



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL  
HELD AT HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ON 1 FEBRUARY 2017**

**Members Present:** Councillors B Shelton, (Chairman) Edward Leigh (Vice Chairman), D Baigent, R Bisby, D Connor, E Murphy, D Giles, R Howe, M Shellens, D Oliver A Sharp (Substitute) and Claire George (Independent)

**Officers Present:** Jane Webb                      Secretariat, Peterborough City Council

**Others Present:** Jason Ablewhite              Cambridgeshire Police and Crime  
Commissioner  
Andy Coles                      Deputy Cambridgeshire Police and Crime  
Commissioner  
Dr Dorothy Gregson          Chief Executive, Office of the Police and  
Crime Commissioner  
Alec Wood                      Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire  
Constabulary  
Matthew Warren              Acting Chief Finance Officer, Office of the  
Police and Crime Commissioner  
Niki Howard                  Director of Finance & Resources,  
Cambridgeshire Constabulary  
Graham Oliver              Interim Head of Finance, Office of the Police  
and Crime Commissioner

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sandford, Shellens and Pearson.

Councillor Sharp was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Pearson.

The Secretariat informed the Panel that Councillor Lillis had resigned from the Panel and his substitute, Councillor Sandford would now take up the position with Councillor Bond being his substitute.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

**Item 7. Realising the Opportunities from the Policing and Crime Bill**

Councillors Giles declared an interest that he was a Member of the Fire Authority.

### **3. Minutes of the meetings held on 9 November 2016.**

The minutes of the Panel meeting held on 9 November 2016 were agreed as an accurate record.

### **4. Public Questions/Statements**

There had been no public questions or statements submitted to the Panel.

### **5. Review of Complaints**

The Panel received a report which stated that no complaints had been made against the Police and Crime Commissioner or the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner since the Panel met on 9 November 2016.

#### **ACTION**

The Panel **AGREED** to note the report and that no complaints had been received against the Police and Crime Commissioner or his Deputy since the last report received.

### **6. Precept Report 2017/18**

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced his staff stating that there had been some interim changes with regard to the resignation of the Chief Finance Officer, at present these were temporary and he assured the Panel that as soon as any long term decisions were made then these would be brought back to the Panel for consideration.

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the report which notified the Panel of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed budget and precept for 2017/18 to enable the Panel to review the proposed precept. The presentation provided highlights on the following areas:

- Police and Crime Plan
- Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy Development
- Collaboration
- Robustness of Estimates
- Use of Resources
- Medium Term Outlook
- Precept 2017/18

Responses by the Commissioner to questions and comments from the Panel included:

- Collaboration had created greater resilience amongst the three forces, reducing costs and gaining specialist forces. There was no evidence to suggest that collaboration had hindered any of the three forces; it had instead bolstered each of them.
- Revenue incomes were being investigated with the preference in looking at the potential of sites to ensure a constant revenue return was received.
- The Deputy was a fundamental part of the team who supported the Commissioner and would have specific responsibilities around "Victims" from within the Plan.
- Standardisation of uniforms, vehicles, software and equipment would ensure there were significant procurement savings made across the forces.
- The increase in population has created a greater demand on policing. This was a concern to the Commissioner and one that had been discussed with the Minister for

Policing and the Fire Service. Further collaboration would be investigated in order to create greater resilience.

- 60% of the Police's funding was received from central government; not from the precept. The Commissioner stated he would lobby government regarding funding and explained that the formula grant was currently under-going a change but he was confident that the budget would be balanced.
- Inflation was kept centrally and not allocated to service departments; in previous years this has been retained. Accurate figures and not assumptions were used within the budget.
- Reserves were high but would assist with one-off costs.
- There had been a reduction in senior staff and further collaboration of the seven police forces could potentially result in further significant savings.
- Future savings and efficiencies had been identified within a separate savings programme and were not included within the financial statement; thus making the proportions look incorrect.
- The Commissioner assured the Panel he would protect the frontline.
- The Parkside Police Station site in Cambridge would unlock one of the most expensive sites outside of London; discussions were taking place around this. Only 20% of Parkside was occupied and therefore it made sense to utilise a strong asset to create revenue. To deliver a new custody suite right through to redevelopment and relocation would take years but once completed the redevelopment of Parkside would bring in significant revenue.

## **ACTION**

Following debate the Panel unanimously **AGREED** to **ENDORSE** the precept proposed by the Commissioner; with the following recommendation.

- The Commissioner be requested and encouraged to lobby government regarding reforming the policing funding formula to reflect the growing population, tourism and road traffic in the region.

## **Reasons for the decision**

The Panel considered that the proposed precept was acceptable and necessary for the continued provision of effective and efficient policing across the area covered by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

The Panel considered that the current policing and funding formula did not reflect the growing population, tourism and road traffic in the region.

## **7. Realising the Opportunities from the Policing and Crime Bill**

The Panel received a report which provided an update on the progress being made between the Police and Crime Commissioner (the "Commissioner"), Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the "Constabulary"), the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, the Cambridgeshire and Fire Rescue Authority (the "Fire Authority") and East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust on realising the opportunities of the Policing and Crime (the "Bill").

Responses by the Commissioner to questions and comments from the Panel included:

- The Police and Crime Bill received Royal Assent on 31 January 2017.
- The Police had agreed with the Fire Authority to employ a Consultant, paid for through the Government's Transformation Fund, who would help build the business case. A consultation would then take place and with the agreement of the public the

Commissioner could take over the governance of the Fire Authority by the end of 2017.

- The Panel requested to see the business case before it was submitted to the Home Office.
- The Commissioner stated he would involve the Panel in anything they requested. At present he worked closely with the Fire Authority and if the Commissioner takes on the governance of the Fire Authority then the Panel will evolve into the Police, Fire and Crime Panel. The Chairman suggested that the Police and Crime Panel should meet with the Fire Authority Panel as there was the possibility that the two could merge into one Panel.
- The Panel requested that land freed up through collaboration be considered to generate further monies for the future; one suggestion for this was as care homes. The Commissioner stated that if redevelopment of any police estate could take place to generate revenue income, capital appreciation then this could be one of the correct routes to take.
- The Commissioner explained the possibilities regarding the collaboration of support staff and how it was important that this be approached in the correct manner.
- The Commissioner agreed it would be beneficial to the Panel to receive a briefing before his business case was submitted to the government.

## **ACTION**

Following debate the Panel **AGREED** to note the report.

### **8. Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan (Community Safety and Criminal Justice) for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

The Panel received a report which provided the Panel with the Police and Crime Commissioner's draft Police and Crime Plan for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Responses by the Commissioner to questions and comments from the Panel included:

- It was agreed that the Plan looked impressive and the narrative was good but there were concerns raised about how this would be monitored to show any outcomes. The Commissioner explained the Constabulary's Performance Report would show this along with the performance outcomes that were submitted to the BCB meetings. The Chief Constable added that the Plan would be supported by a performance framework designed to support the principles of the Police and Crime Plan; the Commissioner was fully briefed at a weekly meeting on the force's performance.
- The Panel stated that the challenges faced by Police were not included within the document and these should be in order to prepare the public's expectations as to what could change in the future.
- The Commissioner explained that performance would be seen within the satisfaction levels and crime figures.
- The Panel asked for targets to be included within the Plan but the Commissioner stated the Police did not have targets and therefore a narrative around reduction in reoffending was included instead; the Plan was about protection with a long term view.
- The Panel were in agreement that there was a good reoccurring theme of reinvestment and consolidation throughout the Plan but there was a need to see some identification as to what success would look like. The Commissioner explained the Plan would not have targets but instead include narrative about what was expected.
- The Commissioner explained that the Panel would continue to receive performance figures that were submitted to the BCB governance board.

- The Panel agreed the Plan was good but had missed the opportunity to define any objectives, graphs showing satisfaction trends and these would have added value to the Plan.

## **ACTION**

In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and following consideration of the information submitted to it. Having reviewed the draft Police and Crime Plan the Panel **AGREED** to **ENDORSE** the following sections of the Police and Crime Plan.

- Foreword from Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner
- Foreword from Chief Constable
- Policing Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
- What People Say
- Police and Crime Plan – Community Safety and Criminal Justice
  - Victims
  - Offenders
  - Communities
  - Transformation
- Finances
- Business Intelligence Information

The Panel were in agreement that the narrative within the Plan was excellent but there was concern around how the proposed objectives would be monitored without the inclusion of specific impacts or measurable outcomes.

## **Reasons for the decision**

The Panel considered that the Plan was acceptable and necessary for the continued provision of efficient and effective policing across the area covered by Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

The Panel had concerns around how the proposed objectives would be monitored without the inclusion of specific impacts or measurable outcomes.

## **Actions**

It was agreed that an informal meeting would take place between the Commissioner's Office and Panel members interested in contributing to the Plan.

## **9. Decisions By the Commissioner**

The Panel received a report to enable it to review or scrutinise decisions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner under Section 28 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The Panel was recommended to indicate whether it would wish to further review and scrutinise the decisions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner taken since the previous Panel meeting.

## **ACTION**

The Panel asked to be notified if there were any decisions made with regard to a permanent Chief Finance Officer.

## 10. Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2016-2017

The Panel received and noted the agenda plan including dates and times for future meetings.

The following suggestion with regard to Custody Suites (February 2017) was made and agreed to.

### March 2017

- Disposal of Property Assets
  - List of current assets and their status/future proposal
  - What is the Commissioner's objective with disposal of assets
  - Invite Property Officer

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	UPDATE
	<b>Review of Complaints</b>	The Panel <b>AGREED</b> to note the report and that no complaints had been received against the Police and Crime Commissioner or his Deputy since the last report received.	
	<b>Precept Report 2017/18</b>	<p>In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and following consideration of the information submitted to it, the Panel <b>AGREED</b> to <b>ENDORSE</b> the precept proposed by the Commissioner.</p> <p>The Panel recommended the Commissioner be requested and encouraged to lobby government regarding reforming the policing funding formula to reflect the growing levels of population, tourism and road traffic in the region.</p>	
	<b>Realising the Opportunities from the Policing and Crime Bill</b>	Following debate the Panel <b>AGREED</b> to note the report.	
	<b>Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan (Community Safety and Criminal Justice) for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough</b>	<p>In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and following consideration of the information submitted to it. Having reviewed the draft Police and Crime Plan the Panel <b>AGREED</b> to <b>ENDORSE</b> the following sections of the Police and Crime Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foreword from Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner</li> <li>• Foreword from Chief Constable</li> <li>• Policing Cambridgeshire and Peterborough</li> <li>• What People Say</li> <li>• Police and Crime Plan – Community Safety and Criminal Justice               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Victims</li> <li>○ Offenders</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	UPDATE
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Communities</li> <li>○ Transformation</li> <li>• Finances</li> <li>• Business Intelligence Information</li> </ul> <p>The Panel were in agreement that the narrative within the Plan was excellent but there was concern around how the proposed objectives would be monitored without the inclusion of specific impacts or measurable outcomes.</p>	
	<b>Decisions By the Commissioner</b>	The Panel <b>NOTED</b> the report and decisions that had been made by the Commissioner.	
	<b>Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2016-2017</b>	The Panel received and <b>NOTED</b> the agenda plan including dates and times for future meetings.	

The meeting began at 2.00pm and ended at 4.20pm

CHAIRPERSON