



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
HELD AT HUNTINGDON DISTRICT COUNCIL
ON 14 NOVEMBER 2018**

Members Present:	Edward Leigh (Chairperson), Councillors J Palmer, D Oliver, D Connor, N Massey, M Shellens, S Tierney, C Hogg, R Brown, C Daunton, A Ali and A Sharp	
Officers Present:	Jane Webb Fiona McMillan	Secretariat, Peterborough City Council Monitoring Officer, Peterborough City Council
Others Present:	Jason Ablewhite Dr Dorothy Gregson Matthew Warren Niki Howard Adrian Chapman	Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Acting Chief Finance Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Chief Finance Officer, Cambridgeshire Constabulary Service Director: Communities and Safety, Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Claire George

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mike Shellens declared an interest by being a Member of the Fire Authority.

3. Minutes of the meetings held on 12 September 2018.

The minutes of the Panel meeting held on 12 September 2018 were agreed as an accurate record. Subject to the following deletion:

Councillor Alan Sharp was not present at the meeting on 12 September.

4. Public Questions/Statements

No public questions or statements were received.

5. Review of Complaints

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

The Panel were informed that during the course of this reporting period one complaint had been made against the Commissioner. This complaint had been ruled out of further consideration by the Monitoring Officer and the Chairman of the Panel due to involving operational policing matters which were outside the remit of the Commissioner and lack of sufficient evidence relating to another secondary complaint regarding how the Commissioner handled the primary complaint.

ACTION

Following discussions the Panel **NOTED** the report.

The Panel made the following recommendation to the Commissioner:

That the OPCC be more proactive in informing members of the public how to file a complaint against the Commissioner.

6. Fire and Rescue Governance Update

The Panel received a report which provided an update following the approval from the Home Secretary for the Commissioner to take on responsibility for governance arrangements for the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service.

The Commissioner explained that he had been informed that the public consultation challenge had now been dismissed therefore now only two elements of the decision process were still to be looked into; this was now just between the government and the fire authority.

ACTION

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

7. Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2022/23

The Panel received a report to update them on the Commissioner's approach to setting the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2022/23

The Panel were informed that the government's police financial settlements figures were expected on 6 December 2018 with the final figures coming back to the Panel in January. Negotiations were ongoing with regard to the pension gap.

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

- a) Niki Howard explained that the Police settlement grant figure expected on 6 December would give an indication as to how much pension deficit would be funded by the government; previously this had always been a flat settlement with no inflationary uplift.
- b) Members noted that Cambridgeshire Constabulary was one of the lowest funded police forces in the county, per head of population, resulting in a constant threat of under resourced policing services whilst Cambridgeshire continued to be one of the fastest growing counties in terms of population. Members asked how they could help this situation to which the Commissioner

responded stating that Members could write to their local MP or the Policing Minister with their concerns asking for a review of the funding formula, taking into account the exceptional level of growth. The Commissioner explained that the Cambridgeshire force was one of the most effective and efficient in the UK and the Government needed to look at the service as a whole, whilst tracking the ever expanding growth of the county.

- c) The 5% pension overpayment by employees did not affect what the employer paid; employees were looking for greater benefit which had been costed in. Members asked if the £4.3m funding gap was expected to be recovered within one year to which Niki Howard confirmed that it was. Members were surprised as the local government pension schemes had been given 20 years to recover.
- d) There had been a huge increase (50%) in the insurance premium; what did this cover and why was this not insured by the government. The Commissioner explained that insurance was a massive issue and only one insurer was willing to cover them due to being deemed as a too high of a risk. Currently there was a claim in which had increase both the excess and the premium; the excess would be £300k. How would the police insure themselves in the future? The Fire Service has looked at setting up their own insurance company; the Commissioner has taken this proposal to the seven force collaboration team who will investigate the possibilities. Currently the Police are held to ransom by one single insurer which was extremely expensive. The details of the insurance claim were currently restricted and would only be released if the claim went to court.
- e) Members were pleased to see the Commissioner had commenced a Youth and Community Fund that supported youth and community groups to deliver activities to divert young people away from offending and reduce the vulnerability of young people but were concerned and requested reassurance that the distribution of grants across the county was where there was most need. The Commissioner stated he provided funds to the countywide Youth Prevention Service and therefore it was up to groups to apply for this funding.
- f) The Commissioner explained that the figures would be revisited in January; the reserves do drop from £17.2m to £8.5m but the government expected local constabularies to do this and he stated he was confident that enough monies would be left that would be able to cover a situation such as Soham (£6.2m) if necessary.
- g) The Commissioner stated that preparatory work had taken place with regard to civil disobedience and was taken seriously; with regard to planning for brexit, reserves were kept higher than needed, training was up to date, resilience was in reserve and if necessary the Constabulary would request further assistance from the government.
- h) Members pointed out that last year the Commissioner was able offer the public 55 new police officers when fire precept was raised and that this year it would be unlikely the Commissioner would be able to offer anything as attractive, as the precept would be absorbed by increased costs; was the Commissioner worried that this would be harder to sell to the public. The Commissioner responded stating that it would need to be made clear that he would be protecting the police force as it was and explaining the consequences if this did not go ahead.

ACTION

The Police and Crime Panel also made the following recommendation:

The Panel to write to the Policing Minister requesting a review of the funding formula, taking into account the exceptional level of growth in the area

8. Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan – Communities

The Panel received a report to update them on the activity underway to deliver the priorities set out in the Communities section of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

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

- a) Members of the Panel felt that the Crime Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) worked well by bringing together different agencies but fell down with regard to 101 calls and policing as they received no feedback and therefore lost faith. The Commissioner responded by stating that it was not all down to policing but about collectively getting together and working together for the right outcomes.
- b) Adrian Chapman, Service Director: Communities and Safety, Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council stated that all partners have to work collaboratively and disperse the responsibility.
- c) Discussions took place about the need for a partnership approach from all partners involved and not just from a police perspective.
- d) Members asked for sight of the OPPC's and Constabulary's Engagement Strategy/Strategic Communications and asked what performance indicators would be used to determine its success. The Commissioner confirmed this information would be shared with the Panel at the next meeting.
- e) Members stated it was good to see the figures for both the 101 and 999 calls for online contact re website within the report but the Panel would also like to see if there had been an increase or a channel shift. The Commissioner confirmed this information would be shared with the Panel at the next meeting.
- f) Members pointed out that the table 2 on Page 30 should have "£0,000" added to it.

ACTION

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

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

- To bring the Commissioner's Engagement/Communications Strategy to the Panel
- To include within the quarterly performance report, the police contact figures that include via the website (reporting facility and webchat), with analysis of growth in demand versus channel shift.

Estimated Reserves Position Table to be amended to indicate figures are in £0,000s.

9. Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan

The Panel received a report to enable them to review the progress made against the key activities identified in the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

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

- a) The Commissioner confirmed that complaints regarding cohesive control were included within the domestic abuse category.
- b) Members pointed out that the 101 website "chat" would benefit from a bubble appearing on the front page for immediate contact, at present, it took four pages before you entered into a chat box. The Commissioner stated he would look into this.
- c) Members requested that acronyms be avoided.

ACTION

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

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

- Easier access to Webchat to be looked into.
- Acronyms in report to be expanded in future.

10. Complaints Reform – Police and Crime Commissioner’s Role

The Panel received a report on the proposed reforms to the police complaints system and the Police and Crime Commissioner’s intended position regarding the reform options.

ACTION

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

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.

Upgrade of Road Safety Cameras – CPCC 2018-012

- The Commissioner informed the Panel that the road safety cameras were being updated to digital cameras and this was a good opportunity to look at partnership working, as partners play a fundamental part in this role. The Commissioner had offered up to £6,000 on the proviso there is a joint strategy to ensure that we are delivering in the right places for the right reasons and therefore it is justified or there are areas of need.
- The future Road Safety Strategy would be available in the first half of 2019.
- If Members have an area of concern then please highlight this as there are data collection cameras that can be installed which would monitor to speed of vehicles to see if there is a concern.

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.

Edward Leigh Left the room for the next item and Councillor David Oliver took over as Chair.

12. Re-Appointment of Independent Co-opted Panel Member

The Panel received a report seeking Members’ view on the re-appointment of an Independent Co-opted Member, Edward Leigh, for a further four years.

Councillor Ali proposed and Councillor Sharp seconded that Edward Leigh be re-appointed for a further four years.

ACTION

The Panel **AGREED** to re-appoint Edward Leigh as an Independent Co-opted Member for a further four years.

Councillor Tierney abstained from voting with this being his first Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel Meeting

Edward Leigh returned to the room and took his place as Chairperson

13. Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2018-2019

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

It was agreed that the Secretariat would send out last year's transformation report.

The Chair asked if there was any interest in setting up a working group re road safety/speeding/parking enforcement; if there was, then evidence would need to be provided. Councillor Oliver voiced concern that this should be put on hold until the Road Safety Strategy had been produced by the Commissioner. Councillors Hamish, Daunton and Sharp stated their interest.

ITEM	ACTION
Review of Complaints	<p>Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report.</p> <p>The Panel made the following recommendation to the Commissioner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the OPCC be more proactive in informing members of the public how to file a complaint against the Commissioner.
Fire and Rescue Governance Update	<p>Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report.</p>
Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2022/23	<p>Following discussions the Panel AGREED to note the report and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 to 2022/23.</p> <p>The Police and Crime Panel also made the following recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Panel to write to the Policing Minister requesting a review of the funding formula, taking into account the exceptional level of growth in the area
Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan - Communities	<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"> • To bring the Commissioner's Engagement/Communications Strategy to the Panel • To include within the quarterly performance report, the police contact figures that include via the website (reporting facility and webchat), with analysis of growth in demand versus channel shift. • Estimated Reserves Position Table to be amended to indicate figures are in £0,000s.

ITEM	ACTION
Monitoring the Delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan	<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"> • Easier access to Webchat to be looked into. • Acronyms in report to be expanded in future.
Complaints Reform – Police and Crime Commissioner's Role	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.
Re-Appointment of Independent Co-opted Panel Member	The Panel AGREED to re-appoint Edward Leigh as an Independent Co-opted Member for a further four years.
Meeting Dates and Agenda Plan 2018-2019	The Panel NOTED the forthcoming meeting dates.

CHAIRPERSON
The meeting ended at 4:30pm

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