



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel
HELD AT Sponsors Lounge - ABAX Stadium, London Road, Peterborough PE2 8AL
ON 9 October 2019**

Members Present: Edward Leigh (Chairperson), Councillors N Massey, J Palmer, S Warren, C Daunton, M Shellens, A Ali, and A Sharp.

Officers Present: Jane Webb Secretariat, Peterborough City Council
Fiona McMillan Monitoring Officer, Peterborough City Council

Others Present: Jason Ablewhite Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Dr Dorothy Gregson Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Matthew Warren Interim Chief Finance Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Nick Dean Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

15. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Wallwork, Tierney, Wiggin, Giles and Claire George.
Councillor Hogg was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Wiggin.

16. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

17. Minutes of the meetings held on 26 June 2019.

The minutes of the Panel meeting held on 26 June 2019 were agreed as an accurate record.

18. Public Questions/Statements

No public questions or statements were received.

19. Fire Governance Update

The Panel received a report to update them on the Fire and Rescue Governance.

The Commissioner explained that the Judicial Review against the Home Secretary had now taken place and the judgement concluded that there was no legal right to appeal. The Fire Authority have now responded stating they will take this decision to the court of appeal over that judge, therefore considering another judicial review. The Commissioner stated the amount of public money involved should be considered as the Fire Authority seemed to be “clutching at straws”. The Commissioner explained he could not implement various plans but continued to work with the Fire and Rescue Service whilst awaiting another judge’s decision and the next steps to be taken.

The Panel **AGREED** to note the update.

20. Review of Complaints

The Panel received a report to update them on complaints received against the Commissioner or his Deputy.

The Panel **AGREED** to note the update.

21. Budget Update

The Panel received a report to update them on the Commissioner’s approach to setting the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21 to 2023/24 (MTFS).

The Panel made comment, asked questions and received responses from the Commissioner, these included:

- a) The Commissioner explained that additional monies would be made available with the uplift for the back office. The Chief Constable stated that over the last two days they had undergone an extensive process analysing back office functionality, which would require an uplift, although not visible to the public this did involve 999 operators that the public use in their hour of need.
- b) The Chief Constable clarified that the Uplift Programme Delivery Group referred to the Prime Minister’s recent increase and was led by Cambridgeshire’s Deputy Chief Constable and consisted of a collaboration of Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire forces.
- c) Panel Members asked if future pensions were fully funded to which the Commissioner responded stating a budget gap existed for current officers but new officers should be fully funded and costed.

The Panel **AGREED** to note the update.

22. Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan – Victims Theme

The Panel received a report to update them on the delivery of the Victims theme within the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan.

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

- a) The Commissioner explained that the constabulary has trained specialist Officers that deal with domestic abuse of Eastern Europeans or Asian victims; these specialist officers come from all different kinds of backgrounds and are able to engage within the many different communities.
- b) Panel Members asked if there was a shortage of interpreters to which the Commissioner explained that Victim Services dealt with interpreters; places like Jack Hunt School, spoke 40 different languages and therefore this brought its own challenges. The Chief Constable added that the support for victims was very good and many of his team were foreign nationals as were the teams within the Demand Hub; custody had access to interpreters via a telephone line but there was a shortage nationally of qualified interpreters.
- c) The Commissioner stated that his officers were trained to deal with male victims of domestic violence, although there were less numbers of male victims; as there were sibling on sibling or sibling on parent, this was where other agencies would also be involved.
- d) The Commissioner explained that Councils had a statutory and legal obligation with regard to Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) and it was interesting to see how Councils differed in this process; Councils needed to ensure they fulfilled their obligation as these needed to be carried out within six months.
- e) When asked if there was a mechanism in place for Councils to learn from one another with regard to DHRs the Commissioner explained that it was up to Councils to find the most effective way, to review their current processes; the statistics for DHRs are published. The Chief Executive of the OPCC added that Councils could learn from the Safe Guarding Boards. The Chief Constable added that he would not wait for the recommendations of a DHR as he would make any necessary changes immediately.
- f) The Chair of the Panel thanked the Commissioner for the contents of the new style reports but asked when the BCB reports are being reused if they could be annotated, and if they were months old, that they be updated, for instance, with any recommendations that have since been implemented; and in general, to make the report more accessible for the panel and general public.
- g) The Chair of the Panel explained that the Commissioner's Plan set out outcomes that were measurable through his policies, yet these were not mentioned in the report, neither were performance progress eg satisfaction on service delivery as this was a key measure of success. These would have been expected in the report especially as we are now three years into the Plan. The Chair therefore asked that there be more reference made to the Plan in the reports, and that progress towards outcomes are specifically reported; to which the Chief Executive of the OPCC agreed.

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

The Police and Crime Panel also made the following recommendations for the Commissioner:

- For deep-dive thematic reports that have been published before coming to the Panel (e.g. originally for the Business Coordination Board), please include:
 - Annotations to explain abbreviations and acronyms;
 - Relevant updates since the original report was written;
 - Data and interpretation (or qualitative assessments) for each of the Business Intelligence Information metrics set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

23. Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan – Offenders Theme

The Panel received a report to update them on the delivery of the Offenders theme within the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

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

- a) Panel Members questioned that the report stated crime levels had fallen yet Addenbrookes had reported at 60% increase. The Commissioner explained that A & E do not always report crimes which would explain the difference; modern day slavery and child abuse are also not part of these figures. The Chief Constable explained that there was a need to be careful about crime statistics as they were complex.
- b) Multi agency work helping offenders was welcomed by Panel Members and the fact that a change could now be seen was fantastic; working with St Giles Trust was pleasing to see and it would be great to see further work carried out. The Commissioner explained this work was all part of the Trailblazer project; intervention was key but some offenders it helps, others do not want to know and are better in prison: it is about matching resource with expectation which was a challenge.
- c) The Commissioner stated that 'stop and search' was fundamental to policing with regard to knife crime and other related issues.
- d) Panel Members asked how fraud was recorded within national statistics, especially as there was a significant transfer of crime to cybercrime, as this was not counted as crime and not given a crime number. The Chief Constable explained that fraud was dealt with by Action Fraud with the Constabulary receiving profiles of vulnerable people. The Chief Executive of the OPCC stated that data of cybercrime and fraud was important but these were very data heavy and difficult to understand. The Commissioner added that he now received regular updates from the Criminal Justice Board which should help.
- e) Panel Members were pleased to see the wider work undertaken with partners including BeNCH CRC and HMP Peterborough and asked what progress had been made. The Commissioner explained that 15 units of accommodation should be delivered in Peterborough which should provide much needed support in one of the biggest areas where there was a gap.
- f) Panel Members asked if any preventative work had been carried out with those who had not yet ended up in prison. The Commissioner stated that it depended upon the length of sentence as to how prisoners were helped back into the workplace but that the removal of shorter sentences was a good thing.
- g) Panel Members asked if the Commissioner thought the problems that caused the use of out of court disposals to decline had been addressed to which he responded that, yes, as this had been highlighted early on and a considerable uplift and improvement had now been seen because of the early intervention that had been taken.

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

The Police and Crime Panel also made the following recommendations for the Commissioner:

- For deep-dive thematic reports that have been published before coming to the Panel (e.g. originally for the Business Coordination Board), please include:
 - Annotations to explain abbreviations and acronyms;
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 - Data and interpretation (or qualitative assessments) for each of the Business Intelligence Information metrics set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

24. County Lines

The Panel received a report to provide them on details of how the Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account for the work Cambridgeshire Constabulary and their partners undertake to tackle county lines.

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

- a) The Commissioner explained that he had been involved from the outset in the new place based boards and had been very much involved; these Boards would bring partnerships closer together and enable communities to do much more.
- b) The Chief Constable explained that County Lines could come from any major city, usually following the train lines. Cambridgeshire Constabulary were part of a National Co-Ordination Board and therefore were well connected with others, which also included the Metropolitan Police.

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

25. 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.

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

26. Update from the Eastern Regional PCP Network

Councillor Alan Sharp and Chairman Edward Leigh both attended the recent Eastern Regional PCP Network meeting. Councillor Sharp gave a verbal update to the Panel; the highlights included:

- a) Panels include Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Herfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Thames Valley
- b) Meet twice a year to compare notes/issues (back room staff and 20,000 extra officers)
- c) Discussion about "operational" barrier.
 - The Chairman added that the Cambridgeshire Commissioner did have an open door policy and therefore urged Members to take him up on this.

The Panel **AGREED** to note the update

27. National Association of Police Fire and Crime Panels

The Chairman explained to the Panel that an invoice had been received for the first subscription of the National Association of Police Fire and Panel Association for £500. Yet the Home Office had confirmed that grant monies were not permitted to be used to pay an Association. The Secretariat had done some research that showed some panels had used the grant monies to pay the subscription, some had withdrawn from the Association and a couple had asked their host authority to pay.

After a short discussion the Panel decided to wait until after the AGM that was scheduled to take place at the Conference in November and then relook at the Association once this had taken place.

The Panel **AGREED** to delay subscribing to the National Association until further information was known after the AGM in November.

28. Draft Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2019-2020

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

ITEM	ACTION
Fire and Rescue Governance Update	The Panel AGREED to note the report.
Review of Complaints	The Panel AGREED to note the report.
Police and Crime Commissioner's Budget Update – Approach to Setting the Medium Term Financial Strategy	Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report.
Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan - Victims	<p>Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report.</p> <p>The Police and Crime Panel also made the following recommendations for the Commissioner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For deep-dive thematic reports that have been published before coming to the Panel (e.g. originally for the Business Coordination Board), please include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annotations to explain abbreviations and acronyms; ○ Relevant updates since the original report was written; ○ Data and interpretation (or qualitative assessments) for each of the Business Intelligence Information metrics set out in the Police and Crime Plan.
Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan - Offenders	<p>Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report.</p> <p>The Police and Crime Panel also made the following recommendations for the Commissioner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For deep-dive thematic reports that have been published before coming to the Panel (e.g. originally for the Business Coordination Board), please include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annotations to explain abbreviations and acronyms; ○ Relevant updates since the original report was written; ○ Data and interpretation (or qualitative assessments) for each of the Business Intelligence Information metrics set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

County Lines	Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report.
Decisions By the Commissioner	The Panel NOTED the report and decisions that had been made by the Commissioner.
Eastern Network PCP Meeting Update	The Panel AGREED to note the update
National Association of Police and Fire Panels	The Panel AGREED to delay subscribing to the National Association until further information was known after the AGM in November.
Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2018-2019	The Panel NOTED the forthcoming meeting dates.

The meeting began at 2:30pm and ended at 4:50pm

CHAIRPERSON