



## **Police and Crime Panel**

**Date** Monday 10 January 2022  
**Time** 9.30 am  
**Venue** Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham

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### **Business**

#### **Part A**

**[Items during which the Press and Public are welcome to attend.  
Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chairman's  
agreement]**

1. Substitute Members
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 September 2021 and the Special Meeting held 5 November 2021 (Pages 5 - 14)
4. Declarations of Interest, if any
5. HMICFRS Inspection Reports - Report of Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 15 - 18)
6. Precept Consultation - Report of Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 19 - 22)
7. Performance Progress Report - Report of Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 23 - 26)
8. Media Report - Report of Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 27 - 30)
9. PCC Commissioning Update - Report of Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 31 - 32)
10. PCC Decision Records - Report of Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 33 - 38)
11. Independent Co-Opted Members of the Police and Crime Panel - Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 39 - 46)

12. Complaints Update - Report of Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel (Pages 47 - 50)
13. Such other business, as in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

**Helen Lynch**  
Monitoring Officer

County Hall  
Durham  
30 December 2021

To: **The Members of the Police and Crime Panel**

**Durham County Council**

Councillors D Boyes, L Hovvels, D Nicholls, J Nicholson (Vice-Chair),  
R Potts, A Savory and M Simmons

**Darlington Borough Council**

Councillors J Dulston, B Jones (Chair) and Wallis

**Independent Co-opted Members**

Mr N J H Cooke and Mr D K G Dodwell

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**Contact: Martin Tindle**

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**DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Friday 17 September 2021 at 2.00 pm**

**Present:**

**Councillor B Jones (Chair)**

**Durham County Council:**

Councillors D Boyes, L Brown (Substitute), D Nicholls, J Nicholson, R Potts, A Savory and S Quinn (Substitute)

**Darlington Borough Council:**

Councillors J Dulston and Mr D K G Dodwell

**Independent Co-opted Members:**

Mr D K G Dodwell

**1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lucy Hovvels and Mamie Simmons, and co-opted Member Nicholas Cooke.

**2 Substitute Members**

Councillor Liz Brown substituted for Councillor Mamie Simmons, and Councillor Shirley Quinn substituted for Councillor Lucy Hovvels.

**3 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2021 were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

**4 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**5 Draft Police and Crime Plan**

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which presented the draft Police and Crime Plan 2021-2022, reflecting the results of the consultation process (for copy see file of Minutes).

In presenting the report the PCC advised that the revised Plan was for review and comment by the Panel before the final version was issued. The PCC thanked the Panel and the respondents to the consultation for their contributions, and the Team for their work to complete the Plan.

Over 700 responses had been received to the consultation, and the PCC suggested bringing the key issues and comments to the Panel for information.

Councillor Boyes was encouraged by the response to the consultation, and asked what weight would be given to the comments received and how the issues raised would be prioritised. The PCC in highlighting some of the key issues which were reflected in the Plan following the consultation, informed the Panel that anti-social behaviour continued to be the top priority for the public. Drug use/dealing and fly-tipping were other key areas of concern, together with speeding, off-road bikes and vandalism, and these were also reflected in the Plan. Whilst these were the areas of concern identified by the majority of respondents, she was mindful of other areas of high harm such as domestic violence, hate crime and burglaries. She would continue to review the priorities throughout her term of office to ensure they remained relevant.

Following a question from Councillor Potts, the PCC stated that new strategic measures were being developed for future performance management reporting. Anti-social behaviour was widely under-reported and one of the key priorities to address this was to improve the 101 system, or as an alternative to encourage reporting to Crimestoppers.

Mr Dodwell asked if the Government's recent announcement to tackle crimes against women would impact upon the Plan. The PCC confirmed that crimes against women and girls was identified as a key deliverable within the Plan, and the Force was already engaging with partners who were all committed to addressing this as a priority. The County was also part of a pilot which supported victims at all stages from reporting a crime to receiving justice.

Councillor Nicholls welcomed the Plan, and reinforced the importance of tackling crimes against women and girls. He also welcomed the proposal to develop a strategy to change attitudes and improve knowledge of and response to crimes against women. Councillor Nicholls referred to the 101 chat function and was pleased that this provided an immediate response to those reporting a crime.

The PCC confirmed that every aspect of the 101 system was being examined, and the chat function was part of this review. In reply to a question from Councillor Liz Brown, the PCC confirmed that the chat function was not yet available 24/7, but this was under review.

A recruitment process was underway to appoint a Victims Champion, Anti-Social Behaviour Champion, Domestic Violence Champion and Survivor Champion. The Champions could be asked to attend the next meeting of the Panel to give an overview of their roles.

**Resolved:**

That the content of the Plan be noted and agreed.

## **6 Media Report**

The Panel considered a report of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on press and social media coverage concerning the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner since the previous meeting (for copy of report see file of Minutes).

Following a question from Mr Dodwell, it was confirmed that the figures presented regarding social media activity were proportionate to the population in the PCC areas.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **7 Performance Progress Report**

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the current work strands associated with developing performance management of the Police and Crime Plan 2021 – 2024 (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted and the new iteration of the Quarterly Progress Report be awaited.

## **8 HMICFRS inspections**

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which outlined the findings of the recent inspections conducted by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) which had required a PCC comment as follows:

- A duty to protect: Police use of effective measures in cases involving violence against women and girls
- Interim Report: Inspection into how effectively the police engage with women and girls
- A review of Fraud: Time to choose
- A joint thematic inspection of the police and CPS's response to rape – Phase One: From report to police or CPS decision to take no further action.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **9 PCC Decision Records**

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the PCC's decision register for 2021-2022 and addressed the forward plan (for copy see file of Minutes).

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **10 PCC Commissioning Update**

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update of funding decisions taken at the Commissioning Boards in July and August 2021 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Following a question from Councillor Dulston, the Head of Governance and Finance explained that the commissioning process was fundamental to the fair distribution of public money and funding.

The PCC added that as a new PCC she was looking at how funding could be distributed fairly to deliver the priorities identified in the Plan. In Durham this was being explored through the Area Action Partnerships, similarly in Darlington, through the Darlington Partnership.

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **11 Complaints Update**

The Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel which provided an update on complaints (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members were informed that between the 9 July 2021 and 9 September 2021 no formal complaints had been received against the Police and Crime Commissioner.

### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

## **12 Police and Crime Panel Work Programme update 2021/22**

The Panel considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services which provided an update on the Work Programme for 2021/2022 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members noted that the Work Programme of the Panel was required to remain flexible to accommodate any additional items that may be identified throughout the year, including future performance reporting against the delivery of the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan.

**Resolved:**

The updated Work Programme for 2021/2022 be noted.

**13 Any Other Business - Custody Suite**

Councillor Boyes asked for an update in respect of the custody suite which was discussed at the last Panel meeting. The PCC responded that following that meeting the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner had considered how to engage the public for their views, and had invited public questions on the custody suite. An on-line meeting was then held to respond in detail to the queries raised.

Having completed the review, the PCC had approved the proposals for a central custody suite, with the additional requirement for the social value toolkit to be included in the procurement process. A key deciding factor for the PCC during her review of the proposals was the risks and responsibilities she had witnessed staff face in the custody suites. The new central custody suite would mitigate these risks and provide a better facility for both custody staff and detainees.

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## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in **Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham** on **Friday 5 November 2021** at **10.00 am**

**Present:**

**Councillor B Jones (Chair)**

**Durham County Council:**

Councillors D Boyes, L Brown (Substitute), L Hovvells, J Nicholson (Vice-Chair), R Potts, A Savory and C Varty (Substitute)

**Darlington Borough Council:**

Councillors J Dulston

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Nicholls and M Simmons and Mr N Cooke and Mr D Dodwell.

### **2 Substitute Members**

Councillors C Varty substituted for Councillor D Nicholls and Councillor L Brown substituted for Councillor M Simmons.

### **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

### **4 Confirmation Hearing - Appointment of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner**

The Panel considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services presented by the Governance Solicitor. The report provided information on the process to be undertaken to hold a confirmation hearing for the post of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and also considered a report from the Police and Crime Commissioner (Commissioner) for the proposed candidate for the post of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham (for copy see file of minutes).

The Governance Solicitor informed the Panel that the Clerk to the Panel had received formal notification from the Commissioner of the proposed appointment of Mr Nigel Bryson to the role of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner on 18 October 2021. The Governance Solicitor advised the Panel on the procedure for the confirmation hearing as set out at paragraphs 15 to 21 of the report.

The Commissioner introduced Mr N Bryson, noting their work together in Bishop Auckland, Mr N Bryson's work in respect of her PCC election campaign and Mr N Bryson's professional background.

The Panel asked the Commissioner as regards:

- The rationale in terms of not allowing other Labour candidates or going through a recruitment process;
- Given that a formal recruitment process was not required for the appointment, how could the Commissioner assure the Panel that she had taken a fair and transparent approach in proposing the appointment;
- What percentage of other Police and Crime Commissioners had a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner;
- Would the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner take over any responsibilities from other senior officers; and
- The proposed salary for this position, and how would the cost of this be met within the existing budget;

The Commissioner provided the Panel with responses to the questions, noting Mr N Bryson's skills and his knowledge of the Police and Crime Plan. She referred to the report which set out that the proposed appointment was for 2 days a week, with a special responsibility allowance.

The Panel then questioned Mr N Bryson around the following issues:

- What skills and qualities he would bring to complement those of the Police and Crime Commissioner;
- How he would avoid duplication in terms the work of existing officers, his past experience as relevant to this role, and how he hoped to support the Police and Crime Commissioner with her ambitions in this area;
- His understanding of the relationship of accountability between the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Panel;
- What he believed the relationship between the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Police and Crime Panel should be, and how he would seek to develop that relationship;

- How he intended to ensure that he represented all communities across the whole of County Durham and Darlington;
- It was noted that, as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, one of the key responsibilities would be to represent the views of the Police and Crime Commissioner to relevant stakeholders and local residents. He was asked how he would approach a situation where his personal viewpoint conflicted with that he was representing on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- How he would engage with hard to reach groups, partners and stakeholders.
- How he would build upon relationships with existing stakeholders and reach out into the wider community, noting the diverse communities across County Durham and Darlington.
- Whether it was fair, as a long standing Labour Party Member and Unionist, that he had not been required to go through a recruitment process.
- In reference to the job specification at appendix 3 to the report, it was noted holding the Chief Constable to account was a role for the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner when acting for the Commissioner. He was asked as regards his credibility in being able to scrutinise any potential issues with recruitment irregularities with the Police, given he had not gone through a recruitment process himself.
- In further reference to the job specification at appendix 3, it was noted one of the main duties and responsibilities, set out at point 5, was in respect of engaging with local people to help build trust and confidence in policing. He was asked whether, having not gone through a recruitment process himself, would that fact build or diminish confidence in the policing.

Mr N Bryson provided the Panel with responses to the questions asked. The Panel thanked Mr N Bryson and the Commissioner for their attendance and informed them they would be notified of the Panel's decision in due course.

## **5 Exclusion of the Public**

### **Resolved:**

That under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following discussion on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

## **6 Confirmation Hearing - Appointment of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner**

The Panel discussed the Police and Crime Commissioner's recommendation to appoint Mr N Bryson as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. Upon a vote being taken it was:

### **Resolved:**

That the Panel endorse the appointment of Mr N Bryson to the post of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham Constabulary in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

**Police and Crime Panel**

**10th January 2022**

**HMICFRS inspections**



**Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

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**Purpose**

1. To brief the Police and Crime Panel on the findings of the recent inspections/ report by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) that have required a PCC comment, listed below:
  - Police response to violence against women and girls - Final inspection report;
  - PEEL 2021/22 – An inspection of Durham Constabulary;
  - A joint thematic inspection of the criminal justice journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders.

**Individual inspections and findings**

**Police response to violence against women and girls - Final inspection report.**

2. The inspection's overarching findings are as follows:
  - There should be a radical refocus and shift in the priority given to VAWG offences by the police and all partners, including wrap-around, tailored support for victims;
  - Chief Constables should review and ensure that there are consistently high standards in the response to VAWG, including dealing with breaches of non-molestation orders, using Clare's Law to protect potential domestic abuse victims, and identifying and managing the most dangerous VAWG perpetrators; and
  - There should be a national policing strategy to coordinate the response to VAWG.
3. Durham Constabulary and the OPCC are working to produce a cohesive strategy to address violence against women and girls, which is also a key deliverable held within the Police and Crime Plan 2021-24 under the Safer People priority. This will enable Durham Constabulary to respond effectively to HMICFRS recommendations to; record protected characteristics of victims, standardise its approach to responding to violence against women and girls offences, meeting national standards, and providing strong rationale for evidential difficulty outcomes (supportive and unsupportive complainants).

**PEEL 2021/22 – An inspection of Durham Constabulary.**

4. The PEEL inspection 2021 graded Durham Constabulary as ‘Good’. This iteration of PEEL saw the introduction of a new grading category process and the application of twelve inspection questions, by which ten areas are graded below:

| Outstanding                        | Good                            | Adequate           | Requires improvement | Inadequate |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|
| Disrupting serious organised crime | Preventing crime                | Supporting victims |                      |            |
| Good use of resources              | Investigating crime             |                    |                      |            |
|                                    | Treatment of the public         |                    |                      |            |
|                                    | Responding to the public        |                    |                      |            |
|                                    | Protecting vulnerable people    |                    |                      |            |
|                                    | Managing offenders              |                    |                      |            |
|                                    | Developing a positive workplace |                    |                      |            |

5. Overall, it is positive to see nine out of ten categories graded as ‘Good’ and ‘Outstanding’. This is testament to Durham Constabulary as an organisation, particularly with the inspection taking place within the context of Covid-19 which has posed significant challenges upon the service. Notwithstanding, an ‘Adequate’ grading for supporting victims is of concern, with a series of areas for improvement cited by the inspectorate. These are predominantly focused upon effective victim contact and engagement and Victim’s Code of Practice compliance regarding victim needs assessments and written confirmation of offences.
6. The PCC will closely monitor this area to provide assurance while Durham Constabulary work to address these findings in order to provide the best possible service to victims of crime.

**A joint thematic inspection of the criminal justice journey for individuals with mental health needs and disorders.**

7. The inspection’s overarching findings are as follows:
- Dedicated investigative staff should receive training on vulnerability which includes inputs on responding to the needs of vulnerable suspects (as well as victims);

- Assess the standard and consistency of decision making to determine any training or briefing requirements and the need for any ongoing oversight, with regard to the journey of individuals with mental health needs who progress through the criminal justice system;
  - Improve the availability, prevalence, and sophistication of mental health flagging to improve data sets; and
  - Police Forces should assure themselves that risks, and vulnerabilities are properly identified during risk assessment processes, particularly for voluntary attendees. They must ensure that risks are appropriately managed, including referrals to Healthcare Partners, Liaison and Diversion and the use of appropriate adults.
8. Durham Constabulary adhere to all of these recommendations and there is confidence that the data is interacted with effectively, and work will continue in partnership with the Mental Health Tees, Esk & Wear Valley Trust. The OPCC will continue to monitor this space.

### **Recommendations**

9. That the Panel notes the content of the inspection report.

**Joy Allen**  
Police and Crime Commissioner

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**Appendix 1: Risks and Implications**

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**Finance**

N/A

**Staffing**

N/A

**Equality and Diversity**

N/A

**Accommodation**

N/A

**Crime and Disorder**

N/A

**Children's Act 2004**

N/A

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

N/A

**Environment**

N/A

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

N/A

**Value for Money and Productivity**

N/A

**Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

N/A

**Commissioning**

N/A

**Other risks**

N/A

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
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**Police and Crime Panel**

**10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**Consultation of Precept rise  
Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner**



**1. Purpose**

To enable the Panel to discuss with the PCC, her planned consultation on the level of the policing precept in 2022-23.

**2. Background**

The government announced its funding settlement for policing on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021, leaving only a brief amount of time to allow the PCC to set out her proposal. The government have determined that the maximum increase that can be levied on the police precept is £10 for a band D property. If the PCC wishes to set an increase greater than this, it becomes subject to a local referendum.

At the time of writing this report pre to Christmas 2021, the PCC is considering consultation on the basis of the maximum increase of £10 . The consultation will include detail of proposals to target specific areas within the Force that are of importance to the public and that relate to parts of the new Police and Crime Plan. These areas are currently under review with the Force and detail will be provided to the panel at the meeting.

**3. Financial detail**

The table below shows the weekly increase an extra £10 would be for each council tax band.

| Band | New change with £10 increase | Annual increase £ | Weekly increase |
|------|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| A    | 160.16                       | 6.67              | 13p             |
| B    | 186.85                       | 7.77              | 15p             |
| C    | 213.55                       | 8.89              | 17p             |
| D    | 240.24                       | 10.00             | 19p             |
| E    | 293.63                       | 12.23             | 24p             |
| F    | 347.01                       | 14.44             | 28p             |
| G    | 400.40                       | 16.67             | 32p             |
| H    | 480.48                       | 20.00             | 38p             |

#### **4. Consultation Process**

The PCC has a duty to consult on the proposed precept. This began on the 4<sup>th</sup> January and will run for 3 weeks. The consultation will comprise of a number of questions and statements and will be delivered via a number of methods:

- Face to face meetings and engagement at events and meetings such as Area Action Partnerships, local meetings and council meetings
- Social media
- The use of online surveying tools
- Contact via the PCC office
- The use of the Keep in the Know public contact database

The results of the consultation will be analysed and presented to the panel with a final report from the PCC for its February meeting.

#### **5. Recommendations**

That the panel receives a further detailed update on the consultation and that they note the contents of this report.

**Stephen White**  
**Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer**

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## **Appendix 1: Risks and Implications**

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**Finance**

**Staffing**

**Equality and Diversity**

**Accommodation**

**Crime and Disorder**

**Children's Act 2004**

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

**Environment**

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

**Value for Money and Productivity**

**Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

**Commissioning**

**Other risks**

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
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## Police and Crime Panel

10th January 2022

## Performance Progress Report

## Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

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### Purpose

1. To update the Police and Crime Panel on the current work strands associated with developing performance management of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024.

### Background

2. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has been in post for approximately eight months. During this time the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office (OPCC) has been working on behalf of the PCC to publish the Plan and develop a performance monitoring framework.
3. This framework consists of two subsidiary documents<sup>1</sup>: the Accountability Assessment which focuses specifically around holding the Chief Constable to account (a high-level performance dashboard sits alongside this), and the Team Work Plan which captures the OPCC's internal objectives and the work it engages in which is exclusive to partners and stakeholders.
4. These documents are applied according to the rationale and principles laid out in the OPCC's Accountability Framework, which is set to be refreshed in early 2022.

### Next Steps

5. The OPCC are currently at the end of the initial development phase and are now beginning the implementation phase for the Plan's performance monitoring framework. This will begin to generate effectively mapped and graded accountability, partnership working, and OPCC self-assessment.
6. After a period of implementation, the OPCC will be able to develop a new Quarterly Performance Report for the Police and Crime Panel. Preliminary scoping for the structure and content of this report has already taken place, further detailed consultation within the OPCC has yet to conclude at the time of writing. However, core content of the Quarterly Performance Report will include significant quarterly changes

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<sup>1</sup> Neither of these subsidiary documents are public facing due to business sensitive content.

to both of our key subsidiary documents (including quantitative data), the Policing Measures, and other significant business areas e.g., external scrutiny.<sup>2</sup>

7. The subsidiary documents mentioned above will also provide meaningful questioning and topic discussion at Executive Board.<sup>3</sup>

### **Recommendations**

8. It is recommended that Panel members note the report and await the new iteration of the Quarterly Performance Report.

**Joy Allen**

Police and Crime Commissioner

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<sup>2</sup> Inclusion in the report is subject to the information being appropriate to share in the public domain in line with legislation.

<sup>3</sup> Executive Board is the main internal governance meeting in which the PCC holds the Chief Constable to account for the totality of policing.

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**Appendix: Risks and Implications**

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**Finance**

N/A

**Staffing**

N/A

**Equality and Diversity**

N/A

**Accommodation**

N/A

**Crime and Disorder**

N/A

**Children's Act 2004**

N/A

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

N/A

**Environment**

N/A

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

N/A

**Value for Money and Productivity**

N/A

**Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

Timely completion of internal performance management processes is essential to delivering the Police and Crime Plan.

**Commissioning**

N/A

**Other Risks**

N/A

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
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## Police and Crime Panel

10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## Media Report



## Report of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner

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### 1. Purpose

This paper provides an update of press and social media coverage concerning the work of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner since the previous meeting.

### 2. Top press releases published

Press releases published since the last meeting include:

- £830,000 from Safer Streets Fund for Darlington and Easington
- PCC welcomes Victims' Survey results
- PCC Supports One Punch Awareness week
- PCC Statement following Sarah Everard Murder Court Case
- Durham PCC awarded over £450,000 to make streets safer for women and girls
- PCC Joy Allen welcomes evidenced based recommendations to inform drug police on Nitrous Oxide
- Community Peer Mentor wins Lord Ferrers Award
- PCC supports introduction of electronic tagging in new programme
- Statement following budget and comprehensive spending review
- PCC's have a big responsibility to provide a voice for the public and criminal justice to ensure that we are playing our part in tackling the climate emergency
- We need to address gambling addiction where it is a driver of crimes urges PCC
- Deputy PCC appointed
- Durham PCC welcomes new scrutiny volunteers
- Positive action taken to improve road safety
- Durham PCC supports white ribbon day
- PCC and Shadow Minister Visit to joint tri responders in Stanhope
- PCC supports changes to Policing Bill
- Durham PCC welcomes focus of government drug strategy
- PCC agrees company to build new investigative hub

Key publications include Northern Echo, Chronicle Live, Aycliffe Today, Durham Advertiser, Newton News, Darlington & Stockton Times, Sunderland Echo, Hartlepool Mail, Teesside Live.

### Broadcast

- BBC Radio 4 Interview – 24.09.21 – Interview around dangers of Nitrous Oxide
- BBC Radio Tees – 01.10.21 – PCC Statement read out

### 3. Social media activity

- 7728 followers on Twitter (6<sup>th</sup> highest amongst PCCs)
- 6160 followers on Facebook (2<sup>nd</sup> highest amongst PCCs)
- 752 followers on the PCC Instagram Account (8<sup>th</sup> highest amongst PCCs)

*\*As of 14/12/21*

#### **Top social media posts between (17.09.21 – 16.12.21)**

##### **Top tweets:**

- 4.0k reach – Keep in the know
- 4.0k reach – PCC meets with Armed Forces Charity
- 3.4k reach – Durham PCC meets with Northumbria PCC
- 2.9k reach – Gambling related crime APCC
- 2.7k reach – Public Accountability meeting

##### **Top Facebook posts:**

- 40.9k reach- Road Safety Award
- 28.5k reach – PCC agree company to build new facility
- 9.1k reach – Office Vacancy
- 8.8k reach – Horden together
- 6.2k reach - Newton Aycliffe Neighbourhood Team

##### **Top Instagram posts:**

- 216 reach – PCC visits Victim Care and Advice Service
- 200 reach – Police Bravery Awards
- 189 reach – Deputy PCC appointed
- 181 reach – Ferryhill walkabout
- 177 reach - Safer Steets walkabout in Easington

### 4. Columns

- One Darlington Magazine – Safer Streets Round 3 in partnership with Durham Constabulary/Environment and Sustainability
- Monthly columns in Bishop Press, Shildon Town Crier, Ferryhill & Chilton Chapter and Spennymoor News - One Punch campaign, Environment and Sustainability/Gambling
- Monthly columns in Durham Advertiser/Times – One Punch campaign, Environment and Sustainability/Gambling

### 5. Recommendations

Panel Members are recommended to note the information contained in this report.

**Simon Hahn** (Digital Media Officer)

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**Appendix 1: Risks and Implications**

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**Finance**

None

**Staffing**

None

**Equality and Diversity**

None

**Accommodation**

None

**Crime and Disorder**

None

**Children's Act 2004**

None

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

None

**Environment**

None

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

None

**Value for Money and Productivity**

None

**Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

Positive coverage of activity will help to boost confidence in policing.

**Commissioning**

None

**Other risks**

None

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Contact Officer: | Stephen White  |
| Job Title:       | Chief Executive  |
| Telephone:       | 0191 375 2001  |
| Email:           | <a href="mailto:stephen.white@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk">stephen.white@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk</a> |

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**Police and Crime Panel**

**10<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**PCC Commissioning Update**

**Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner**



---

**Purpose**

1. To update Panel Members of decisions taken at the Commissioning Board in October 2021.

**Commissioning Board Decisions**

2. The following decisions were taken at the Commissioning Board
  - Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS): A briefing and past reports were shared with the PCC regarding the victim service commissioning including financial reports and a list of options and confirmation was received that the VCAS service would be brought inhouse with effect from 1st April 2022.
  - Community Peer Mentors: Confirmation was received that the Community Peer Mentors service would be brought inhouse with effect from 1st April 2022.
  - Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA): Confirmation was received that this ISVA service would be subject to a procurement exercise for a 3-year contract, with a potential to extend for a further 2 years.
  - Counselling Services: Confirmation was received that this Counselling service would be subject to a procurement exercise for a 3-year contract, with a potential to extend for a further 2 years.
  - Tees Valley Inclusion Project (HALO): Confirmation was received that a 3-year grant would be awarded to the supplier Tees Valley inclusion project for the HALO service.

**Recommendation**

3. To consider the report and provide any comments and questions.

**Charles Oakley**  
Head of Governance & Finance

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**Appendix 1: Risks and Implications**

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**Finance**

All funding decisions are reflected in the OPCC 2022/23 budgets.

**Staffing**

n/a

**Equality and Diversity**

n/a

**Accommodation**

n/a

**Crime and Disorder**

Many of the projects are aimed at reducing crime and disorder.

**Children's Act 2004**

n/a

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

Information about the PCC's funding streams is set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

**Environment**

n/a

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

n/a

**Value for Money and Productivity**

Value for Money is a key consideration in the allocation of all funding.

**Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

All funding is expected to have a positive impact on priorities.

**Commissioning**

As per the report.

**Other risks**

n/a

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Contact Officer:</b> | <b>Charles Oakley</b>  |
| <b>Job Title:</b>       | <b>Head of Governance &amp; Finance</b>  |
| <b>Telephone:</b>       | <b>0191 375 2001</b>   |
| <b>Email:</b>           | <a href="mailto:charles.oakley@durham-pcc.gov.uk">charles.oakley@durham-pcc.gov.uk</a> |

## Police and Crime Panel

10<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## PCC Decision Records

## Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner



---

### Purpose

1. To update Panel Members on the Police and Crime Commissioner's decision register for 2021-22 and address the forward plan.

### Background

2. Key decisions are made at an Executive Board comprising the PCC, the PCC's Chief Executive, the Chief Constable, and the Joint Chief Finance Officer. Other officers of the PCC or the Chief Constable will attend as and when required. On occasion it is necessary to take decisions outside of this process for reasons of expediency, but all relevant parties are consulted and informed.

### Decision Making Process

3. All key decisions are supported by a report setting out the decision required, all relevant factors to be considered, the outcome of any consultation undertaken and the risks and implications of the course of action being recommended.
4. An online record is maintained of all key decisions taken by the OPCC. This includes a link to any documents which are disclosable under FOI. This record includes decisions taken by the PCC or any person to whom delegated powers have been granted.
5. The PCC will consider holding public meetings when this will provide a means of consultation on decisions (i.e. precept consultation) where there is a clear interest in actively seeking views of the community.
6. The PCC may choose to delegate powers to any deputy appointed, her statutory officers or a senior member of police staff.
7. A record is kept of all decisions made under delegated powers detailing the factors taken into consideration, including any consultation carried out.
8. Decisions to be made by the PCC will relate in the main to his statutory functions and financial responsibilities. A Forward Plan for key decisions to be taken over a 3 month period will be published on the PCC's website.
9. Generally Key decisions are likely to include:

- The preparation, drafting and issuing of the Police and Crime Plan
- Issuing the precept
- Adopting a Medium-Term Financial Plan
- Commissioning of Services
- Preparation and issue of the Annual Report
- Any decision which is of significant public interest or impact either generally or on a particular locality
- Any decision which will incur revenue expenditure in excess of £100,000
- Any decision which will incur capital expenditure in excess of £100,000
- The approval of or adoption of strategies/policies
- Key procurement decisions
- Significant changes to the police estate
- Allocation of grants

10. Details of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Decision Register 2021 can be found in Appendix 2.

### **Recommendation**

11. That Panel Members note the contents of the report and ask any questions.

**Joy Allen**

**Police and Crime Commissioner**

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**Appendix 1: Risks and Implications**

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**Finance**

All decisions with financial implications are made with value for money as a key consideration and are affordable within budgets.

**Staffing**

n/a

**Equality and Diversity**

n/a

**Accommodation**

n/a

**Crime and Disorder**

n/a

**Children's Act 2004**

n/a

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

Consultation with key stakeholders is carried out as appropriate to each decision.

**Environment**

n/a

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

Consultation with key partners is carried out as appropriate to each decision.

**Value for Money and Productivity**

n/a

**Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

Decisions will impact directly or indirectly on the pursuit of Police and Crime Plan priorities.

**Commissioning**

Several decisions relate to commissioning of services.

**Other risks**

n/a

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Contact Officer:</b> | <b>Sweety Sahani</b>                         |
| <b>Job Title:</b>       | <b>Monitoring Officer</b>                    |
| <b>Telephone:</b>       | <b>0191 3752001</b>                          |
| <b>Email:</b>           | <b>General.EnquiriesPCC@durham.police.uk</b> |

**Key Decisions**

(Links to more detailed reports are available on the website)

| Decision Number | Decision Taker | Details  |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| 2021-001        | Acting PCC     | <p>A review was undertaken in 2020 of the North East Transformation, Innovation and Collaboration (NETIC) unit.</p> <p>A decision was made to disband the NETIC team with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The Cyber and other existing collaborations that PCCs and Chief Constables deem appropriate will be retained.</p>  |
| 2021-002        | Acting PCC     | <p>The Acting PCC approved contributions presented at the Commissioning Board held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021.</p> <p>£22,000 contribution toward the Rural Communities Speedwatch Vehicle.</p> <p>£3,050 contribution toward the provision of a male Independent Sexual Violence Advisor.</p> <p>£2,000 contribution toward the Sliding Door Project (national initiative for Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking).</p>   |
| 2021-003        | Acting PCC     | <p>The Office of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner noted and approved the procurement methods investigated for the provision of a National Driver Offending Re-Training Scheme (NDORS).</p>   |
| 2021-004        | Acting PCC     | <p>The Acting PCC is asked to give approval, based on the financial needs of the organisation and the public consultation to propose to the Police and Crime Panel, the increase of the Police Precept for 2021/22 by 7% , equivalent to £15 per year or 29p a week for a Band D property. However, as most properties in County Durham and Darlington are within a Council Tax Bands A-C, these households would see an increase in their bill of between 19p-26p per week.</p> <p>The Panel agreed to this at their meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021.</p> |
| 2021-005        | Acting PCC     | <p>The Acting PCC and the Executive Board have agreed to fulfil the pledge made to the Police Arboretum Memorial Trust and will contribute of £20,000 to the Trust decision made at the Executive Board meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021.</p>  |
| 2021-006        | Acting PCC     | <p>As the result of a Section 22 Agreement the Acting PCC reviewed this agreement and agreed to further fund the Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime programme in 2021/22.</p>  |
| 2021-007        | Acting PCC     | <p>The Acting PCC agreed to the proposal that the finalised terms for land acquisition in relation to the proposed new custody facility are approved and that solicitors are instructed to develop contracts. Also, that contract exchange is expedited,</p>   |

|          |                                      |   |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---|
|          |                                      | subject to receipt of planning permission, to enable progression of RIBA Stage 4.   |
| 2021-008 | Acting PCC                           | <p>The Acting PCC agreed to the recommendations in the report and has approved the Medium-Term Financial Plan for 2021/22 to 2024/25 which sets out the key financial issues facing the PCC over this period.</p> <p>Options were provided for delivering a balanced budget and capital programme over the medium term.</p> <p>Decision was made at an Extraordinary Executive Board held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021.</p>   |
| 2021-009 | Acting PCC                           | <p>As a result of work carried out by the Transforming Forensics Programme, police forces and PCC officers now wish to enter into a collaboration agreement pursuant to section 22A of the Police Act 1996 (as amended by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011) to establish a Forensic Capability Network (FCN).</p> <p>A revised Section 22 Agreement in relation to the FCN was approved and signed by both the Acting PCC and the Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary.</p> |
| 2021-010 | Acting PCC                           | <p>The Acting PCC approved contributions presented at the Commissioning Board held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021.</p> <p>£4,325 contribution to With Youth in Mind Project.</p> <p>£120,000 OPCVC contribution to the Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) Project in East Durham.</p> <p>£30,000 contribution to Project Manager for the Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) Project in East Durham.</p>  |
| 2021-011 | Acting PCC                           | <p>That the Acting PCC note the Procurement process used to appoint a supplier for the provision of a National Driver Offender Re-Training Scheme (NDORS) revision.</p> <p>The Acting PCC approved the procurement methods investigated and recommendations put forward by the Evaluation Team to award the contract to Bidder 2.</p>   |
| 2021-012 | Acting PCC & North East counterparts | <p><b>The North East Region of PCCs agreed to the proposed</b> strategic direction of Regional Casualty Bureau arrangements, building on existing good practice and progressing the further establishment of Regional Casualty Bureau arrangements. This will provide improved national resilience and meet the requirements of the Strategic Policing Review.</p>  |
| 2021-013 | PCC                                  | <p>The PCC approved contributions presented at the Commissioning Board held 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</p> <p>£2,500 Durham Pride</p> <p>£3,000 Keep in the Know</p>   |
| 2021-014 | PCC                                  | <p>The PCC approved the request presented at the Commissioning Board held 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 which is to continue to fund the Tees Valley Inclusion Project (HALO)</p>   |

|          |     |   |
|----------|-----|---|
|          |     | which focuses on honour-based violence, forced marriage and genital mutilation.<br>£22,500 per annum for 2022   |
| 2021-015 | PCC | The PCC has approved plans for a centralised custody and investigation suite in Spennymoor.   |
| 2021-016 | PCC | The PCC office accepted the monies awarded and agreed to work in partnership with Durham Police, Darlington Borough Council and Durham County Council, as part of the delivery of the Safer Streets Projects.   |
| 2021-017 | PCC | The PCC approved the Treasury Management Annual Report 2020/21.   |
| 2021-018 | PCC | The PCC approved the requests presented to the Commissioning Board on 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2021. In relation to the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) and the Counselling Services these services will be subject to a procurement exercise. |
| 2021-019 | PCC | In relation to the Victim referral Service, the PCC made a decision to manage the victim referral service within the office of the PCC as opposed to a tendering exercise to appoint an external provider.  |
| 2021-020 | PCC | The PCC has requested that an external company review the structure of the office by way of interviews with all staff, comparison of structure with other PCC offices and identification of areas of good practice.                                       |
| 2021-021 | PCC | Commercially Sensitive – The PCC received, reviewed and approved a report of the Investigative Hub (Custody) project where the main construction contract tender was awarded.   |

### **Forward Plan**

- Covid-19 Recovery
- Commissioning and Grant Funding for 2022/23
- Medium-Term Financial Plan
- Precept



## **Durham Police and Crime Panel**

**10 January 2022**

## **Independent Co-Opted Members of the Police and Crime Panel**

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### **Report of Helen Lynch, Head of Legal and Democratic Services**

#### **Electoral division(s) affected:**

None

#### **Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To propose the recruitment of an independent co-opted member of the Police and Crime Panel (the Panel).

#### **Executive summary**

- 2 The term of office for the two independent co-opted members of the Panel is due to expire on 30 April 2023.
- 3 For personal reasons one independent co-opted member has notified the Clerk to the Panel of their wish to bring their term of office to an end one year earlier.
- 4 A recruitment process to appoint a new independent co-opted member is proposed with the outcome of the recruitment be reported to the Panel on 7 March 2022 and the appointment to take effect from 1 May 2022.

#### **Recommendation**

- 5 The Police and Crime Panel are asked to:
  - (a) Agree the recruitment process as set out within the report for the appointment of an independent co-opted member;
  - (b) Agree the composition of an Appointment Panel to conduct the recruitment process; and
  - (c) Receive a recommendation of the Appointment Panel at a future meeting on the proposed appointment.

## **Background**

- 10 The Panel membership is made up of 12 members, consisting of 10 elected members (3 Darlington and 7 Durham) and 2 independent co-opted members.
- 11 There is requirement under Schedule 6 of Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 for the Panel to have two non-political independent members.
- 12 The appointment of the two independent members provides the opportunity for the Panel, by carefully selecting individuals to complement the councillors nominated to the Panel, to satisfy the 'balanced appointment objective'. This requires the Panel to have a membership, which when considered collectively, which is geographically and politically representative, and includes the necessary experience, knowledge and skills to be effective.
- 13 The independent co-optees are full voting members of the Panel, who have the same responsibilities and duties, and access to the same level of support as elected members on the Panel.
- 14 The two current co-optees are Derek Dodwell and Nick Cooke, both have served on the Panel since 1 November 2014 with their appointment being extended on 5 January 2017.
- 15 On 22 October 2018 the Panel agreed the re-appointment of the two co-opted independent members be extended to expire on 30 April 2023, following which new appointments be made on a four-year basis.
- 16 The Clerk to the Panel has received notification from Derek Dodwell that for personal reasons he is unable to continue his role to the end of his term of office. Mr Dodwell has expressed his enjoyment of the role and has indicated a willingness to continue in the role until a suitable candidate has been appointed.

## **Recruitment Proposals**

- 17 A recruitment process is proposed for the independent co-opted member. The proposal is based on the Local Government Association (LGA) guidance 'Appointment of independent co-opted members'.

- 18 The Panel arrangements require at paragraph 4.2 that:

The selection process for co-opting independent members should include a reasonable period of advertising for the positions. A closing date for the receipt of applications should be given of at least two weeks from the date the advert is first placed.

- 19 It is proposed that the Panel appoints an Appointment Panel from its membership to comprising at least one member of each of the constituent authorities to undertake the recruitment and selection after which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman will make a recommendation to the Panel on the appointment.

#### Eligibility and Selection Criteria

- 20 There are restrictions on eligibility which are prescribed in law, the following persons cannot be considered for the role:
- anyone under 18 years old
  - the PCC or a member of their staff
  - MPs
  - members of the National Assembly for Wales the Scottish Parliament
  - members of the European Parliament
  - police officers
  - persons who do not live or work in the police force area
  - civil servants engaged in political activity.
  - local authority councillors.
- 21 LGA guidance has been used to prepare a draft advert which is shown at Appendix 2 and person specification shown at Appendix 3.
- 22 The person specification sets out the requirements for the candidate. However, in summary the Panel would be looking for someone of good character, have the ability to think strategically, to make good judgements, to be supportive, to scrutinise, to challenge, to be analytical and to communicate effectively.
- 23 The skills and qualities of team building, self-confidence, enthusiasm and drive, respect for others, integrity, and decisiveness are also required. It would be desirable for candidates to have experience of working in a similar role, e.g. public or advisory body, or to have worked in the community or voluntary work.

#### Advertising

- 24 It is proposed that in order for the advert to reach as many people as possible in County Durham and Darlington, a press release will be issued, together with the advert being published on the websites of the Durham Police and Crime Panel and both local constituent authorities.

#### Appointment Panel

- 25 It is recommended that the Panel agree an Appointment Panel to conduct the recruitment, consisting of the Chair, Vice Chair and the Clerk as Monitoring Officer to the authority.
- 26 Following the interviews the Appointment Panel will make recommendations to the Panel on the proposed appointment. The recruitment and selection will be based on the person specification.

Timeline

- 27 The proposed timeline for the recruitment of a co-opted member is as follows:

| <b>Date</b>            | <b>Action</b>   |
|------------------------|---|
| 11 January 2022        | Vacancy is advertised                                 |
| 8 February 2022        | Closing date  |
| 21 February 2022 (w/c) | Interviews take place                                 |
| 7 March 2022           | Recommendation on appointment presented to the Panel. |
| 1 May 2022             | Term of office commences for four years.              |

**Conclusion**

- 28 The Panel are asked to consider and agree the proposals on recruitment of an independent co-opted member of the Police and Crime Panel as detailed within the report.

**Background papers**

- None

**Other useful documents**

- None

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**Contact:** Kamila Coulson-Patel Tel: 03000 269674

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Legal Implications**

Schedule 6 of Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the Panel to have two non-political independent members.

### **Finance**

This is an unpaid role however reasonable expenses are payable.

### **Consultation**

None.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None.

### **Climate Change**

None.

### **Human Rights**

None.

### **Crime and Disorder**

This is a key focus of the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Police and Crime Panel.

### **Staffing**

None.

### **Accommodation**

None.

### **Risk**

None.

### **Procurement**

None.

## **Appendix 2: Draft Advert**

The Durham Police and Crime Panel is looking to appoint a committed and enthusiastic individual to join them as an independent co-opted member.

On 6 May 2021, County Durham and Darlington elected Joy Allen as its Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). She is responsible for setting the priorities and resources for Durham Constabulary, as well as supporting broader community safety activities across the region.

The purpose of the Panel is to assist the Commissioner through providing independent challenge as a critical friend.

The Panel is made up of seven representatives from Durham County Council and three representatives of Darlington Borough Council and two independent co-opted members.

The PCC is required to consult with the Panel on her plans and budget for policing, as well as the level of council tax and the appointment of a Chief Constable. Independent co-opted Members, through their knowledge and experience, are expected to enhance the Panel's ability to play its role effectively.

The Panel is looking for a person from the areas of the Borough of Darlington or County Durham to serve as an independent co-opted member from 1 May 2022 for a four-year term.

The role of a Panel member is an important and demanding one. The typical commitment required from a member of the Panel is expected to average one day a month, including preparation time and attendance at meetings.

Meetings will generally be held during normal working hours at locations in Durham and Darlington.

All Panel members will be able to claim reasonable travelling expenses, and receive induction and other appropriate training.

A copy of the application pack is available by request from [ ]. Should you require further information on the role or an informal discussion with the Clerk to the Panel, please contact [ ].

The closing date for applications is 8 February 2022.

The Panel wishes to reflect the breadth of communities in the Durham and Darlington area and welcomes applications from all eligible people.

## **Appendix 3 - Person Specification**

For the appointment of independent co-optees, the Appointment Panel will consider potential candidates on their application and interview against the criteria set out below.

Candidates must be able to attend meetings of the Police and Crime Panel which take place at least four times a year, as well as attend any appropriate training sessions.

### **Abilities/skills**

As well as being of good character, candidates will need to possess the following competencies:

- The ability to think strategically
- The ability to make good judgements
- The ability to be supportive
- The ability to scrutinise and challenge
- The ability to be analytical
- The ability to communicate effectively

### **Personal skills and qualities**

It is expected that Candidates will be able to demonstrate the following skills and qualities:

- Team working
- Self-confidence
- Enthusiasm and drive
- Respect for others
- Integrity
- Decisiveness

### **Experience**

It is desirable that candidates have experience of one or more of the following:

- working with other people on issues of mutual interest over a period of time (e.g. voluntary work)
- situations where they needed to compromise
- interacting or working with people of all ages
- interacting or working with people who have different political views and/or religious beliefs
- interacting or working with people who are physically and/or mentally impaired.

### **Eligibility**

The Panel welcomes applications for all eligible people. There are restrictions prescribed in law on eligibility and the following persons are ineligible for appointment:

- anyone under 18 years old

- the PCC or a member of their staff
- MPs
- members of the National Assembly for Wales the Scottish Parliament
- members of the European Parliament
- police officers
- persons who do not live or work in the police force area
- civil servants engaged in political activity.
- local authority councillors.



## **Durham Police and Crime Panel**

**10 January 2022**

### **Complaints Update**

---

## **Report of Helen Lynch, Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel**

### **1 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To update members on number of formal complaints received since the last meeting.

### **2 Executive Summary**

- 2.1 On 16 October 2020 the Police and Crime Panel approved an update to the procedure for handling complaints relating to the PCVC or the Deputy PCVC. In addition to this the Police and Crime Panel agreed to receive at each regular meeting an update on the number of formal complaints received including those which may have been rejected without consideration by the Panel in accordance with the procedure.

### **3 Recommendation**

- 3.1 The Panel are asked to note the report.

## **4 Complaints Procedure**

- 4.1 The Police and Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the role and responsibility of Panels, this includes handling complaints relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner and their Deputy where appointed.
- 4.2 The Police and Crime Panel on 16 October 2020 reviewed and agreed an update to the procedure for dealing with complaints and conduct matters about the PCVC and their Deputy. The updates to the procedure were made following recommendations of the Local Government Association (LGA) on the best practice for complaints handling.
- 4.3 Following the approval by the Panel to adopt the updated procedure, the procedure took effect for all complaints received after 16 October 2020. A copy of the updated procedure is available on the Durham County Council website and is also available on request.

## **5 Complaints Update**

- 5.1 The Panel have delegated responsibility to the Monitoring Officer to the Police and Crime Victims Commissioners Office for the initial receipt of complaints, and referral to the Panel, if there appears to be any substance in it. There may be instances where a complaint is not presented to the Panel such as withdrawn complaints or those which are outside of the policy to be considered.
- 5.2 In order to promote transparency and ensure effective scrutiny it was agreed on 16 October 2020 that the Panel would receive a report at each regular meeting on formal complaints received relating to the PCVC, including those which have not been presented to the Panel.
- 5.3 Between 10 September and 22 December 2021 there have been no formal complaints received in accordance with the procedure.

## **Background Papers**

None

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|          |                      |                   |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Contact: | Kamila Coulson-Patel | Tel: 03000 269674 |
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## **Appendix 1**

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### **Legal Implications**

The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 set out the functions of police and crime panels in relation to the handling of complaints concerning the conduct of police and crime commissioners, and provide for local arrangements to be made in order to resolve complaints.

### **Finance**

None specific for this report.

### **Consultation**

None specific for this report. .

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

None specific for this report.

### **Climate Change**

None specific for this report.

### **Human Rights**

None specific for this report.

### **Crime and Disorder**

None specific for this report.

### **Staffing**

None specific for this report.

### **Accommodation**

None specific for this report.

### **Risk**

None specific for this report.

### **Procurement**

None specific for this report.

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