



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
ON 20 JULY 2022**

Members Present: Edward Leigh (Chair), Councillors A Gilderdale, Ishfaq, A Ali, A Bradnam, C Hogg, SA Hart (left at 4:20pm), A Sharp, S Count (from 2:10pm) and Claire George (Vice).

Officers Present:

Paulina Ford	Senior Democratic Services Officer, Peterborough City Council
Jane Webb	Senior Democratic Services Officer, Police and Crime, Peterborough City Council (Virtual)
Fiona McMillan	Monitoring Officer, Peterborough City Council

Others Present:

Darryl Preston Commissioner	Cambridgeshire Police and Crime
Jim Haylett	Chief Executive OPCC (Office of Police Crime Commissioner)
John Peach	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Jack Hudson	Head of Business Development OPCC

1. Election of Chairperson

The Senior Democratic Services Officer asked for nominations for the role of Chairperson. Edward Leigh was nominated by Councillor Bradnam and seconded by Councillor Sharp. There were no other nominations and therefore Edward Leigh was appointed Chair for the municipal year 2022/23.

2. Election of Vice Chairperson

The Chairperson asked for nominations for the role of Vice Chairperson. Claire George was nominated by Councillor Sharp and seconded by Councillor Hogg. There were no other nominations and therefore Claire George was appointed Vice Chair for the municipal year 2022/23.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Tierney, Warren, Ferguson, Beuttell, and Goldsack. Councillor Hussain was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Warren.

4. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 March 2022**

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.

6. **Public Questions/Statements**

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

7. **Review of Complaints**

One complaint had been received but was deemed unfounded and therefore immediately closed.

ACTION

The Panel **NOTED** the item.

8. **Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report**

The Panel received a report to review the draft Annual Report for the period of the 1st of April 2021 to the 31st of March 2022 issued by the Police and Crime Commissioner (the "Commissioner") under Section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the "Act"). It was noted that the Commissioner took up his term of office in May 2021 and this Police and Crime Plan was endorsed by the Panel in November 2021.

The Commissioner updated the panel on two new issues:

1. Police Pay Award – This was a flat cash payment of £1900 for all levels, from the Chief Constable down to the first graduate entry level. This represents about 5% overall (Finance had anticipated a 3.5% raise), but the government have agreed to pay half of the amount needed over the 3.5% already planned for. The Commissioner stated this was a well-deserved and well needed pay increase for police officers.
2. Impact of Dramatic Temperatures – 101 calls had doubled in the last two days (1300 calls Tuesday and Monday), 999 had significantly increased to 500 – these would be calls where policing is the service of last resort, so had to respond to but they were not crime matters.

The Commissioner referred to several points he had taken away from the previous Panel meeting:

1. Councillor Bradnam – Domestic Homicide Reviews – The Commissioner stated he had responded personally to Councillor Bradnam and he informed the Panel that the OPCC had been invited as one of the few forces to be actively involved in the consultation for the review process.
2. Barristers Striking – This was still ongoing, and the Local Criminal Justice Board was closely watching this in relation to witnesses/ victims and the support they were given.
3. Website (Scrutiny Panels) – This had been resolved and was now visible on the force website.

4. EPIC – A hefty response had been received; the Commissioner could provide this to the Panel if requested.
5. IT Issues (logos) – The Commissioner informed the Panel the force website was part of the “Single Online Home” for UK policing therefore not just administered by the constabulary but was a national system, meaning changes took longer to occur.

The Commissioner updated the panel on operational issues:

1. Car Cruising in Peterborough – this had moved forward, involving the Community Safety Partnership and Problem-Solving Group, of which local councillors and Police were active within. Progress had been seen with prevention work carried out.

The Commissioner presented his Annual Report, stating he was now just over a year into the role that he was still honoured and privileged to be carrying out. During the last year, there had been challenges but had immensely enjoyed doing the job he had always wanted to do...keeping our communities safe.

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

Councillor Bradnam asked:

- a. Why there was no reference to the overall number of crimes in the county or any analysis of the types of crimes or comparisons to other counties or national statistics? The Commissioner explained this information was widely available and was not usually included within a Police and Crime Plan. The Commissioner was happy to sign-post Councillor Bradnam in the correct direction for the information.
- b. How many staff were in the RCAT (Rural Crime Action Team) team, how many crimes had been apprehended versus how many were reported? The Commissioner responded stating; this was an operational question but that numbers were increased in May 2021, and they were the best Rural Crime team in the country, rural crime had reduced by 46% in the past year and hare coursing had reduced by 30%.
- c. How could you improve on the 88% of victims feeling fairly satisfied with the service they had received? The Commissioner explained this came under the Violence against Women and Girls agenda, which was a top priority at a government, regional and local level, of which there was a lot of work being carried out. Additional funding had been obtained for the IDVAs (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor), which would be a key support.

Councillor Ali stated that;

- d. The large Muslim and Pakistan communities were not reflected within the report. The Commissioner stated there was a problem regarding diversity across the board but there was an uplift programme in place to help resolve this, along with dedicated teams for these areas but there was still a need to receive feedback from these communities.
- e. Although the Commissioner had stated that crime rates were down; Councillor Ali's constituents were frustrated with the 101 line and therefore they were aware that crime was being grossly under-reported, Councillor Ali invited the Commissioner to his ward to listen to the residents. The Commissioner agreed that 101 call handling was a challenge and would be covered later in this meeting. As regards more police action, the uplift officers are coming through but need time to be trained and become experienced but reiterated that crime was decreasing.

Councillor Hogg stated:

- f. The webchat button was still hidden in the bottom right-hand corner of the webpage and needed further work.

- g. Did the Commissioner support the specials asking for the funding of camera vans? The Commissioner stated he fully supported the specials, and they now had their new camera vans.

Councillor Hussein commended the Commissioner on his accessibility, openness, and ease at which he was contactable and the fact he responded promptly. He stated that:

- h. Following a recent licensing committee meeting, a consultation was currently underway regarding CCTV being placed in taxis for security purposes; Councillor Hussein asked the Commissioner, if he would be able to help Peterborough taxi drivers fund this expense. The commissioner stated he would take this away as this fell into the Violence against Women and Girls agenda which was a significant priority across the partnership and High Harms Board
- i. Regarding the ethnic communities wanting to see more police officers from an ethnic background, Councillor Hussein's opinion was it should be "the best man for the job with an understanding of the different religions and cultures, especially when making arrests, to ensure that religious and cultural boundaries were not overstepped." The Commissioner stated he was reassured that the training took place to equip officers with the necessary knowledge to serve all communities in a diverse way, but he would raise this again with the Chief Constable to be certain.
- j. What was being done about educating young children on the prevention of drug use? The Commissioner responded stating this was a key policy and priority, to work with the schools to enable early intervention. There was already work being undertaken, e.g., Safer Schools Team and County Lines.

Councillor Bradnam asked:

- k. How had the community scrutiny panel been selected, how often had the panel met and how many cases had been scrutinised. The Commissioner stated that there had been a process which was on the constabulary website, a good process had been followed resulting in a good range of diversity from the volunteers who put themselves forward.
- l. How many people had been visited under the Independent Custody Visiting Scheme in 2022/23? The Commissioner stated he did not have these figures but could forward these if required.
- m. Had an update been received regarding the funding of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)? The Commissioner explained there was a meeting planned with the Home Office regarding the consultation on DHRs on 15 August.
- n. Councillor Sharp thanked the Commissioner for his early intervention work around anti-social behaviour that was carried out within the schools due to the importance of attempting to steer youngsters away from going down the wrong path. The Commissioner stated this was his number one priority as being excluded from school meant there was a significant chance that the individual would end up seriously injured, dead or in prison which had an impact on the individual and the community.
- o. Had the PCSO (Police Community Support Officers) roles that had been kept open for those that had progressed to officers now been filled? The Commissioner explained that the intention was still to recruit and train for further PCSOs within the current financial year however the chief constable was focussed on the uplift and training of officers otherwise there would be a financial penalty from the government.

Councillor Gilderdale asked:

- p. With Cambridge having a large Gypsy, Roma, travelling community, how would the new legislation/police powers impact this community? The Commissioner stated he had been in conversations with Councillor Gilderdale's predecessor, Councillor Collis who had been helping to arrange a meeting with the Gypsy, Roma, travelling community but unfortunately the meeting did not come to fruition. The Commissioner stated he was willing to engage with the community and any help to do this would be very welcomed.

Regarding the new legislation, this would be operational and therefore a decision for the Chief Constable as to how this would be acted upon.

- q. Regarding the police work around domestic violence and violence against women and girls alongside the current cost of living crisis which could lead to economic abuse within relationships; was there any work being undertaken to support women who were in financial based dependent relationships. The Commissioner gave his reassurance that those working in this area were aware of this aspect.
- r. Councillor Hussein asked what had led the crime figures to decrease and could this be increased to further drive down crime. The Commissioner explained that domestic burglary was down by nearly 50% based on 2019 baseline; these 2019 figures were pre-covid being used as the figures from lockdown were not “true figures” to baseline against.
 - a. Robbery down by over 20% on 2019 baseline
 - b. Overall theft down by 25% on 2019 baseline
 - c. Vehicle crime down by 35% on 2019 baseline
 - d. Rural crime down by 46% on the last year
 - e. Bike theft down on 30% on the last year (particularly in Cambridge)Crime was down but the demand on the constabulary had significantly increased and much of this demand was not associated with core policing jobs.

Edward Leigh asked:

- s. For clarification, that the reduction in crime excluded fraud, as it was dealt with at a national level. The Commissioner explained that fraud was reported centrally into the City of London Police and was the most prevalent of crime type and was not counted in the figures within the report.

Councillor Count stated:

- t. There had been significant investments made in both the Cambridge and Peterborough Railway stations to help prevent bike thefts, but these thefts were now occurring at Cambridge North station and therefore asked if the same investment could be made into the Cambridge North Station. The Commissioner explained a lot of work had taken place in Cambridge and across the county and work was also scheduled to take place at the Cambridge North station.

Councillor Hogg asked:

- u. For clarification around the reporting of crime figures, as these were confusing (burglary down 47%, shoplifting down 25% but reporting of drugs supply and county lines increased 55%). The Commissioner stated that the analysis of crime was complex, and he was happy to take this offline to explain in further detail, as it was sometimes counter intuitive. But an increase in reporting did mean there was more confidence in reporting and that the police were proactively dealing with those crime types. He did explain that reported crimes were recorded crimes – this was just terminology; drug crimes came about due to police drug raids, burglaries were down as there were less victims of burglary. The Commissioner was reassured that the figures were showing a downward trend.
- v. Why domestic violence figures had not been included and had these figures changed since pre-COVID. The Commissioner explained these figures have been made public, there had been an increase over lockdown, which had since plateaued. He explained that this was another crime type that did not give the full picture by recorded crime, as the Independent Domestic Violence advisors, their cases were not police recorded. The Commissioner added that Jim Haylett was working with the Public Service Board around countywide analytical resource, where this happened, there were far better outcomes, as it enabled all the data to be looked at from all the agencies to sort out patterns to drive the deliverables and outcomes going forward.

Edward Leigh stated:

- w. He commended the Commissioner and his team on an Annual Report that was both short and readably.
- x. Asked for clarification around the Safer Communities Fund. The Commissioner responded stating this was part of the package supporting the community safety partnerships which was divided into two areas, i) to fund a problem-solving co-ordinator for three years, ii) to enable Community Safety Partnerships to be able to bid from a £200,000 pot to deal with the low-level local issues (anti-social behaviour, fly-tipping, broken windows etc), that were real quality of life issues for those affected in the area.
- y. Asked for clarification on what over-establishment meant. The Commissioner explained that the Chief Constable had a fixed number of posts within each of his departments and this was prudent planning, especially within the Demand Hub as it was such a critical area, knowing employees would leave etc; the figures would eventually balance; this was not an area that could be under resourced.
- z. The Victim and Witness Hub team had 15,650 witnesses but only supported 5,000; why did these numbers differ? Jim Haylett explained that all victims were offered help and assistance three times but only 5,000 took up this offer.
- aa. The report mentioned bereaved families of fatal traffic incidents and the support they received; why had road traffic fatalities been singled out when people have suffered bereavement in other ways? The Commissioner stated that road traffic fatalities had been singled out as this support was delivered by a local charity, Roads Victims Trust, who the Commissioner was very keen to support as they did an excellent job.
- bb. The Victim Service Providers Data which was available on the Cambridgeshire PCC (Police and Crime Commissioner) website contained an interesting flowchart which would have been useful to have provided to the Panel and asked if this could be circulated.

HMICFRS Report

The Commissioner explained that the HMICFRS PEEL Inspection Report was published at the end of June 2022. He gave context to the report as there were areas that the force were stated as needing improvement.

- 101 calls – this was useful, as part of the Commissioner’s audit and ability to hold the chief constable to account, he could now use this report to ask what was being done to address this problem
- Investigating crime – this was significant and a concern; the Commissioner had since seen a comprehensive plan to put this right. The data used by HMIC was from May 2021, but it could be resolved quickly by the chief constable, and he was confident this would be addressed.

In relation to the report itself, the Constabulary were found to be GOOD in four areas, three areas were ADEQUATE and two assessed as REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT (101 calls/investigating crime)

The Commissioner’s main concern was responding to the public and 101 calls; there was now a detailed delivery plan in place supported by an audit schedule to monitor and evaluate the improvements going forward. The Commissioner requested that he came back to the Panel at the next meeting with a full report on those two areas to explain the chief constable’s actions and what the Commissioner was doing to hold him to account.

The Commissioner explained that HMICFRS Inspections had changed, and they had been warned that gradings would go down; Cambridgeshire were grouped into a similar family of

forces (six forces), two of those are better funded than Cambridgeshire and are in special measures, with another one likely to enter special measures.

On top of the demand on service there was also the growth of population; the census had predicted a 0.1% increase, but this was in fact 4%; this had an impact on funding as funding was based on population. The Commissioner was lobbying MPs over funding because if Cambridgeshire were funded correctly there could be extra call handlers and police officers.

The Commissioner stated there were two issues he heard from residents and business owners that they wanted:

- More police officers and visibility of police officers; this has happened, there were now over 1,650 and there would be 1,714 by March 2023.
- Crime cut – the Commissioner had demonstrated this had now happened.

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*

9. **Delivery of the Police and Crime Plan – Forward Plan**

Edward Leigh thanked the Commissioner and his team for providing the report and asked that in addition to providing the areas interest, could a short status column be added to indicate what stage the item is at (preparation/progressing/delivered).

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

Jim Haylett explained that some of the deliverables had been completed prior to the report being published and it would therefore help to have three categories, completed, nearly completed, and rolling. It had also been agreed there would be an annual report and a six-month interim report.

The Panel **AGREED** to **NOTE** the report and made the following recommendation:

1. *To add in a short status/stage (completed/nearly completed/in progress) column to each item within the report.*
2. *An annual report taken to the panel – showing a whole year's work*
3. *A six-month interim report – showing all the deliverables being reported on and then taken off for the future.*

(THE COMMISSIONER AND HIS STAFF LEFT THE MEETING)

10. Rules of Procedure and Panel Arrangements

The Panel received a report to review the Rules of Procedure and Panel Arrangements and to incorporate a proposed amendment into the Panel Arrangements if agreed.

After discussion, the following was agreed:

The Panel **AGREED** to **NOTE** the report and made the following recommendations:

1. *It was **AGREED** that the Panel Arrangements would state that it must be a two thirds majority vote of **those members present at the meeting** to reappoint a co-opted independent member to the panel for any additional multiple terms, starting after the second 4-year term.*
2. *It was **AGREED** that 3.25 of the Panel Arrangements it would state that it must be a two thirds majority vote of **those members present at the meeting** to terminate the appointment of a co-opted member.*
3. *A link be added into the Rules of Procedures at 4.1 Panel Meetings to show 2.0 Functions of the Police and Crime Panel from the Panel Arrangements.*

11. Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel – Annual Report

The Panel received the Panel's Annual report to consider the work of the Panel over the last twelve months.

Discussions took place and a couple of tweaks agree:

- Change of photos
- Added in wording of Councillor

The Panel **AGREED** to **NOTE** the Annual Report.

12. 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.

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

13. Complete Review of Complaints Policy/Guidance

The Panel were presented with a revised and updated procedure for dealing with complaints.

After a long discussion it was agreed that this would be reviewed outside the meeting and brought back to the Panel once further tweaks had been made.

The Panel **AGREED** for the Chair and Vice Chair to work with the Monitoring Office and Senior Democratic Services Officer to review the policy outside the meeting and bring back an updated version to the September meeting.

14. Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan

DATES	ITEMS
8 SEPTEMBER 2022 Engine Shed Sand Martin House Peterborough	Member Training – Frontline Introduction to OPCC Work Programming Session with Frontline/OPCC
14 SEPTEMBER 2022 1:30pm Engine Shed Sand Martin House Peterborough	Public Questions Review of Complaints Criminal Justice Community Safety Arrangements HMRICFRS OPCC – Forward Plan
23 NOVEMBER 2022 1:30pm Engine Shed Sand Martin House Peterborough	Public Questions Review of Complaints 6 Monthly Interim Delivery of Police and Crime Plan Approach to Commissioning and Grants OPCC – Forward Plan
11 NOVEMBER 2022 Scarman House Coventry	Police & Crime Annual Conference Hybrid Meeting (Attend virtual or face-to-face)
1 FEBRUARY 2023 1:30pm Engine Shed Sand Martin House Peterborough	Public Questions Review of Complaints Precept Report 2023/2024 (full meeting – given importance) OPCC – Forward Plan
15 FEBRUARY 2023 1:30pm Engine Shed Sand Martin House Peterborough	If needed (Veto)
15 MARCH 2023 1:30pm Engine Shed Sand Martin House Peterborough	Public Questions Review of Complaints OPCC – Forward Plan

ITEM	ACTION
1. Review of Complaints	The Panel AGREED to Note the report.
2. Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2021/22	Having reviewed the Annual Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner the Panel AGREED to ENDORSE the Annual Report for 2021/22 and <i>made the following recommendation.</i> 2. <i>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.</i>

	<p><i>HMRICFRS Report – recommendations agreed:</i></p> <p>3. <i>To bring a full report on the two areas of concern from the HMRICFRS Report to the next Panel meeting (September).</i></p> <p>4. <i>To approach the Public Service Board about joining together to lobby government for fairer funding for Cambridgeshire alongside the Constabulary</i></p>
3. Delivery of the Police and Crime Plan – Forward Plan	<p>The Panel AGREED to NOTE the report and made the following recommendation:</p> <p>4. <i>To add in a short status/stage (completed/nearly completed/in progress) column to each item within the report.</i></p> <p>5. <i>An annual report taken to the panel – showing a whole year’s work</i></p> <p>6. <i>A six-month interim report – showing all the deliverables being reported on and then taken off for the future.</i></p>
4. Rules of Procedure and Panel Arrangements	<p>The Panel AGREED to NOTE the report and made the following recommendations:</p> <p>4. <i>It was AGREED that the Panel Arrangements would state that it must be a two thirds majority vote of those members present at the meeting to reappoint a co-opted independent member to the panel for any additional multiple terms, starting after the second 4-year term.</i></p> <p>5. <i>It was AGREED that 3.25 of the Panel Arrangements it would state that it must be a two thirds majority vote of those members present at the meeting to terminate the appointment of a co-opted member.</i></p> <p>6. <i>A link be added into the Rules of Procedures at 4.1 Panel Meetings to show <u>2.0 Functions of the Police and Crime Panel</u> from the Panel Arrangements.</i></p>
5. Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel – Annual Report	The Panel AGREED to NOTE the Annual Report.
6. Administration Costs and Member Expenses	The Panel AGREED to NOTE the report.
7. Complete Review of Complaints Policy/Guidance	The Panel AGREED to review this outside the meeting and bring back an updated version to the September meeting.
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

CHAIRPERSON