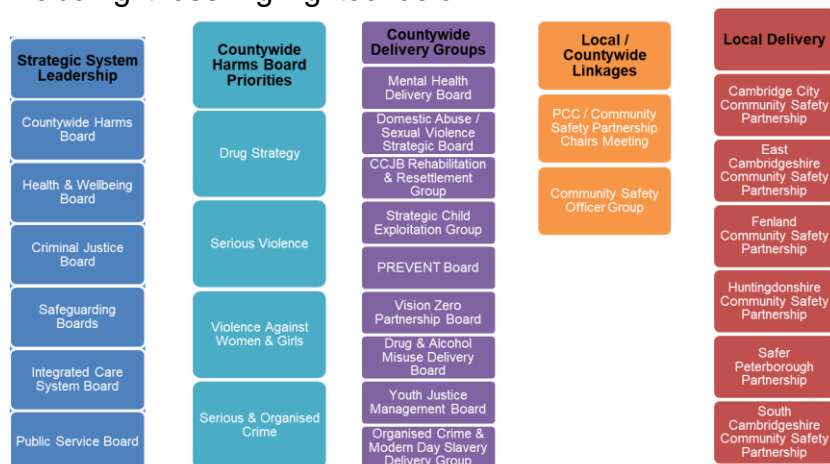
- 4.1 Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the “Act”) the Panel has a role in scrutinising the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) in the exercise of his statutory functions.
- 4.2 As well as the Commissioner’s duties for holding the Chief Constable to account, the Act places wide-ranging statutory duties and powers on Commissioners relating to working in co-operation with community safety partners.
- 4.3 Increasingly, the Government is also placing a convening role with Commissioners across wide range of issues, sometimes with a role in allocating national funding locally.
- 4.4 The levers in the partnership arena are different from policing. The legislation does not provide for a holding to account role, rather reciprocal duties, and powers for co-operation. This includes:
- mutual duties for co-operative working;
 - having regard to respective priorities;
 - PCC powers to convene community safety and criminal justice partners and ask for reports; and
 - PCC power to make grants.

The landscape is complex with a wide range of partners, each with specific duties. Good partnership working is, therefore, key. The PCC and the OPCC are uniquely placed to provide system leadership, facilitating, and enabling these agencies to work effectively together.

- 4.5 The Commissioner is required to produce a Police and Crime Plan (“the Plan”) which sets out how he will deliver against his statutory role set out in the Act. At the heart of the Plan for 2021-24 is the Commissioner’s role in preventing and reducing crime, as well as his expectations of robust enforcement.

5. PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- 5.1 Across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough there is a complex backdrop of mutual duties for co-operative working across multiple agencies and through multi-agency partnerships, including those highlighted below:



- 5.2 The Crime and Disorder Act requires the “responsible authorities” in a local area (police, local authorities, probation, health, fire) to work together and implement strategies to tackle local crime & disorder – these partnership arrangements provide support on those issues which are suited to a countywide approach.
- 5.3 To provide support and leadership around higher harm issues, countywide delivery groups ranging from the Domestic Abuse / Sexual Violence Strategic Board to the counterterrorism PREVENT board are well-established and were identified previously where complexity or wider impact suggests a countywide approach would add value.
- 5.4 Following a review of previous Countywide Community Safety Strategic Board arrangements, the Countywide High Harms Board (the “Board”) was established by the Commissioner in July 2022. The Board is chaired by the Commissioner and meets quarterly. It provides strategic direction and leadership across four priority issues:
- Harm to Hope Drug Strategy;
 - serious violence;
 - violence against women and girls; and
 - serious and organised crime.
- 5.5 This enables organisations across the county to take and demonstrate a joined-up approach to these key agendas. It also helps partners fulfil national partnership governance requirements. More recently, the government has been defining precise requirements for local governance arrangements for key themes. For instance, each area is now required to have a Combating Drugs Partnership. The Board fulfils this function. Each area is also required to have appropriate partnership arrangements in relation to serious violence. Again, the Board fulfils this function.
- 5.6 Although some of these issues can be seen as ‘policing’ issues, in reality there are much wider impacts in our communities. Whether that is a higher risk to children or an increase in violence, drugs etc. For instance, large scale domestic cannabis production and

'cuckooing' (when criminals take over a person's home for illegal purposes such as drug dealing) are likely to have wider impacts on the community such as anti-social behaviour. When these issues present to policing, they are often symptomatic of wider issues. The Commissioner is clear that while crime prevention has always been part of the role of policing, it cannot be achieved by the police alone.

6. HIGHLIGHTS SO FAR

6.1 There has been good engagement with the Board, including from wider partners such as education and the voluntary sector. There has been an emphasis on working at a system level to "join the dots" and maximise the impact of existing insights and delivery, as well as seeking to fill gaps. There is a strong focus on early intervention and prevention which is a cross-cutting theme for the high harms agenda and beyond.

6.2 Harm to Hope Drug Strategy

- Ensured that national governance requirements for the Drug Strategy are met.
- Ensuring previous delivery plans are updated and mapped to new requirements.
- Ensuring a needs assessment is undertaken.
- Ensuring a local performance framework is established and monitoring Drug Strategy outcomes.

6.3 Serious Violence

- Lead partners identified and engaged.
- Initial needs assessment undertaken by the Constabulary. Further partner data and insights being explored.
- Supporting partner engagement in serious violence workstreams and funding decisions. Opportunity to maximise national funding 2023-25. Early intervention with those young people most at risk is an area of focus, building on existing work.

6.4 Violence Against Women & Girls

- Long-standing mature partnership arrangements through Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership continue.
- New VAWG needs assessment underway which, with the serious violence needs assessment and annual domestic abuse needs assessment, provide a comprehensive picture across this part of the system.

6.5 Serious & Organised Crime

- Updated local profile shared with partners.
- Introduction of local Multi Agency Mapping Panels and good partner engagement.
- Home Office is working with Cambridgeshire, starting in Peterborough, to pilot a new Clear, Hold, Build strategy to reduce serious and organised crime. This is in the context of significant operational activity to tackle serious and organised crime.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2021 – 2024
<https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/police-crime-plan/>

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents>

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 9
20 SEPTEMBER 2023	Public Report

Report of: Jane Webb, Senior Democratic Services Officer, Peterborough City Council

Contact Officer(s) – Jane Webb

Contact Details – jane.webb@peterborough.gov.uk

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel Annual Report

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the draft annual report of the work of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel during the last twelve months.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Panel approve the Police and Crime Panel's Annual Report.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 3.1 This report discharges the responsibility for the Panel to publish an annual report of its work.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The report sets out some of the key areas that the Panel has scrutinised over the year 2022/23 which includes:

- Understanding the Commissioner's approach to the HMICFRS Report
- Understanding the Commissioner's approach to budget setting and an overview of the Constabulary Budget Considerations
- Reviewing the Commissioner's reporting procedures which sets out what the police are expected to achieve and how the Commissioner holds the police to account.
- Monitoring the overall performance of the Constabulary, including against the priorities set out in the Plan alongside reports on other areas of business that deliver towards the objectives within the Plan.
- Understanding the Commissioner's approach to:
 - Commissioning and Grants
 - Criminal Justice and Community Safety
 - Communications and Engagement
 - Supporting problem solving of local issues of concern
- Theming each meeting to ensure that each objective within the Police and Crime Commissioner's plan is scrutinised, supported, and challenged.
- Requesting and regularly attending briefings to enable the Panel to remain up to date on key issues.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 None

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 None

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 N/A

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

9.1 Agendas and Minutes of the Panel for meetings held on 20 July 2022, 23 November 2022, 1 February 2023 and 15 March 2023.

10. APPENDICES

10.1 Appendix 1 - Annual report of the Panel 2022/2023.

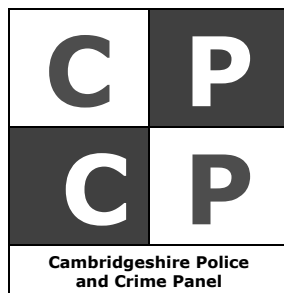


Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel



Scrutinising and Supporting the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner

ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

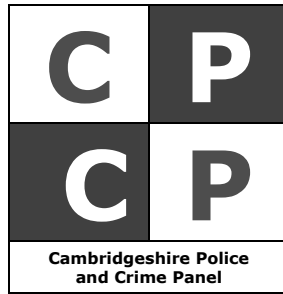


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1. FOREWORD

Welcome to the **TENTH ANNUAL REPORT** of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel covering the municipal year April 2022 to March 2023.

Police and Crime Panels were established by central government in November 2012. This report covers yet another challenging year for the Panel, which has worked hard to fulfil its statutory responsibilities and develop its role to scrutinise and support the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner.



2. KEY PERSONNEL

The current Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is Darryl Preston, who was elected to serve in this role in May 2021.



[Darryl Preston - Commissioner](#)

The Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, appointed by the Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2022, is John Peach.

The Panel is made up of eleven councillors from across the seven Local Authorities – Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, together with two co-opted independent members.

In 2022/23, the Chair was co-opted independent member Edward Leigh and the Vice Chair was Claire George, the second co-opted independent member on the Panel.



[Edward Leigh – Chair](#)



[Claire George - Vice](#)

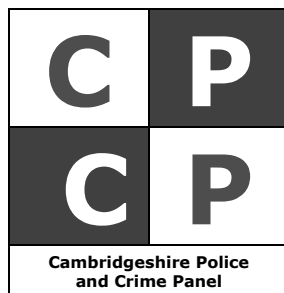
Key Terms and Abbreviations

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC or Commissioner)

Police and Crime Panel (PCP)

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

Chief Executive of the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (Chief Executive)



3. A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

It is ten years since Police & Crime Commissioners and Panels were created. The legislation that brought them into being, set out the roles and responsibilities of Commissioners in some detail, and they continue to evolve and grow.

My own view as a Panel member is that it is important, we make a positive difference. Panel members bring an extraordinary breadth of knowledge, insight, wisdom, and experience to the table. As chair of the Panel, I have endeavoured to build a relationship with the Commissioner and his office that is mutually respectful and constructive, so that we can all learn from and help each other. By focusing on challenges and opportunities in policing and crime prevention, rather than points of political difference, I hope that all Panel members feel they can make a positive difference.

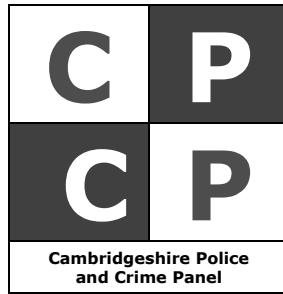
That said, the Panel must of course always maintain sufficient distance to be critical when needed, and never to compromise in its duty to the public to hold the Commissioner to account on their conduct in office.

I would like to thank the Commissioner and his office for listening and engaging constructively with the Panel. And I would like to thank Panel members, current and past, for your time and thoughtful contributions to our scrutiny work. It is a significant and important commitment which few members of the public are aware of, let alone thank you for.

Edward Leigh

4. WHAT IS CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL?

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel came into being in November 2012, at the same time as elections for Police and Crime Commissioners were held across the country. Both were part of the new police governance arrangements whereby Commissioners and Panels replaced the old Police Authority and took over, respectively, its governance and scrutiny functions in accordance with the Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Police and Crime Panels are, in effect, joint scrutiny bodies of the local authorities in the police force area and are composed of elected members from these authorities and co-opted independent members who are not local councillors. Councillor membership of a Police and Crime Panel must be geographically and politically proportionate.



5. PANEL MEMBERSHIP

In Cambridgeshire the number of members from each authority and each political party was agreed by council leaders as follows: -

- 3 members from Cambridgeshire County Council
- 3 members from Peterborough City Council
- 1 member each from the remaining 5 Councils
- 2 independent, co-opted members

In 2022-23, Panel members were:

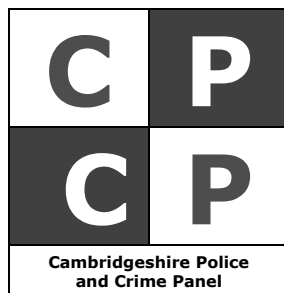
Peterborough City Council:	Councillor Scott Warren (Conservative) Councillor Christian Hogg (Lib Dem) Councillor Ansar Ali (Labour)
Cambridgeshire County Council:	Councillor Anna Bradnam (Lib Dem) Councillor Steve Tierney (Conservative) Councillor Stephen Ferguson (Independent)
Huntingdonshire District Council:	Councillor Marge Beuttell (Conservative)
South Cambridgeshire District Council:	Councillor Sally Ann Hart (Lib Dem)
Fenland District Council:	Councillor Steve Count (Conservative)
East Cambridgeshire District Council:	Councillor Alan Sharp (Conservative)
Cambridge City Council:	Councillor Alice Gilderdale (Labour)
Co-opted Independent Members:	Edward Leigh (Chair) Claire George (Vice Chair)

[Thanks](#) - Thanks are given to all Panel Members for their contributions over the past year.

6. GOVERNANCE

The host authority for the Police and Crime Panel is Peterborough City Council.

Jane Webb	Senior Democratic Services Officer
Fiona McMillan/	Monitoring Officer (until November 2023)
Rochelle Tapping	Monitoring Officer (from December 2023)
Claire Cameron	Accounts
Amanda Rose	Communications



7. THE PANEL'S CORE WORK PROGRAMME

The Panel's statutory scrutiny responsibilities constitute its core work programme:

- Review annually the Commissioner's proposed council tax precept, with powers to veto once.
- Review annually the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan and Annual Report.
- Scrutinise the Commissioner's proposed appointment of a Chief Constable, with the power to veto once.
- Scrutinise the appointment of any deputy commissioner and the Commissioner's senior executive staff, with the power to recommend against an appointment.
- Consider non-criminal complaints against the Commissioner.

In addition to the above, the Panel can engage in further scrutiny reviews on any topic relevant to its role. It submits reports and makes recommendations to the Commissioner, and it can carry out investigations as it sees fit into the Commissioner's decisions and delivery of his or her duties.

Apart from the two instances where the Panel has a veto (the level of the police precept and the appointment of a chief constable) it achieves its impact by influence, by examining reports and draft policy documents, questioning the Commissioner and/or external witnesses, and then making recommendations. These are communicated to the Commissioner in writing and are publicly recorded in the Panel's minutes.

The main Panel meetings are open to the public and can be viewed live, by following the link [here](#). The Panel's website is [here](#).

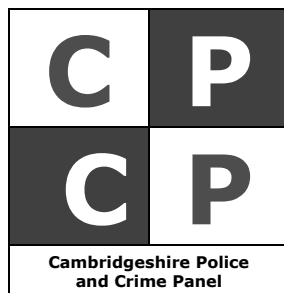
8. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PANEL'S ACTIVITY IN 2022/23

Since its establishment, the Panel has often seen a notable change in its membership year on year. The stability provided by the pandemic helped the Panel build on its knowledge and collective scrutiny and support of the Police and Crime Commissioner, which has, in turn, strengthened governance and decision-making on behalf of the people of Cambridgeshire.

Panel Members have regularly expressed the view that a more stable and committed membership would be beneficial in ensuring the effective discharge of its responsibilities, and it is hoped that the Cambridgeshire Leaders will recognise this when appointing to the Panel. Nationally, this view has also been expressed to the Home Office.

During 2022-23 the Panel met physically on five occasions to scrutinise several key areas of the Commissioner's work. These included:

- Understanding the Commissioner's approach to the HMICFRS Report
- Understanding the Commissioner's approach to budget setting and an overview of the Constabulary Budget Considerations



- Reviewing the Commissioner's reporting procedures which sets out what the police are expected to achieve and how the Commissioner holds the police to account.
- Monitoring the overall performance of the Constabulary, including against the priorities set out in the Plan alongside reports on other areas of business that deliver towards the objectives within the Plan.
- Understanding the Commissioner's approach to:
 - Commissioning and Grants
 - Criminal Justice and Community Safety
 - Communications and Engagement
 - Supporting problem solving of local issues of concern
- Theming each meeting to ensure that each objective within the Police and Crime Commissioner's plan is scrutinised, supported, and challenged.
- Requesting and regularly attending briefings to enable the Panel to remain up to date on key issues.

In addition, the Panel has scrutinised the Commissioner's variations to his Police and Crime Plan throughout the year and the decisions which he has taken. Full details of the issues that the Panel have considered can be found on the website with copies of the agenda and minutes are available to view [here](#).

2022/23 Panel meetings

[20 July 2022 - Annual General Meeting - Minutes](#) [Police and Crime Panel - YouTube Recording](#)

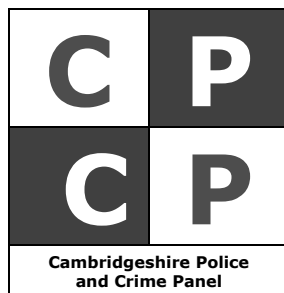
[Cambridgeshire's Police and Crime Panel - Annual Report 2021/22](#) This report communicates to members of the public, partners, and other authorities the details of the Panel's activities across the year and what the Panel has achieved and carried out throughout the year. The Panel endorsed the report.

[14 September 2021 - meeting postponed](#)

Following the death of Her Majesty the Queen, it was His Majesty the King's wish that a period of Royal Mourning be observed, considering this, the Police and Crime Panel meeting was postponed. It was decided that the items of this meeting were to be incorporated into the November meeting, effectively making the November meeting a 'double' meeting.

[11th November 2022 - Annual Police, Fire and Crime Panels Conference](#)

Objective The Conference served to brief Panels about current policies, reviews and key issues in policing, criminal justice, and the wider public sector (including fire and rescue services) through plenary sessions and policy seminars, addressed by significant partners across the sector. It enabled horizon



scanning in respect of potential governance changes, developing strategies, spending reviews and collaboration. The Conference included skills development for Panel members and officers in their roles of providing support for and challenge to their Commissioners. It also provided a space for networking and peer to peer support in forums focused on roles fulfilled or governance arrangements.

Participants Chairs, Members and Support Officers of Police Fire and Crime Panels, this included Elected Members and Independent (Co-opted) Members. Officers included Monitoring Officers, as well as Democratic Services and Scrutiny Officers all of whom supported Panels in various ways.

Format Hybrid event, in-person meeting in a conference centre located in the Midlands to facilitate easy access to all panels and virtual access to the conference.

The Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel was represented by five Panel members who attended either in person or online and found it extremely interesting and great for networking with other panel members from across the county.

The Conference covered key issues relevant to Police, Fire and Crime Panels such as:

- Measuring Panel Performance
- The Financial Impact on Policing – Where do we go from here?
- Being a Critical Friend – Joining the Dots

And keynote speakers included:

- Dr Sarah Chapman - Professor of Criminology, University of Portsmouth
- Inspector Chris Excell - Former Chair, Black Police Association
- Paul Grady - Grant Thornton's Director, and Head of Police
- Jim Haylett - Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Office for Police and Crime Commissioner
- Sal Naseem - Regional Director for London, Independent Office for Police Conduct
- Vicky Newbury - Chair, Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel

[23 November 2022 - Minutes](#) [Police and Crime Panel - YouTube Recording](#)

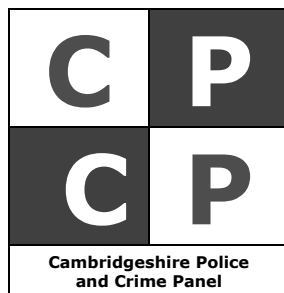
Panel's Decision - Police and Crime Plan

Having reviewed the Annual Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner the Panel AGREED to ENDORSE the Annual Report for 2021/22 and made the following recommendation.

1. To circulate a flowchart to show the more detailed summary of the outcomes secured by all victim service providers (which is available on the website) to Members.

HMRICFRS Report – recommendations agreed:

1. To bring a full report on the two areas of concern from the HMRICFRS Report to the next Panel meeting (September).



2. To approach the Public Service Board about joining together to lobby government for fairer funding for Cambridgeshire alongside the Constabulary

[Commissioner's Response](#)

[1 February 2023 - Minutes Police and Crime Panel - YouTube Recording](#)

Panel's Recommendation - Precept

In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and following consideration of the information submitted to it, the Panel unanimously AGREED to NOT exercise its veto power over the precept increase proposed by the Commissioner.

[23 March 2022 – minutes Police and Crime Panel - YouTube Recording](#)

Eastern Network Regional Meetings

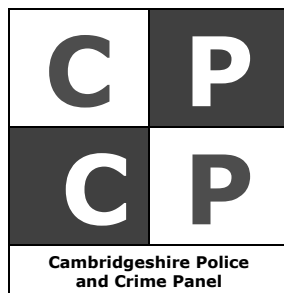


Regionally, the Panel's Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Support Officers are active members of the Eastern Police, Fire and Crime Panels Network. The Network is facilitated by Frontline Consulting, which runs the Annual National Police, Fire and Crime Panel Conference,

and provides support to Police, Fire and Crime Panels across the UK. The Network met virtually in October 2021 and March 2022 and is made up of Panel Members and Support Officers who share information around good practice, support, and scrutiny for the Commissioner, learning and development, the use of the Grant from the Home Office, innovation, work programming and future plans etc. This has led to a good network of support officers who have come to rely on one another when in difficult and unusual circumstances, as the support officer role of the Panel can tend to be an "isolated" role.

More generally

Training Ensuring all Panel members fully understand their governance role is extremely important to the effectiveness and efficiency of the Panel and regular training is provided. This is most frequently provided by Frontline Consulting, the lead training agency in this specialised area of public service. Panel members participated in a full day's training on 8th September 2022, which served as a comprehensive induction for the newer Panel members and a refresher for others. The Chief Executive also participated in this training event, providing additional insight into the role of the Panel and interface with the role of the Commissioner and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner.



Governance – The role and responsibilities of the Panel and the Commissioner’s own governance framework in holding the Chief Constable to account, can be a challenge. However, work continues to be supported by the host Authority and Frontline Consulting to ensure the Panel has the skills, knowledge, and support to the best it can be.

Panel/OPCC Relationship – Over the last few years Panel Officers and OPCC staff have strived to create a productive, constructive relationship that ensures each other’s respective statutory duties are met in the best interests of the public; both the Panel and the Commissioner have the highest priority of upholding standards in policing and public life. The improvement in the relationship that the Commissioner now has with Members of the Panel is reflected in the meetings, these are now geared around the scrutiny of the Commissioner, not the Constabulary and the whole tone and culture of the Panel meetings are as intended by the legislation – supportive and challenging but not adversarial, game playing etc; this has come from the hard work of building strong relationships between the OPCC and Panel Officers.

Updated Complaints Policy - The Panel last reviewed and made changes to the “Procedure for dealing with complaints and conduct matters about the Cambridgeshire Police Crime and Commissioner and/or Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner at its meeting in October 2012.

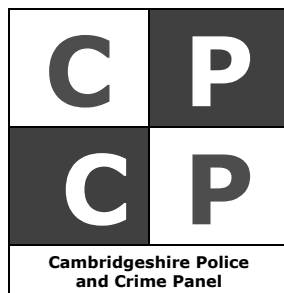
An updated Complaints Policy and appendices was taken to the September meeting of the Police and Crime Panel where it was agreed that further changes should be made to the policy before being brought back to the November meeting of the Panel for review and adoption.

The Panel had previously delegated this responsibility to the Commissioner’s Chief Executive. However, where it was considered that there may be a conflict, the Procedure provided that this could be referred to the Democratic Services Officer/Monitoring Officer to the Panel to determine whether it was a matter for the Panel or the IOPC (Independent Office for Public Conduct) to determine.

It was considered it would help promote transparency and accountability if the potential for the perception of conflict was addressed. The revised process would ensure that any perception of conflict was removed, given that the Chief Executive reported to the Commissioner.

It was therefore proposed to the Panel that the responsibility for the initial handling of complaints be delegated by the Panel to the Democratic Services Officer/Monitoring Officer of the Panel in accordance with section 101(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, which allowed a committee to arrange for its functions to be discharged by an Officer.

As the Procedure had not been updated since 2012, it was quite difficult to follow in places as it mirrored the Regulations, which might prevent members of the public from being able to understand how to raise their concerns. The Democratic Services Officer was therefore requested to review the Procedure to see if it could be streamlined, simplified, and re-ordered to make it easier for the public to follow and this was reflected in the revised version, which now also included a Quick Guide, a flowchart, and a complaints form.



A procedure for dealing with habitual and vexatious complaints was also added to the process, following best practice examples from other authorities, which offered a clear steer on how this type of complaint would be dealt with when it occurred.

At the November meeting:

The Panel **AGREED** to **ADOPT** the Complaints Guidance allowing minor modifications to be made by officers in consultation with the Chair, Senior Democratic Services Officer, and the Monitoring Officer.

The updated Complaints Guidance can be found [here](#)

9. THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL AND THE PUBLIC

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel has a website, [here](#) and this is where you can find copies of the agenda papers, minutes, and decisions for the Panel meetings.

There is information about Members of the Panel, its spending, how to make complaints and other useful documentation.

Police and Crime Panel meetings are open to members of the public and **Rules of Procedure** for submitting and asking public questions are on the Police and Crime Panel's Website.

All Meetings since March 2000 can now be found on Peterborough City Council's YouTube page [here](#).

10. THE YEAR AHEAD 2023/25

Panel Members and substitutes throughout 2023/24:

Edward Leigh

Claire George

Councillor Marge Beuttell

Councillor John Gowing

Council Alan Sharp

Councillor Dennis Jones

Councillor Simon Barkham

Councillor Anna Bradnam

Councillor Bryan Tyler

Councillor Stephen Ferguson

Councillor Baiju Thaittala Varkey

Councillor Susan Wallwork

Councillor Helene Leeming

Councillor Charlotte Lowe

Councillor Mark Goldsack

Councillor Julia Huffer

Councillor Mohammed Jamil

Councillor Christian Hogg

Councillor Graham Wilson

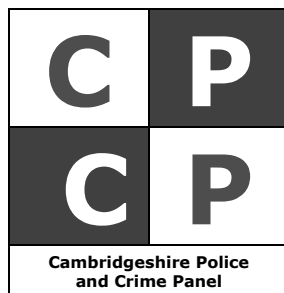
Councillor Scott Warren

Councillor Tom Sanderson

Councillor Alice Gilderdale

Councillor Luci Foice-Beard

Councillor Peter Sandford



The Panel has a work programme that is reviewed regularly.

In addition to the statutory responsibilities of the Panel, it covers key issues of importance to the public of Cambridgeshire.

The Panel is also working to strengthen links with the Community Safety Partnerships. These Partnerships are focussed on the safety of all community groups within our towns and villages, and it is important the Panel are aware of the issues they are discussing.

Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel will continue its commitment to support, and to scrutinise the decisions of the PCC to secure an efficient and effective Police Force for the people of Cambridgeshire.

Over the next twelve months the Panel will focus on the following key areas:

- the Review the PCC's Annual Report.
- Supporting the PCC in delivery against the themes and deliverables in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan.
- Holding the Commissioner to account for the delivery of his precept commitments.
- Reviewing the Commissioner's approach to commissioning and grants.
- Understanding the work of the Harm to Hope Drug Strategy/High Harms Board.
- Understanding the Serious Violence Strategy.
- Understanding how the Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account for ethics and integrity within the Constabulary.
- Undertaking a proactive scrutiny across a range of areas.
- Maintaining a work programme in consultation with the OPCC.
- Having due regard to the Policing and Crime Act and the legislative changes.
- Ensuring that the Commissioner and Chief Constable recruit, retain and progress a workforce which reflects the communities it serves.
- Supporting the PCC to maximise opportunities for joint working.
- Liaising with HMICFRS to improve the Panel's understanding of Cambridgeshire Police's performance.
- Providing ongoing Panel Member learning, development, and support.

11. CONTACT DETAILS

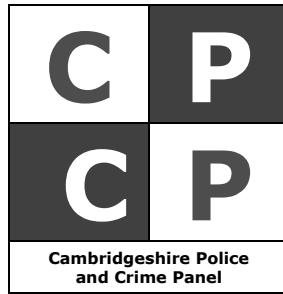
For any further information, contact details and web address, please see below.

The Panel can be contacted via the below:

Senior Democratic Services Officer (Police and Crime Panel)

Democratic Services

Peterborough City Council



Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough
PE1 1HF

Telephone: (01733) 452281

Email: jane.webb@peterborough.gov.uk

Website: Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel

The Police & Crime Commissioner can be contacted via his office:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Cambridgeshire Police Headquarters

Hinchingbrooke Park

Huntingdon

Cambridgeshire

PE29 6NP

Telephone: (0300) 333 3456

Email: cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Website: www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk

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AGENDA ITEM 10

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
DRAFT AGENDA FORWARD PLAN 2023-2024**

DATES	ITEMS
(Wednesday) 20 SEPTEMBER 2023 1:30pm Bourges/Viersen Rooms Town Hall Peterborough	Review Actions & Recommendations from the previous meeting Public Questions Serious Violence Strategy Harm to Hope Drug Strategy High Harms Board Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel Annual Report Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan
(Monday) 27 NOVEMBER 2023 1:30pm Bourges/Viersen Rooms Town Hall Peterborough <i>Please note change of date</i>	Review Actions & Recommendations from the previous meeting Public Questions Constabulary Budget Considerations Commissioner’s Approach to Commissioning and Grants Delivery of Police and Crime Plan – Six Monthly Update Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan
(Wednesday) 31 JANUARY 2024 1:30pm Civic Suite Huntingdonshire District Council Huntingdon	Review Actions & Recommendations from the previous meeting Public Questions Precept Report 2024/2025 (full meeting – given importance) OPCC – Forward Plan Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan
(Wednesday) 14 FEBRUARY 2024 1:30pm Bourges/Viersen Rooms Town Hall Peterborough	If needed (Veto)
(Wednesday) 13 MARCH 2024 1:30pm TBC	Review Actions & Recommendations from the previous meeting Public Questions Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan

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