

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in Committee Room 1A - County Hall, Durham on **Friday 29 June 2018 at 2.00 pm**

Present:

Durham County Council:

Councillors D Boyes, P Crathorne, L Hovvells, J Nicholson, A Savory, M Simmons and H Smith

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillors B Jones and M Knowles

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr N J H Cooke and Mr D K G Dodwell

1 Election of Chairman

Moved by Mr Dodwell, **Seconded** by Councillor Jones and

Resolved:

That Councillor L Hovvells be elected Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing year.

Councillor L Hovvells in the Chair

2 Election of Vice-Chairman

Moved by Mr Dodwell, **Seconded** by Mr Cooke and

Resolved:

That Councillor B Jones be elected Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing year.

3 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brookes and Harker.

4 Substitute Members

Councillor H Smith as substitute for Councillor Brookes.

5 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Ron Hogg, PCVC informed the Panel of the following updates:

- Alan Reiss, Chief of Staff had been appointed national chair of the Association of Policing and Crime Chief Executives;
- Provision of information to Parish Councils – at least 95% of Parish Clerks were aware of the arrangements for the provision of information and were happy with these arrangements;
- £4.2m of reserves had been allocated to pay off an historic debt;
- Crime data integrity – crimes which were of a more complex nature would be created as a skeleton crime within 23¹/₂ hours, however the priority would remain to ensure the needs of the victim were met.

6 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

7 Press, Broadcast Media and Social Media

The Panel received a presentation from J Carling, Head of Policy and Communications, Office of the PCVC on the importance of media coverage, recent coverage in the press and broadcast media and recent social media content and reach (for copy of slides see file of Minutes).

Councillor Hovvells thanked the Head of Policy and Communications for his presentation and stressed the importance of positive messages being put out into the media. Councillor Boyes added that when the role of PCC was formed in 2012 there had been a lot of caution and reservation about it, but Durham's PCVC had been a good ambassador for the role. Members of the Police and Crime Panel were supplied with copies of press releases made by the PCVC's office and this was welcomed.

Councillor Jones informed the Panel he was pleased that Durham had a high profile Chief Constable and PCVC who maintained a media presence.

8 Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner's Annual Report

The Panel considered the Annual Report of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner for 2017-18 (for copy see file of Minutes).

The PCVC presented his report to the Panel which included key achievements, highlights of 2017-18, commissioning services, resources and looking ahead to 2018-19.

The report demonstrated the work undertaken by the PCVCs office throughout the past year to deliver priority areas. The Panel noted the achievements highlighted within the report and that following HMICFRS inspections Durham Constabulary was rated 'Outstanding' for Effectiveness in reducing crime and keeping communities safe and for Efficiency. In addition, the Panel acknowledged the achievements with support to victims, the launch of Local Criminal Justice Plan and proactive engagement with young people and communities.

Resolved:

That the report be noted and that comments of the Panel be provided to the PCVC in follow-up correspondence.

9 Refreshed Police, Crime and Victims' Plan

The Panel considered a report of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner which presented the draft refreshed Police, Crime and Victims' Plan for 2018-2021, in advance of its publication (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor Hovvells informed the PCVC that she was pleased that he was involved nationally in issues relating to mental health which had a big impact on many aspects of public services. There were too many people in prisons who had mental health problems.

Councillor Smith referred to the figures quoted for women's re-offending rates and those in prison for short sentences and asked whether there were any women's centres in Durham. The PCVC replied that developments around this were ongoing.

Resolved:

That the report be noted

10 Crime Statistics

The Panel considered a report of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner which provided an update on recorded crime statistics and solved rates (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11 Quarter 4 2017/18 Performance Report

The Panel received a presentation from the PCVC on the Quarter 4 public performance report which contained key performance data for the headline measures of victim based crime, public confidence and victim satisfaction and performance information on each aspect of the current Police, Crime and Victims' Plan.

Councillor Boyes referred to the reduction in knife crime in Glasgow which had used a lot of wrap around services involving partner agencies. It was essential for partner agencies to be fully involved in such initiatives to ensure perspective offenders were targeted and the initiative be a success.

The Police and Crime Commissioner informed the Panel that there was still work to be done with partners before effective delivery could be achieved. He added that he would be travelling to Cardiff to consider what could be learned from the Cardiff model, which was a way of preventing violence, in which data from hospitals was shared with the police and local authorities.

Councillor Hovvells informed the meeting that a lot of work was already ongoing with partners including the County Council, Fire and Health and that this was work in progress.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

12 Police and Crime Panel Work Programme 2018/19

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships, Durham County Council which sought agreement to the Panel's Work Programme for 2018/19 (for report see file of Minutes).

Mr Cooke referred to the previously mentioned visit of Panel Members to the professional crime agency which had been previously mentioned. The PCVC replied that work on this was ongoing.

Resolved:

That the Work Programme for 2018/19 be approved.

13 Commissioning in 2018-19

The Panel considered a report of the Head of Governance and Commissioning which provided an update on funding and commissioning activities for the financial year 2018/19 and the publication of the OPCVC Commissioning Strategy (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor Hovvells informed the Panel that the Commissioning Strategy would give greater clarity of who partner agencies were and would also increase the opportunity for partners to make plans.

Resolved:

That the report and Commissioning Strategy be approved.

14 PCVC Decision Records

The Panel noted a report of the Chief of Staff, Office of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner which provided an update on the PCVCs decision register since the last meeting and forward plan (for copy see file of Minutes).

15 State of Policing: The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2017 - HMICFRS

The Panel noted a report of the Chief of Staff, Office of the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner which provided details of the central points of the 'State of Policing: The Annual Assessment of Policing in England and Wales 2017' which was published on 12 June 2018 (for copy see file of Minutes).