



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
HELD AT HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
ON 9 NOVEMBER 2016**

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

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
Josie Gowler Director of Finance, Office of the Police and
Crime Commissioner
Alan Baldwin Deputy Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire
Constabulary (Items 1- 6 only)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lillis, Oliver and Pearson.

Councillor Sharp was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Pearson.

2. Declarations of Interest

Item 8. Realising the Opportunities from the Policing and Crime Bill

Councillors Giles and Shellens declared an interest that they were Members of the Fire Authority.

3. Minutes of the meetings held on 29 June 2016 and 11 July 2016.

The minutes of the Panel meeting held on 7 September 2016 were agreed as an accurate record.

The minutes of the Complaints Sub Committee held on 13 October 2016 were agreed as an accurate record.

4. Public Questions/Statements

One question had been submitted to the Panel from Mr Richard Taylor, who was not in attendance; and is attached at Appendix 1 of the minutes with the response given.

5. Appointment of Independent Co-opted Members

The Panel received a report which provided an update on the process for recruiting to the vacancy of Independent Co-opted Member. There had been sixteen applications with five of these shortlisted and invited for interview. The level and quality of these candidates was very impressive. Interviews took place on 28 September 2016 with the interview panel being Edward Leigh, Councillors Bisby and Shelton. The outcome of the interviews was that Claire George had been offered the position of Independent Co-opted Member.

The report also requested agreement to seek the approval of the Secretary of State under Schedule 6 Part 2 Paragraph 4(4) of the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 to increase the number of independent co-opted members from 2 or 3.

ACTION

The Panel unanimously endorsed and **AGREED** the recommendation to appoint Claire George as the second Independent Co-opted Member of the Panel. The Chairperson invited Claire George to join the panel for the rest of the meeting.

The Panel unanimously **AGREED** to seek the approval of the Secretary of State under Schedule 6 Part 2 Paragraph 4(4) of the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 to increase the number of independent co-opted members from 2 to 3.

The Panel unanimously **AGREED** for the recruitment process to be commenced, in the same manner as previous, once approval from the Secretary of State had been received.

6. Review of Complaints

The Panel received a report which stated that no complaints had been made against the Police and Crime Commissioner since the Panel met on 7 September 2016 and the outcome of the Complaints Sub Committee which met on 13 October 2016.

The Panel received an update from Edward Leigh informing Members that the Complaints Sub Committee determine that no further action would be taken against the Police and Crime Commissioner and resolved to make three recommendations:

- That, within a reasonable period of time, the Commissioner sends the complainant a written apology; acknowledging that his earlier comments had caused offence;
- That the Commissioner invite the Complainant to a meeting to discuss the complaint;
- That the Commissioner engage with representatives of the traveller community.

The Secretariat explained that the recommendations had been made with regard to the non-anonymous complaint and not with regard to the anonymous complaint; albeit they had been of a similar nature.

The Commissioner reiterated that he was deeply sorry for any offence he may have caused with regard to the complaint against him. He stated that:

- It was a pity this had been politicised, the complainant was a known opposition activist but the Commissioner did accept that his comments could have caused offence to which he apologised.

- It had taken two months since the IPCC Report was available before the Panel made a decision and in his opinion this was too long.
- He had accepted the recommendations from the Complaints Sub Committee and had offered a meeting to the complainant which he had received no response.
- His activity since elected had showed how he works with all communities and would continue to do so.

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.

The Panel **AGREED** to note the outcome of the Complaints Sub Committee which met on 13 October.

The Panel **AGREED** that the Complaints Procedure be refreshed, using best practice from other Panels, and brought back to a future meeting.

7. Budget Strategy

The Commissioner explained that the Deputy Chief Constable had given his apologies as he had been urgently called away to deal with a serious incident.

The report was introduced by the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Director of Finance:

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

- A seven force police collaboration (Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Kent) had been mentioned; how far was collaboration likely to be taken. The Commissioner explained that a seven force collaboration would be at a high strategic level regarding efficiencies but not taking away the element of local policing and the governance of this, which would remain with the Cambridgeshire Constabulary. The collaboration would be about high level skills that would only be needed occasionally and therefore sharing these across the forces would be more productive and cost effective.
- The Panel very much welcomed the Commissioner's comments with regard to the seven force procurement initiative. The Commissioner informed the Panel that he was minded to raise the precept for 2017/18. The Panel were pleased to hear the possibility of a small rise in the precept as there were concerns that standards needed to be maintained. The Commissioner reiterated that every penny raised from the precept would go into frontline policing.
- The report stated underspends and efficiency savings but was there any intention to increase frontline policing in Cambridgeshire. The Commissioner explained this was the intention but in reality there was another £7million to be found; it was hoped that a large amount of this could be done by benefits realisation.
- With regard to inflationary pressures and the Bank of England forecasting inflation rising to 2.7% next year; this could put pressure on the budget and potentially the precept rise would have to be used to cover inflation costs. The Commissioner agreed that this would bring additional pressures but resilience needed to be built in to combat these; there were areas that further money could be saved from.
- What benefits would be gained from Devolution. The Commissioner explained that public services and authorities as individuals had been excellent at breaking down the siloes within their own services but not between each other and devolution would allow the opportunity to rebuild public services together to provide excellent services across the region.

- 'Plan on a Page' had been developed by Huntingdonshire District Council to help navigate between financial years; as the Constabulary were facing financial challenges it would be helpful within the budget process if the Commissioner could produce a document to show what the "road map" looked like; with details to follow at a later date. The Commissioner stated this was already being developed, the Police and Crime Plan was a "plan on page" and as promised the figures and narrative would be developed around it. This helps inform partners and is easier for the public to understand where the pressures and challenges were.
- Would the collaboration between the Constabulary and local authorities work well with regard to developing assets. The Commissioner stated he was willing to talk to other authorities about possibilities as there were many opportunities; there are three control rooms in the vicinity of Hinchingsbrooke; one each for the ambulance service, the police and the fire service along with back offices for each service and the on costs of these buildings; therefore there were clearly savings to be made with just blue light services. With regard to Councils, a new governance model should be looked at allow decisions to be made in a timely fashion especially around commercial estates. If the police estate allowed the opportunity to reduce overall costs and bring in income then this would be done but there were also parts of the police estate where people could be moved and buildings rented out. Some of the police rural areas are conversing with the fire authority to move the police into fire stations. If these opportunities can be realised then savings could be made beyond what was required.
- The Panel noted that there was a golden opportunity to incorporate all the call centres under one roof; this would create time savings and be beneficial during major incidents.
- The Panel welcomed the potential for 20% saving from procurement especially when the budget for the seven forces was £190million; potentially allowing a local saving across the eastern region of more than the amount that needed to be saved.
- The number of frontline officers have been maintained over the years but this was not the perception of the public. Did the number include just officers on the streets or did it include those that were tackling cybercrime from a desk, dog handlers and armed response? The Commissioner stated frontline officers would include those that tackle crime, disorder and were dealing with those in distress on an hourly basis; these were not back office officers. Cybercrime does bring its own pressures as a cybercrime criminals' return on investment can be considerably more than drug dealing. Some vulnerable people will pay when they receive an email; the complexities are huge as these were global problems and therefore need to be tackled in a certain manner.
- 50 hours a day of police time can be spent in hospitals dealing with those who are suffering mental health crisis. The Commissioner explained he had met with the new Chief Executive of Clinical Commissioning Group to look at a new protocol with the NHS whereby there would be a 15 minute prescriptive handover from the police to the hospital, which would save an enormous amount of police hours. There were challenges regarding the security at some hospitals during the night therefore the police would be called when there was an incident; as a result partners put pressure on the police when there was a need to look at their own processes.

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

8. 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 collaboration made perfect sense as the Fire Authority had many assets that could be shared with the Police.
- The operational delivery would need to remain separate. Was it the Commissioner's intention to become the "Police and Fire Commissioner"? The Commissioner confirmed that this was his aspiration. The Chairperson stated there would be a need for this to become a rolling agenda item to ensure the Panel were kept updated with the progress as this was likely to go through Government quite quickly. The Commissioner explained this was progressing fast as much of the legislation was wrapped up in the mayoralities from the same Bill therefore there was a deadline to be adhered to.
- It was noted that already in Peterborough there were ambulances parking up in Fire Stations and using the facilities to enable them to be nearer to any calls and this was working well. The Commissioner agreed that shared utilising of the estate was the way forward and was happening in other areas; it made sense to collaborate as this would enable central costs to be driven out whilst protecting frontlines. It was imperative to ensure that operational independence of the Chief Fire Officer remained as he would be in command of his officers, training programmes etc. The legislation was due to gain Royal Assent in January 2017.
- The Panel noted that the Fire service were now dealing with some ambulance 999 calls and this had a huge amount of merit. The public perception of the Fire Service was good and therefore there would be huge operational and attitudinal benefit in keeping the Fire Service visibly separate from the Police on a day to day basis. Any move to unify the arrangements such that the Chief Fire Officer could only be asked questions through the Commissioner and not include operational matters would be considered deeply prejudicial. The Commissioner explained that with regard to governance arrangements and legislation it was envisaged that the Police and Crime Panels would become Police, Crime and Fire Panels but there would always be other ways that would give the Panel the opportunity to ask those pertinent questions directly.
- Collaboration makes sense but under 4.3 of the report; which option would the Commissioner prefer? The Commissioner stated it would be the second option: "Commissioners have the option of putting forward a business case which may include arrangements to take on the responsibility for the governance of fire and rescue".
- Financially; what was the cost and would the regionally combined control rooms be used? The Commissioner confirmed this was why a singular person was needed to help direct the services together and realise opportunities for the communities.
- How would the budget work with regard to pensions for the police and fire? The Commissioner confirmed these were challenges and a complex area.
- The Panel commented With regard to the merging of back room staff from different authorities, particularly between the fire and police services; there was a potential challenge with the differentials in terms of conditions, salaries and the harmonisation problem would be a great one and could be an impediment to progress.
- It was suggested that the Treasury Management documents from all the authorities could be combined.

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

9. Hate Crime

The Panel received a report to make the Panel aware of how the Police and Crime Commissioner and Cambridgeshire Constabulary deal with hate crimes and incidents.

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

- Any form of hate crime was deplorable and it was encouraging to hear that the Commissioner's Office and the Constabulary were tackling this.
- The Panel were pleased that the numbers were dropping but asked for reassurance that the Constabulary understood the incitement that flags and emblems could have and that these would be removed and action taken. The Commissioner stated that if the Deputy Chief Constable were present he would be able to give his assurances on this.
- On the Constabulary website there was not one single mention of hate crime except in an FOI document; this was a shocking omission. TrueVision which was an excellent website was only referred to very deep down in a document on the Constabulary website when it should be promoted at a much higher level given the high profile nature of this particular crime. The Commissioner agreed this was a good point and it would be taken away as an action to review.
- The Panel found it pleasing that there had been a lot of Constabulary activity in the follow up to the leaflets but no prosecutions in respect of this had occurred and it was these that would be the deterrent. The Commissioner stated he could not comment on on-going operations but there had been no prosecutions to date. He asked for the help from the public as there was a need to tackle this together.
- The document did not state how the Constabulary plans to tackle hate crime and this was a major flaw; what were the plans to deal with the sources of hate crime and to reduce it. The Commissioner stated the Deputy Chief Constable would have been able to answer operationally as to what the police were doing to tackle hate crime but he gave his reassurance that there would be enough money in the budget to be able to tackle this. Hate crime was being tackled along with respective partners, with the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit also providing support as required. Local Community leaders were needed to encourage the public to report this crime as it was under reported and intelligence needed to be collected.
- The Panel mentioned that the police service may gain from the proactive services of the fire service; if the fire service were dealing with hate crime then they would be proactive and ensure their message was heard in the innocent and positive way that the fire service manage to operate in. Would it be a good idea for the police to be proactive and state there was no intention to send people back. The Commissioner responded stating that this was about collaborative working, that the Fire Service should be able to give assurances within the community. The constabulary were also currently undertaking outreach work, especially around schools, NHS areas, disability groups, community collectors and community members. One of the advantages the police force had was that they have one of the most senior Muslim police officers in the country; Assistant Chief Constable and he had done a tremendous amount of work in terms of community assurance around Peterborough especially and also the wider community.
- Was the Commissioner aware that the Deputy Chief Constable, Janette McCormick from Cheshire had written to the Lord Chancellor to have Gypsy or Irish Traveller Ethnicity added to the census, with the justification being that updating the ethnicity monitoring systems in youth justice to include Gypsy and Irish travellers would be an integral step in helping to address the disproportionate number of gypsy, roma and traveller children in both secure training centres and youth offender institutions; this seemed a sensible suggestion which the Commissioner would be encouraged to follow, if he had not already done so. The Commissioner agreed he would look into this.
- Had any work been done in the Oxmoor with regard to the distribution of leaflets? The Commissioner stated there had been visits to the local schools in the area but would send the Panel the details confirming this.

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

ACTIONS

The Commissioner's Office to promote the subject of Hate at a much higher level on the Constabulary's website, given the high profile nature of this particular crime.

The Commissioner's Office to consider the work of Janette McCormick, Deputy Chief Constable – Cheshire, in the adding of Gypsy or Irish Traveller ethnicity to the census.

The Commissioner's Office to send out the details of the work that had been carried out around the Oxmoor regarding the distribution of leaflets; visits to local schools etc.

10. 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.

Observations and comments raised by the Panel on the following decisions included:

Funding to support the reduction of collisions on the county's roads through effective and sustainable prevention and early intervention. – CPCC 2016-033

- The Panel welcomed the Commissioner's initiative on reducing road accidents but would this include the 'young boy racers' as these were accidents waiting to happen. *The Commissioner responded that the role would add benefit by providing education, especially to sixth formers*
- There have been several fatalities caused by mobile phone users; was there an initiative to catch these offenders? *The Commissioner explained that the Force were well aware of the consequences of mobile phone usage, having an officer killed by a lorry driver whilst using his mobile phone last year. Mobile phone users were hard to catch as they tend to drop their phones resulting in no evidence. The Commissioner gave his assurances that these people were being caught via the Constabulary's unmarked cars.*
- Another cyclist had been killed in the Peterborough area and there was a need to educate cyclists to be lit appropriately and drivers to leave sufficient space. *The Commissioner explained there was a joint approach undertaken this time of year; the police do local campaigns but there were also initiatives the local council could do regarding road safety which the Panel may want to suggest to their local Community Safety Partnerships.*
- Could the Business Co-ordination Board Agenda papers be published as a single pack, instead of separate files. *The Commissioner agreed to look into this.*

Areas where Decisions were likely to be considered.

- The Panel thanked the Commissioner for supplying this information which gives the Panel the opportunity to scrutinise beforehand and raise any relevant questions.

A request was made to the Commissioner to audit the CCTV figures jointly to determine if the efficiency of the CCTV network was being maximised, particularly in regard to the increase in calls to the police versus the response levels from the police alongside falling arrest levels. *The Commissioner responded stating he would ask the Chief Constable to look into this.*

ACTION

The Commissioner to ask the Chief Constable to look into auditing the figures with regard to the CCTV networks.

11. 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.

1 February 2017

- Budget Report
- Custody Suites – This will remain on the agenda; unless the Panel decide they have received sufficient information beforehand.

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
9 November 2016	Appointment of Independent Co-opted Members	<p>The Panel unanimously endorsed and AGREED the recommendation to appoint Claire George as the second Independent Co-opted Member of the Panel. The Chairperson invited Claire George to join the panel for the rest of the meeting.</p> <p>The Panel unanimously AGREED to seek the approval of the Secretary of State under Schedule 6 Part 2 Paragraph 4(4) of the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 to increase the number of independent co-opted members from 2 to 3.</p> <p>The Panel unanimously AGREED for the recruitment process to be commenced, in the same manner as previous, once approval from the Secretary of State had been received.</p>	
	Review of Complaints	<p>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.</p> <p>The Panel AGREED to note the outcome of the Complaints Sub Committee which met on 13 October.</p> <p>The Panel AGREED that the Complaints Procedure be refreshed, using best practice from other Panels, and brought back to a future meeting.</p>	

Agenda Item 3

DATE OF MEETING	ITEM	ACTION	UPDATE
	Budget Strategy	Following debate the Panel AGREED to note the report.	
	Realising the Opportunities from the Policing and Crime Bill	Following debate the Panel AGREED to note the report.	
	Hate Crime	<p>Following debate the Panel AGREED to note the report.</p> <p>The Commissioner's Office to promote the subject of Hate at a much higher level on the Constabulary's website, given the high profile nature of this particular crime.</p> <p>The Commissioner's Office to consider the work of Janette McCormick, Deputy Chief Constable – Cheshire, in the adding of Gypsy or Irish Traveller ethnicity to the census.</p> <p>The Commissioner's Office to send out the details of the work that had been carried out around the Oxmoor regarding the distribution of leaflets; visits to locals schools etc.</p>	
	Decisions By the Commissioner	The Panel NOTED the report and decisions that had been made by the Commissioner.	
	Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2015-2016	The Panel received and NOTED the agenda plan including dates and times for future meetings.	

The meeting began at 2.00pm and ended at 4.15pm

CHAIRPERSON

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