

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD AT PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL ON 14 JUNE 2017

Members Present: Edward Leigh (Chairperson), Councillors R Bisby (Vice-

Chairperson), D Baigent, T Sanderson, A Dickinson (Substitute), A Sharp (Substitute), M Shellens (left at 2:15pm), D Oliver, A Bond, E Murphy, B Shelton, Susan Hartropp (Independent) and Claire

George (Independent),

Officers Present: Jane Webb Secretariat, Peterborough City Council

Amy Brown Lawyer, Peterborough City Council

Others Present: Jason Ablewhite 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

1. Election of Chairperson

The Secretariat asked for nominations for the role of Chairperson. Councillor Shelton was nominated by Councillor Oliver and seconded by Councillor Sharp. A second nomination was received from Claire George and seconded by Councillor Bond for Edward Leigh. Having received two nominations each were put to the vote. Councillor Shelton received 4 votes in favour and Edward Leigh received 7 votes in favour. Edward Leigh was therefore appointed Chairperson for the municipal year 2017-18.

2. Election of Vice-Chairperson

The Chairperson asked for nominations for the role of Vice Chairperson. Councillor Bisby was nominated by Edward Leigh (Chairperson) and seconded by Councillor Murphy. There were no other nominations and therefore Councillor Bisby was appointed Vice-Chairperson for the municipal year 2016/17.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Howe and Pearson. Councillor Dickinson was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Howe. Councillor Sharp was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Pearson.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Interest.

5. Minutes of the meetings held on 15 March 2017.

The minutes of the Panel meeting held on 15 March 2017 were agreed as an accurate record.

6. Public Questions/Statements

No public questions or statements were received.

7. Secretary of State Update – Third Co-Opted Independent Member

The Panel received a report which stated the Secretary of State had given approval to increase the number of co-opted independent members from two to three and that Susan Hartopp had been approved for this position.

The Chairperson welcomed Susan Hartropp and invited her to formally join the Panel

ACTION

The Panel **AGREED** to note the approval received from the Secretary of State and the cooption of Susan Hartropp.

8. Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2016/17

The Panel received a report to enable them to review the Annual Report issued by the Commissioner under Section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

The Panel made comment, asked questions and received responses from the Commissioner with regard to the Annual Report, these included:

- a) The Report contained several platitudes and required a little more detail instead of stating "the Commissioner would do the right thing".
- b) The Commissioner explained that the HMIC report had already been scrutinised by the Panel and this was the annual report on business carried out over the last year but stated he would be happy to supply additional material if necessary but this would not benefit the Panel.
- c) How will the Commissioner seek to reassure the public with regard to the amount of visible frontline police? The Commissioner stated he had recently given his reassurances through different local media outlets in light of the recent horrendous events in both Manchester and London and as a result was working closely with the Chief Constable, whose view was that further reassurance was required and therefore measures were made to increase visibility in all key tourists areas. There had also been an increase in armed police presence in terms of resilience as seen at the recent Elton John concert in Peterborough. The Commissioner explained that there would always be a battle between a responsive police force to meet people's needs and public perception. Every opportunity would be taken to increase visibility

- but the biggest change in criminality was with cybercrime which effects people behind closed doors where reassurances are not enough therefore there would also be more resource placed in those areas too to achieve the balance.
- d) The Commissioner was questioned on level of fatalities on Cambridgeshire's road and the continued reduction in traffic officers. The Commissioner explained that one death on Cambridgeshire's roads was one too many and he had therefore reintroduced a Road Causality Reduction Officer who would work on an education programme and partners to reduce fatalities and accidents. The biggest challenge was that the infrastructure was not fit for the amount of traffic on it, with most accidents occurring on rural roads that were crowded; this should be taken into account by Councils when planning future housing provision. The Commissioner stated he had funded another officer who had been tasked with looking at the voluntary groups and to help Speedwatch expand as these groups successfully reduce speeding. He had also invested in Cambs Drive iQ which was an online driving awareness software web-based learning programme that will help educate young people into how to keep both themselves and others safe while driving.
- e) Was it true there had been an increase in violent crime in Cambridgeshire even though the NHS had stated there had been a decrease of patients received as a result of violent crime? The Commissioner explained this had been down to an increase in recording of those crimes and the Panel could be assured that the NHS figures were correct, which showed a decrease in violent crime. There had been two spikes in recorded crime; driving off without payment and damage to vehicles which has been targeted.
- f) There has been a rise in the use of motorbikes being ridden off road without helmets and on public footpaths. The Commissioner explained this was low level anti-social issues that will now be dealt with by the Peterborough Enforcement Service (PES) who have enforcement officers with new powers to deal these issues and he was confident that the PES would work well.
- g) Does the Commissioner have operational procedures in place with regard to counter terrorism and the tri-force (Cambs, Beds and Herts)? The Chief Constable explained that throughout recent events he kept the Commissioner appraised of the local and national issues. Cambridgeshire's capacity and capability was strong and this had been recognised in the recent HMIC report. Cambridgeshire has provided mutual aid to Manchester and fire arms officers to London whilst relying on Norfolk and Lincolnshire to cover Cambridgeshire. There is a very skilled group based in Stevenage that provide Cambridgeshire with investigative capacity and support the national effort in terms of preventing the large scale atrocities that have occurred recently. The Chief Constable stated he was extremely confident that if anything were to occur locally then they would receive the same level of support in return.
- h) The Chief Constable stated that the criticism of the force not being able to understand the demands it faced, referred to in the HMIC inspection on efficiency in 2015/16 had been justified but had now been superseded by a more recent inspection whereby it has been recognised that significant steps had been taken to understand these issues and he was confident that the force had moved in the right direction.
- The Panel were in agreement that the chart (page 18 of the pack) Cambridgeshire Constabulary – A Snapshot was excellent as it really helped explain the breadth of the responsibility that the Police have, which is not well understood by the public.
- j) The graph for non-emergency 101 calls (page 22 of the pack), the last four months show a higher volume of calls which was at odds with a recent report that had been submitted to the Business Coordination Board in December; could the Commissioner look into this, to which he agreed he would.
- k) Could the Commissioner clarify what the term "joint management of public contact" meant in terms of Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire and who was handling the calls. The Chief Constable explained this was still in process and the first step was a combined management and leadership; these were now aligned into a collaborative leadership but staff, resources and equipment in each force still belonged to the individual forces.

- I) Was the Commissioner concerned about the apparent drop in the quality of performance over the last two to three months; was there a trend? The Commissioner stated that as far as he was aware, this had been a 'blip' but it was being regularly monitored and if this continued then he would be investigating the issue. The Chief Constable explained that BT provide all forces with the breakdown of the 999 service and how well it performed; Cambridgeshire were in the top 3 for speed and response. There had been a sudden upturn in calls, including nationally in May and June to the 101 and 999 services, this would be monitored and if this continues then there would be a resourcing issue.
- m) It was pointed out that if a call is made to 101, it has to be stated which police force you would like to be connected to but the word Cambridgeshire has to be stated, any other word (ie Cambridge) it is not recognised. The Commissioner responded stating he was not aware of this and would take this up with BT who have the national contract.
- n) It was felt that the Commissioner had missed an opportunity within the Annual Report to promote Specials and other volunteers; it would have been an ideal opportunity to have included a link to further information for those that would be interested in becoming involved. The Commissioner stated that a "Volunteering Week" had just taken place whereby they were heavily promoting volunteers within the Police force and this would continue; not everything could be included within the Annual Report.
- o) What steps was the Commissioner taking to investigate the 25% of those asked were not satisfied that the Police were dealing with things that mattered to them. The Commissioner stated that public confidence was the most important aspect, in terms of policing, especially at the present time and sometimes the dissatisfaction comes from those people who have broken the law and have been caught by the Police.
- p) The Shrievalty Trust's Bobby Scheme was clearly a great scheme; should we be more proactive and accelerate this in some way and also work with the Fire Service to look at door and window security? The Commissioner explained that over the last year there were a lot of smaller groups doing a huge amount of good work with a limited budget and there is a need to look at the best way of delivering this, without duplication.
- q) The report states that the Commissioner spends, on average, one day a week meeting community groups and members of the public to ensure his analysis of success is not based purely on data; was this the best use of the Commissioner's time and resource and perhaps should be more targeted in use of time in terms of collating anecdotal data. The Commissioner explained this was about community engagement which was fundamental to his role; he attends not to gather evidence but to listen to the public about hear their concerns; this also includes regular surgeries, visits support organisations and voluntary groups, who all contribute to the work the police do. This also enables the Commissioner to identify gaps where there is cost shunting from one organisation to another, especially regarding mental health and where there is an issue regarding funding.
- r) Regarding reoffending, do those released from other prisons receive the same access to support as those at HMP Peterborough? The Commissioner explained they were concerned about those released back into Cambridgeshire and anyone wherever they have served will serve at least the last 6 weeks in Peterborough before they are released into the local community, which is why Peterborough is targeted. The Commissioner stated he still worked with both HMP Littlehey and HMP Whitemoor as there were still elements around understanding restorative justice that need to be understood it order to ensure the correct services are in place.

ACTION

Having reviewed the Police and Crime Commissioners Annual Report the Panel **AGREED** to **ENDORSE** the Annual Report for 2016/17.

9. Police and Crime Commissioner's Strategic Estates Update

The Panel received a report which provided an update and supplementary information on Cambridgeshire Constabulary's estates which followed the report to the Panel in March.

The Chairperson thanked the Commissioner for supplying the detailed breakdown of estates as requested at the previous meeting.

The Commissioner explained that the original estate costs were £5million a year and therefore this has been looked at to see how costs could be consolidated whilst also looking at the efficiency of the police force and protecting frontline officers. His view was that if a station closed then an alternative solution needed to be put in place to ensure there was still a presence and somewhere for the public to report crimes. There is a need for a Police station to be in Wisbech and therefore there are plans to join with the Wisbech Fire Station by building an extra building which will be coterminous with the station and also working with the ambulance service; this will result in the first proper blue light hub in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In Peterborough there is the Police Enforcement Service (PES) where Police work in conjunction with council officers creating a hub where crime can be reported, as happens presently at Bayard Place and the Town Hall is being looked at; this reduces costs which in turn protects the frontline service. St Ives and St Neots were also being looked at as having blue light hubs as there were many benefits in working together which was a positive step in the right direction and seemed to be the only public reform being delivered.

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

- a) The Chief Constable explained that Hampton was not shut and not a public police station and was now used as a response base where officers were able to carry out paperwork etc. It is also used by Huntingdonshire officers when they cover the Yaxley area.
- b) The Panel stated that having a base at the Town Hall when Bayard Place closes was a good idea as it was in the town centre.
- c) Some units are empty due to long term rents that were being worked through with existing owners, they are not owned by the Police therefore an empty unit does not signify poor performance.
- d) In Ramsey the Police have moved out of the station and are now working out of the Fire station therefore the Police still have a presence in the town.
- e) The Panel stated positive feedback had been received with regard to Stanground Fire station housing both the ambulance and police with the public stating it was a fantastic idea and why had this not happened in other areas.
- f) The Police have an admin support team that drive cars to the vehicle workshop and this has provided a more central cost effective base where costs have been reduced; it is regrettable that occasionally a police officer has to do this for an urgent repair but the benefits of one central workshop are significant.

ACTION

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

10. Performance Monitoring

The Panel received a report outlining the Commissioner's approach to performance monitoring of the Constabulary and inform the Panel's approach to scrutinising how the Commissioner carries out this function.

The Commissioner explained that Appendix 2 (page 50 of the pack) showed the Police and Crime Plan Business Intelligent Information Dashboard which would be populated for the Business Coordination Board in August. This was a positive way forward to publically

challenge the plan and the Commissioner gave his assurances that this was just one indicative way to evidence performance.

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

- a) The Panel requested at the previous meeting a detailed response to all the business information metrics in the Plan, some of these appear on the dashboard but most of the statistics within the Dashboard were not the concern of the Panel. Those that were of concern to the panel would be crime as a response to the Commissioner's policies and therefore the Panel would need help in receiving that data. There is a need to come to an agreement as to what data is made available to the Panel, which may differ to the data shared or received from the Constabulary, to enable the Panel to monitor precisely the effects as they relate to policies. For example, the estates strategy needs to be tracked to show cost savings, anticipated revenues and any negative effects.
- b) The Panel stated that with regard to reoffending, there is a need to understand what the current reoffending rates are in order to see any improvements. With regard to the multi agency approach to handling mental health and reducing officer time spent dealing with the hand overs, the Panel will need to understand and track how much time is being spent to see if the measures taken to reduce the issue are having an effect.
- c) The Commissioner responded stating that he would take these suggestions on board

ACTION

Following discussions the Panel **AGREED** to note the report and to schedule a discussion to identify details of what metrics can reasonably be provided.

11. 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.

Decision Record – CPCC 2017-06 – Ramsey Police Station

The Commissioner explained that it was originally thought that Ramsey station would run out of the library but as the library was not opened every day it was decided to run the station from the Fire station.

The Panel asked why a pre-application submission was made and planning advice received on 7 July 2016 had taken a year. The Commissioner stated this was due to the planning process.

Decision Record - CPCC 2017-008 - Capital Programme for 2017/18 to 2020/21

Regarding the Parkside Custody replacement, the Panel asked on what was the £80million based on and was the £40million being treated as a bridging loan until the existing station was realised. The Commissioner responded stating that primarily a solution for custody was being looked at. There were smaller stations with individual cells but with the changes in terms of mental health care and the need to provide a support custody along with a reduced estate meant a relook at the custody provisions for the future. It was the Commissioner's view that two were needed, one in the north and another in the south. The current provision

does not service the needs which results in officers having to transport people. Three sites were currently being looked at, the idea is to build a 24 cell provision as this seems the optimum size; land values are currently being worked through, along with other costs and needs to ensure it is HMIC compliant. With regard to the borrowing, there are considerable reserves but if that is exceeded in terms of delivery then a public loan would be looked at as a primary source but it would be ideal to redevelop Parkside with a partner as this would offset and provide income generation that would cover the capital costs and bring in revenue.

The Panel asked if the Commissioner was replacing his ex-deputy on the Steering Committee, to which he confirmed he was.

Areas where decisions are likely to be considered – Policing and Crime Act 2017 Opportunities

The Panel stated they had received a letter from the Commissioner giving them advance notice of the Commissioner's intention to seek greater responsibility of the Fire Service. The Commissioner responded stating that a consultation process was being carried out with the agreement of the Fire Authority and that he had made his views clear that the Single Governance Structure was the right direction of travel. He was not looking to change what the Fire Service does for a living, just to take over the responsibility of the Fire Authority, hold the budget and to help and support Fire in the same way he currently does with the Police. The Commissioner had worked with the Fire Authority to understand what their future requirements were and had secured a better working relationship and were now looking at the potential of Monkswood becoming a joint training centre.

The Panel asked if the Commissioner was aware of the concerns of the Public Accounts Committee in 2015 how public money was being spent in Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Services. The Commissioner stated he was aware of the report which is a reason why there is a need for a one governance structure; but this was primarily about decision making and carrying out the decisions swiftly. His concern was ensuring that the estates of both work for the benefit of the local community. The Panel will become the Police, Fire and Crime Panel in the future.

ACTION

The Panel noted the report and decisions that had been made by the Commissioner.

At this point the Police and Crime Commissioner and officers left the meeting.

12. Rules of Procedure

The Secretariat introduced the Report which provided the Panel with an opportunity to review the Rules of Procedure at its Annual Meeting as required at paragraph 1.4 of the Rules of Procedure.

ACTION

Following a review of the Rules of Procedure the Panel **AGREED** to approve the Rules of Procedure.

The Secretariat to look into producing a Communications Strategy and the Legal Team to look into legal advice being provided outside of office hours.

13. Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel Annual Report

The Secretariat introduced the report which provided the Panel with a draft of the Annual Report for consideration and approval.

ACTION

The Panel **AGREED** to approve the report for publication

14. Use of Delegated Authority Under Complaints Procedure

The Panel received formal notification that the Chief Executive of the Police Crime Commissioner's Office had exercised her delegated authority to refer a conduct matter relating to the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner to the Independent Police Complaints Commission for investigation. This report was for information only.

ACTION

The Panel AGREED to note the report.

15. Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2017-2018

The Panel received and noted the agenda plan including dates and times for future meetings and agreed to meet to discuss items for the work programme for the forthcoming year following the meeting.

The Chairperson thanked the Panel for their contributions to the meeting and looked forward to working with all members of the Panel over the forthcoming municipal year.

| DATE OF MEETING | ITEM | ACTION | UPDATE |
|--------------------|---|--|--------|
| | Secretary of State Update – Third Co-Opted Independent Member | The Panel AGREED to note the approval received from the Secretary of State and the co-option of Susan Hartropp. | |
| | Police and Crime Commissioners Annual Report | Having reviewed the Police and Crime Commissioners Annual Report the Panel AGREED to ENDORSE the Annual Report for 2016/17. | |
| | Police and Crime Commissioner's Strategic Estates Update | Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report. | |
| | Performance Monitoring | Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report and to schedule a discussion to identify details of what metrics can reasonably be provided. | |
| | Decisions By the Commissioner | The Panel NOTED the report and decisions that had been made by the Commissioner. | |
| | Rules of Procedure | Following a review of the Rules of Procedure the Panel AGREED to approve the Rules of Procedure. | |

| DATE OF MEETING | ITEM | ACTION | UPDATE |
|--------------------|---|--|--------|
| | | The Secretariat to look into producing a Communications Strategy and the Legal Team to look into legal advice being provided outside of office hours. | |
| | Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel Annual Report | The Panel AGREED to approve the report for publication | |
| | Use of Delegated Authority Under Complaints Procedure | The Panel AGREED to note the report. | |
| | Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2016-2017 | The Panel received and NOTED the agenda plan including dates and times for future meetings and agreed to meet to discuss items for the work programme for the forthcoming year following the meeting. | |

Possible Topics for Future Reports

- Collaboration/Fire Governance Consultation
- Community Safety Accreditation Scheme
- Reducing re-offending
- Community Engagement
- Estate Disposal: review business cases
- Custody Strategy
- Mental Health Demand
- Out of Court Disposals (in particular conditional cautions)
- Use of surveillance: ANPR, drones, body cams etc
- Use of Tasers
- Collaboration: review business cases
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Modern Slavery Act
- Youth Fund
- Migrant Workers
- Proceeds of Crime How spent?
- Building Community relations
- Cyber-enabled crime

The meeting began at 2.00pm and ended at 3:50pm

CHAIRPERSON