



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
HELD AT CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
ON 18 MARCH 2015**

Members Present: Councillors McGuire (Chair), Shelton, Herbert, Shellens, Reeve, JR Fox, Over and Independent Co-opted Members Christine Graham and Edward Leigh.

Officers Present: Paulina Ford Secretariat Peterborough City Council
Ian Phillips Lead Officer Peterborough City Council

Others Present: Sir Graham Bright Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Brian Ashton Deputy Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner
Dr Dorothy Gregson Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Josie Gowler Chief Finance Officer

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Ablewhite.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were given.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2015 were approved as an accurate record subject to the following amendment on page 4 under agenda item Precept Report 2015-16, first paragraph under Observations and comments raised by the Panel included:

“Members were disappointed that an invitation from the Panel to meet with the Police Commissioner prior to the meeting” to be changed to “Members were disappointed that an invitation from the Panel to meet with the Police Commissioners Office prior to the meeting.....”

4. Public Questions

No public questions were received.

5. Review of Complaints

The Panel received a report which provided an update on any complaints made against the Police and Crime Commissioner.

ACTION

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

6. Police and Crime Plan Variation – Appendix 1 Finances Update

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the report which provided the Panel with an update of the Police and Crime Commissioners Police and Crime Plan, Appendix 1 – Finances. The Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner gave a presentation to provide context to the report.

Observations and comments raised by the Panel included:

- The budget had been presented in three different ways which had made it difficult to understand and compare with last year's budget. Good practice would be to present this year's budget in the same format as last year.
- No actuals had been presented for last year's budget which had made it difficult to compare and scrutinise this year's budget.
- Concern was raised that with the proposed growth and development across Cambridgeshire that there would not be enough Police Officers and PCSOs.
- There was concern that there had been a drop in the numbers of front line policing since 2010.

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

- A contribution of 24.25% was paid into the National Fund for Police pensions. In addition to this there were variations which were known as Capital Equivalence Charges for Ill Health Retirement.
- The Capital Budget was not available yet.
- All of the public contact management processes, which includes call handling, across Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Bedfordshire Police and Hertfordshire Police, were currently being looked at. The Commissioner had requested a full report which could be provided to the Panel.
- The Victims' Hub funding for 2015/2016 is £446,000. There were 13 full time equivalent staff and a number of volunteers had been recruited to provide a service to victims..
- Treasury Management Services. There had been a big change in the approach to borrowing and handling of cash. The Treasury Management approach was about to undergo a review.
- The £100K underspend from last year's budget had been placed into a reserve to be specifically used to keep an oversight of the development of collaborative working arrangements. The money would be spent on employing an individual who had experience in dealing with matters of collaboration to directly engage in the collaboration work through the planning and implementation phase. Additionally some of the money will be spent on external quality assurance.
- The difficulty in the presentation of the budget had arisen from trying to separate out within the budget operational support which could include police and staff from those areas which would form part of the collaboration.
- An explanation was provided to the Panel on General and Earmarked Reserves – movement.
- In response to questions regarding the potential budget gap of £8,199k for next year. This was based on cautious estimates. There had not been a presumption that the Victims Grant of £910K would be rolled into the general budget however it was anticipated that it would be. There were a number of similar items that had not been presumed to be included. Full business cases for collaboration should come to fruition

during the summer, to be followed by consultation and therefore some savings may start to be realised.

- The training budget had been cut by 16% for 2015/2016. Collaboration would provide savings in this area and there was also a move to more online training.
- The use of modern technology and collaboration would assist in maintaining the numbers on the front line. However the Chief Constable would monitor this during growth and development of the area.
- The Panel were assured that front line police officers should not generally be used for police staff roles. An exception to this would be if they were on restricted duties due to a long term illness or injury. There were also some command positions that were required to be office based.
- Employee expenses rising over three years was due to inflation.

Following debate the Panel AGREED to the variation to Appendix 1 - Finances of the Police and Crime Plan.

ACTION

The Panel recommended that the Police Commissioner take the following actions:

1. When presenting next year's police budget include last year's budget in the same format to allow for easier comparisons.
2. Actual costs versus budget to be shown in the Annual Report.
3. Provide information to the Panel on whether pension was applicable to overtime.

7. Objective 5: Maintain the Resilience of Protective Services

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the report which provided the Panel with an update on the progress made towards Objective Five of the Commissioners Police and Crime Plan – Maintain the resilience of protective services.

Observations and comments raised by the Panel included:

- Objective 5 covered a huge area of policing and Members suggested that each area within the objective should be looked at in further detail at future meetings. Actions and measures of success should be added to each area listed within Objective 5.
- Roads Policing. Members requested that a measure be provided for fatalities and if possible present seriously injured and fatalities separately.
- More detail required in the form of bullet points to be included under each subject within Objective 5 listing what actions the Commissioner had taken.

Responses by the Commissioner to questions from the Panel included:

- Computer enabled crime was a national issue. It was high on the agenda in Cambridgeshire and being taken very seriously.
- Work was continuing and developing with regard to gaining the confidence of the public so that they would feel confident in reporting suspicious potential extremist activity and hate crime.
- The Commissioner had made a grant to the Road Victims Trust which was a registered charity offering a range of free support services to residents of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire who have been affected by fatal road collisions.
- Assurance was given that a range of things were being done to try and prevent road accidents.

The Panel noted the report.

ACTIONS

The Panel recommended that the Commissioner include the following within Objective 5 of the Police and Crime Plan:

1. Objectives and measures of success to be put against each area of policing within Objective 5 of the Police and Crime Plan.
2. When reporting on fatalities that figures are provided for both fatalities and those seriously injured.

8. Decisions by Cambridgeshire Police and Crime 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 since the previous Panel meeting.

Observations and comments raised by the Panel included:

- It was noted that the Business Coordination Board (BCB) papers were published after the meeting had taken place. Members suggested that the papers could be published a week before the meeting took place and that the meetings were held in public.
- Clarification was sought as to how the 2015/16 Grant Funding had been allocated and what the Shrievally Trust was.

Responses by the Commissioner to questions from the Panel included:

- The Commissioner would consider the request to publish papers in advance however some papers were sensitive and therefore could not be published. The meetings needed to be held in private to protect the staff and police involved in the meetings.
- Star Chambers were held and all Community Safety Partnerships were contacted to discuss grant funding. Some partners required less funding than others. The Safer Peterborough Partnership was an area that needed more funding for 2015/2016, however this would be monitored.
- The Shrievally Trust was the Bobby Scheme.

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

ACTION

1. The Panel recommended that the Commissioner should publish the Business Coordination Board (BCB) meeting papers in advance of the meetings taking place, and
2. That the Commissioner should consider BCB meetings being open to the public.

9. Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel – Administrative Costs and Member Expenses

The Panel received a report which detailed information regarding the budget claimed to support the Panel including expenses and allowances of Panel Members.

Observations and comments raised by the Panel included:

Members noted that there was an underspend and suggested that some of the budget be used for additional officer support to provide research and weekly updates to the Panel.

The Chair advised that he would discuss the suggestion with the current support officers from Peterborough City Council who are the host authority.

The Panel noted the report.

ACTION

The Chair to discuss the request for additional officer support for the Panel with the Lead Officer supporting the Panel from Peterborough City Council.

10. Draft Agenda Plan and Meeting Dates for 2015/2016

The Panel received and noted the draft agenda plan for 2015/2016 which provided dates and times of meetings for the next municipal year.

The Secretariat sought nominations for venues for the 2015/2016 meetings.

The Panel noted and AGREED the dates and time of meetings for 2015/2016.

ACTION

The Panel agreed that the following items be included on the Agenda Plan at a future meeting:

1. How the Commissioner is engaging with the public to obtain greater public participation.
2. The Commissioner to provide a regular report at each meeting on any changes that have happened within the budget since last reporting.
3. A report on what is being done to address cybercrime and educate the public.

ACTIONS

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	UPDATE
18 March 2015	Police and Crime Plan Variation – Appendix 1 Finances Update	The Panel recommended that the Police Commissioner take the following actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When presenting next year’s police budget include last year’s budget in the same format to allow for easier comparisons. 2. Actual costs versus budget to be shown in the Annual Report. 3. Provide information to the Panel on whether pension was applicable to overtime. 	Response from the Police Commissioners office to actions was received on 28 May and published on the Police and Crime Panels website on 28 May under the 18 March meeting date.
	Objective 5: Maintain the Resilience of Protective Services	The Panel recommended that the Commissioner include the following within Objective 5 of the Police and Crime Plan: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Objectives and measures of success to be put against each area of policing within Objective 5 of the Police and Crime Plan. 2. When reporting on fatalities that figures are provided for both fatalities and those seriously injured. 	As above.

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	UPDATE
	Decisions by Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Panel recommended that the Commissioner should publish the Business Coordination Board (BCB) meeting papers in advance of the meetings taking place, and 2. That the Commissioner should consider BCB meetings being open to the public. 	As above
	Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel – Administrative Costs and Member Expenses	The Chair to discuss the request for additional officer support for the Panel with the Lead Officer supporting the Panel from Peterborough City Council.	Resource for additional support for research has been identified.
	Draft Agenda Plan and Meeting Dates for 2015/2016	<p>The Panel agreed that the following items be included on the Agenda Plan at a future meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How the Commissioner is engaging with the public to obtain greater public participation. 2. The Commissioner to provide a regular report at each meeting on any changes that have happened within the budget since last reporting. 3. A report on what is being done to address cybercrime and educate the public. 	To be programmed in to the 2015/2016 Agenda Plan.

The meeting began at 2.00pm and ended at 3.55pm

CHAIRMAN