

SHADOW CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 7
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Report of Chief Executive, Cambridgeshire Police Authority

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PROTOCOL BETWEEN COMMISSIONER, CONSTABULARY AND THE PANEL

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform the Panel of Government guidance on the respective roles and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Panel and how their functions will be exercised in relation to each other.
- 1.2 To seek the Panel's view on localising the Policing Protocol Order 2011 for Cambridgeshire through the development of a protocol between the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Panel.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Panel is asked to note the report and to endorse the proposed approach for localising the Policing Protocol Order 2011 for Cambridgeshire.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 3.1 The proposed localised protocol for Cambridgeshire would clarify how the functions of the Panel will be exercised in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 abolishes the current governance arrangements undertaken by Police Authorities, replacing them with directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners and Local Policing Bodies in November 2012. The Act launches both the Commissioner and Chief Constable as corporations sole, or separate legal entities. The Act also establishes Police and Crime Panels to support the effective exercise of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 4.2 The Act sets out the functions and responsibilities of the Commissioner, the Chief Constable and the Panel. In addition, Section 79 of the Act requires the Home Secretary to issue a Policing Protocol to set out the ways in which the Home Secretary, Police and Crime Commissioners, Chief Constables and Police and Crime Panels should exercise or refrain from exercising their functions so as to ensure effective working relationships and prevent conflicting exercising of functions. The Policing Protocol Order 2011 therefore sets out how the new arrangements will work, outlining what the various parties are expected to do and how they should work together.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The Commissioner, Chief Constable and Panel will all have their own governance framework.

The Panel will have its Terms of Reference, Panel Arrangements and Rules of Procedure. Government has sought to set out how the various functions interact through the Policing Protocol Order 2011 and Home Office briefings for Police and Crime Commissioner candidates.

- 5.2 Establishing appropriate and effective relationships and mechanisms are essential in order to enable the three parties to perform their functions effectively, with and alongside each other. A protocol which localises, for Cambridgeshire, the Policing Protocol Order 2011 could aid effective working relationships. Alongside the functions and responsibilities bestowed on the three parties, it could set out some key principles for determining the way in which the three parties will fulfil their functions and the processes and mechanisms which would support this.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The development of a protocol would be undertaken jointly by officers from the Police Authority/Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 The protocol would be developed for future consideration by the Panel, Commissioner and Chief Constable.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 9.1
- [Policing Protocol Order 11](#)
 - [Home Office candidate briefings](#), in particular '[To publicly account for your decisions](#)'

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1
1. Policing Protocol Order 2011
 2. Home Office candidate briefing: 'To publicly account for your decisions'