

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Monday 7 March 2022** at **9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor B Jones (Chair)

Durham County Council:

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

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillors J Dulston

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L Hovvels and A Savory and Mr N Cooke.

2 Substitute Members

There were no Substitute Members.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held 3 February 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Members of the Panel noted their thanks to former Independent Panel Member, Mr D Dodwell for his service and wished him well for the future.

The Lawyer (Governance) noted a matter arising relating to a question raised at the previous meeting relating to off-road bikes.

The Chief Finance Officer noted for the 12 month period 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022 there had been 1,742 incidents recorded relating to off-road bikes, noting that amounted to around 100-200 a month, demonstrating the scale of the issue.

He noted that he did not have the cost details of each job and added that some may have only had Police in attendance for a few minutes, while other incidents may have been investigated further.

Councillor D Nicholls noted he had raised the issue of the 101 chat function previously. He added he had recent experience of using the 'live chat' function and he had been able to chat with an operator within a minute, with Officers driving into the local area within three minutes. He added he felt that it was fantastic to be able to have such a direct line and noted he felt it was a very useful tool, having the benefit of being able to speak to several people at once. He asked as regards the service only being available between 9am and 5pm, adding he felt it was essential for situations that could occur 24 hours a day, such as domestic violence. The Chief Finance Officer noted he would look at how the service could expand, explaining that Town Centre clerks operated up until 8pm and could increase bandwidth, adding there were 8 to 12 call handlers. Councillor D Nicholls noted it was a service that should have greater awareness with the public.

In response to a question from Councillor D Boyes relating to the numbers of warnings given and bikes seized, the Chief Finance Officer noted as regards Section 59 Notices and the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) noted as regards a pilot which had looked at the locations and number of calls. She added that it was important that residents helped, including calls to the 101 number, and noted that data helped drive the work and with problem solving and decision making. The Chair noted a previous visit to the Control Room which had proven to be very enlightening, adding the Chief Constable had offered as regards further visits. The PCC noted the Head of Private Office had organised the development session for the Panel including a visit, she noted a date would be confirmed. Councillor D Boyes noted a previous visit by the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee adding it had been very useful and he welcomed any visit.

4 Declarations of interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Media Report

The Panel considered a report of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) 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).

Councillor J Dulston asked as regard which staff were responsible for communications. The Head of Private Office noted she was overseeing that area at the moment, with recruitment to take place in the near future. In response to a question from Councillor R Potts in respect of the cost of recruiting two additional members of staff, the PCC explained that the communications roles were key, adding she worked with the public on a daily basis and explained that the roles would be expanded to look at engagement, not just press and media. The Chief Finance Officer noted the two roles would equate to around £60,000. The PCC noted the performance of the team and that they were delivering.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

6 PCC Commissioning Report

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the decisions taken at the Commissioning Board in January 2022 (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Head of Governance and Finance explained the main areas related to the Trailblazer Project, initial development of the County Durham and Darlington Modern Slavery Network, two Community Safety Champions, and funding for the Durham Youth Justice and Community Engagement Service to deliver a BTEC qualification in Teamwork and Personal Skills.

Councillor D Boyes asked as regards the two Community Safety Champions and asked if they were funded for two years or would be mainstreamed. The PCC noted it was a pilot and would be reviewed and evaluated after an initial period. She noted it was something that a lot of Local Members had been asking for, adding as regards the work with Town and Parish Councils. She noted as regards the development of Neighbourhood Watch and that arrangements were slightly different in Darlington.

Councillor D Nicholls noted that an issue in his ward, as may be the case in many areas, was the approval of Premises Licenses for sale of alcohol at ridiculous hours. He noted his dismay that the Police had not objected to and application and asked if the Community Safety Champions would work more closely with the Council around the sale of alcohol, Local Members and Town and Parish Councillors around known issues such as anti-social behaviour and underage sales.

The PCC noted she could speak to the Councillor outside of the meeting as regards any specific issues, noting the Licensing was an area that was proscribed and required evidence and information to be reported into the Police and the Council.

Councillor J Dulston asked for a brief explanation of the commissioning process if a person wished to approach the OPCC. The Head of Governance and Finance noted that in terms of the Community Safety Fund the PCC would be considering the right way forward if introduced. Councillor J Dulston asked if that would be looked at in April. The Head of Governance and Finance noted he expected it would and added that each local Neighbourhood Policing Team would have a budget of £10,000. Councillor J Dulston asked if that meant if an area contained four Teams that would equate to £40,000. The Head of Governance and Finance noted that it would be £10,000 for Darlington as that represented a main policing area, adding that Inspectors would identify what could help tackle anti-social behaviour. He added that it would involve communities and organisations, noting that such schemes were more sustainable when communities owned the issues.

The Head of Governance and Finance noted a third strand, random applications, noting there was no mechanism in respect of looking at organisations governance. He explained that grant applications were administered by the County Durham Community Foundation (CDCF), and they would also follow up and monitor projects.

Councillor J Dulston noted that it was hard for new organisations to penetrate that process. The Head of Governance and Finance noted the challenge in terms of procurement, and noted that in terms of grant giving, if there was a local organisation supporting activity that benefited the community in terms of a need, then that could be looked at in terms of larger scale or mainstreaming. He noted work in other areas, including North Yorkshire and as regards identifying potential service providers, including smaller organisations. He noted there would be social value included and the OPCC were keen to demystify the process for smaller organisations.

The PCC noted 12 area-based problem solving groups to deliver the Police and Crime Plan and noted that new organisations would inform her of how they would deliver the plan, not what they would like to do, rather how they would meet and reflect the priorities within the plan.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

7 PCC Decision Records

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the Police and Crime Commissioner's Decision Register for 2021-22 and addressed the forward plan (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

8 HMICFRS publications

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which outlined the findings of the recent report by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) that had required a PCC comment, listed below:

- Terms of reference: Inspection of the police's handling of serious youth violence.
- Policing inspection programme and framework commencing April 2022: For consultation.
- Responses to 'Safe to Share? Report on Liberty and Southall Black Sisters' supercomplaint on policing and immigration status'.

Councillor R Potts asked if the 'safe to share' referred to when non-registered immigrants reported crime, that there was an obligation in terms of reporting their non-registered status. The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted that was correct, with the Head of Private Office adding it was often seen as a barrier. The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted section 4.3 of the report set out the operational response.

The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted that in respect of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), the Deputy Chief Constable would review the recommendations within the report and provide a further update to the OPCC. Councillor R Potts noted that the IICSA was hard reading and was surprised that it would be another month. He referred to former Officers and recording of incidents. The Chair noted not to stray into operational matters, the Lawyer (Governance) noted that the role of the Panel was to hold the PCC to account, with the PCC to hold the Chief Constable to account. Councillor R Potts reiterated his concern in leaving the issue for another month, adding he did not feel it was appropriate, given the role of DCC Members as corporate parents.

The PCC noted that while the report was historical, there was no waiting in relation to constant review and improvement. She noted the Force was being given the time to pull together their response, however, if any issues were critical or urgent, they would be addressed. Councillor R Potts noted that the last time the Police had looked at issues and explained his concerns as regards no one being held to account. He noted the current Deputy Chief Constable was looking at the last and asked why it was not being looked at independently. The PCC noted the recruitment of the new Assistant Chief Constable, an Officer who had specialised in safeguarding. Councillor R Potts reiterated that no one was being held accountable, noting the HMICFRS had noted issues, the IICSA had noted issues, with some incidents noted being crimed properly. He added it was not outstanding for children and he felt those previously responsible needed holding to account.

Councillor D Boyes noted the terms of reference, inspection of the police's handling of serious youth violence and asked who the partners were and who would lead. The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted that the report directly quoted the HMICFRS. The PCC noted that in any inspection Durham was different to North Yorkshire or Cumbria. She noted that Durham did not have a Violence Reduction Unit, not having the funding, with Northumbria Police having a funded Violence Reduction Unit. She added that therefore for Durham it would be based upon the structures in Durham and Darlington, with partners to include those such as the Youth Justice Service. Councillor D Boyes asked how far it would drill down in terms of organisations, noting that the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee had previously noted that the Youth Justice Service were excellent in keeping young people out of the youth justice system. He asked if the Committee, and its equivalent at Darlington, would be able to ask questions. The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted the process in terms of responses, Councillor D Boyes noted that for a fuller report there needed to be conflicting views from other organisations, not just established partners.

The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted Section 5 of the report also contained a breakdown of the grading allocated to each force under the pre and post PEEL grading systems. He added only five forces had been graded under the new system, though Greater Manchester Police had been recently graded, with a 9 question inspection.

Councillor D Boyes noted he appreciated that the grading criteria had changed, however, he still felt that Durham had been downgraded from 'outstanding' to 'good'. He asked as regards Greater Manchester Police. The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted it had remained at an overall 'requires improvement', adding that its highest grading was Durham's lowest. Councillor D Boyes reiterated he felt Durham had downgraded from 'outstanding' to 'good', adding West Yorkshire had improved from 'good' to 'outstanding'.

The Policy and Commissioning Officer noted he could not comment on West Yorkshire, however, he noted that the OPCC were learning from other PEEL inspections and noted that any perception of a 'downgrade' for Durham was not reality, with the grading not being mentioned as a downgrade by the HMICFRS. The PCC noted that Durham had rated outstanding in two areas, disrupting organised crime and good use of resources, and reminded the Panel that previously there had only been three areas that were graded, now ten. She explained that of the ten, two were outstanding, seven were good and with one being adequate. She noted that was in the context of having lost Officers and explained that in respect of the adequate grading for supporting victims, there was investment in that area. She added the question was how to get all areas as outstanding and noted that the Victims' Champion would look at all HMICFRS inspections and learn from all force areas to improve. Councillor D Boyes noted it was good to note that best practice would be looked at and reiterated that while there had been different grades, the Panel would wish for Durham to be 'outstanding', as it had been previously. He noted that Durham had previously been 'Constabulary of the Year' four years running, adding he felt that was when there had been a focus on neighbourhood policing.

The Chief Finance Officer noted there had been some internal debate and explained all wanted the best for Durham. He added that the Force continually reviewed evidence and explained that following the seven recommendations, there had already been improvement in six areas. He noted the Force Management Statement articulated clearly demands and service delivery and was being updated. He noted as regards the efficient use of the Force's assets.

Councillor J Dulston noted he had similar thoughts to that of Councillor D Boyes, in terms of the data suggesting that Durham had declined. The PCC noted that if one was looking at an 'apples to apples' comparison, Durham was 'top of the tree', adding West Yorkshire had less 'outstanding and good' grades than Durham. She added the challenge was obtaining outstanding in all areas, in terms of the cost and personnel required to deliver that. She noted that best practice would be looked at in terms of other Force areas.

Councillor D Nicholls noted he was impressed with the report and noted that when looking at best practice, some forces, such as Greater Manchester Police and the Metropolitan Police, may not be good comparisons, given their different demographics and the different issues they faced. He noted the 'outstanding' grading in relation to value for money was excellent and supported looking at areas of best practice. He noted the work in relation to smart water in tackling domestic violence and added that people locally wanted the best and he felt that Durham was very good.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Revenue and Capital Budgets

The Panel considered a report of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner which presented the revenue and capital budgets for 2022/23 (for copy of report see file of Minutes).

The Chief Finance Officer updated the Panel since the consideration of the precept, noting increases in Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), with 30 Police Officers starting in March, with a further 32 in June. He noted the training process, with 18 weeks in the classroom, 12 weeks working alongside another Constable, then the Officer being able to patrol independently. He explained as regards work in terms of recruiting more Detectives and added as regards PCSO recruitment, with 15-20 to start in April. He added as regards 8-10 additional call handlers and new switchboard technology to improve performance. The Panel learned as regards new body-worn devices, of a higher quality, and 60 new vehicles, noting a usual turnaround of 60-80 vehicles per year. The Chief Finance Officer noted challenges in terms of inflation, fuel prices, insurance increases, increasing energy bills, and increased demand especially in areas such as fraud. He explained that recruitment was a challenge, adding that colleagues in other areas of the public sector were experiencing similar issues.

The Chair asked as regards the benefits of recruiting those with a degree. The Chief Finance Officer noted that if an Officer required it, the Force would put them through a degree course, adding that there were increasing demands on Officers in areas such as safeguarding and cyber. He noted the national review, to which Durham had responded, and added it was too early to say in terms of benefits. The Chair noted that he felt a degree in 'common sense' was important. The Chief Finance Officer noted that qualities that were important included work ethic, communication skills, resilience and de-escalating skills.

Councillor D Boyes noted he welcomed the additional Officers adding they would go a long way in respect of public confidence, especially following the two years of the pandemic. The Chief Finance Officer noted that in terms of visibility, new shift patterns would mean there would be more Officers on 'nightshift' than before.

Councillor R Potts noted moving from £101 million in 2022/21 to £106 million for 2022/23 and asked if there would only be £2 million from Government in the next few years up to 2024/25. The Chief Finance Officer noted that was correct. Councillor R Potts noted page 33 of the agenda pack gave estimates in terms of total reserves and noted the Band D increase of £10 in terms of the precept. He noted a 36 percent increase in the last 4-5 years, with 4 percent for the next 2 years. The Chief Finance Officer noted the increase the PCC had introduced for this year, to be looked at in future years in terms of wanting to maintain or improve services. Councillor R Potts noted that Town and Parish Councils had not increased their precepts by the maximum amounts and noted that page 34 of the agenda pack referred to cost control which he felt was more important than ever, given the loss of 400 Police Officers since 'austerity'. He added that in April 2000 there had been six custody suites, 590 civilian staff and offices had been open longer hours, with around 11 percent of calls being abandoned. Councillor R Potts added that there were now only three custody suites and around 1,261 civilian staff, an increase of 671 since 2000, noting people wanted more Police on the ground, not more civilian staff.

The Chief Finance Officer noted that in 2009 there had been around 1,200 civilian staff, noting around 200 were lost in 2010. He noted that in terms of Officers lost, some roles had become civilian roles and explained that the number of control rooms had gone from six to one, without a reduction in staff. He added that there were 100 Criminal Justice Unit workers, adding it was more efficient to have civilian staff in those roles, noting Durham had an above average intelligence section. The Chief Finance Officer noted Durham had 146 PCSOs, if average the figure would have been around 90. He added that in terms of cost control, procurement were constantly looking for the best deals, however that was becoming increasingly more difficult. He added other areas being looked at included income generation and helping to reduce sickness absence, including in areas such as mental health. He added that there was a balance in terms of pushing the Force forwards in terms of improvements and also investing in senior leadership.

Councillor R Potts noted that HMICFRS had not been complimentary in recent inspections. The PCC reiterated the HMICFRS had noted two areas as being 'outstanding', namely value for money and tackling organised crime. Councillor R Potts noted that one was four times more likely to be a repeat victim of domestic violence in Durham and the HMICFRS had also noted that issues relating to CSE had not been dealt with very well.

In response to a question from Councillor J Dulston relating to Neighbourhood Policing and the increasing of the executive team, the Chief Finance Officer noted that he did not feel that Neighbourhood Policing was not 'on its knees' and noted the Chief of Staff role focussed on policing, while his role focussed on finance and the estate.

Councillor J Dulston noted the results from inspection and asked how that warranted non-uniform positions, adding he felt Chief Finance Officer was doing a great job. The Chief Finance Officer noted he was not part of recruitment process, adding he felt the Chief Constable wanted people who understood the roles and had focus. Councillor J Dulston asked if the Force was against direct entry to Inspector roles. The Chief Finance Officer noted there were 11 Superintendent positions and noted the risk of bringing in new, non-police, to such a role, with one out of eleven representing nine percent. He noted that the Force's Chief Inspectors were excellent, worthy of promotion.

Councillor D Nicholls noted he had been 4 years old in 2000 and noted there had been many changes since that time and therefore one should be careful in making comparisons. He noted that the nature of crime had changed, noting the rise of cybercrime, and added that therefore it was important to understand not just the numbers but how residents were affected, noting fraud as an example when demand was increasing. He noted that one would not see those Officers working on such cases, and added that in cases relating to CSE, a lot of the work related to online and computers, another area where you would not see Officers directly on the street. Councillor D Boyes accepted the comments from Councillor D Nicholls, however, he reminded the Panel that it was incumbent on the Panel to challenge the PCC. He noted he welcomed the additional Officers, adding it was also good to have well qualified Officers. He added that he would give credit where it was due, but noted the challenges faced, notwithstanding budget cuts. Councillor D Nicholls noted as regards a visit to see the civilian side of policing, with the Chief Finance Officer noting an invite to visit the Meadowfield Training Centre to speak to staff and see the technology. The Lawyer (Governance) noted that session had been planned pre-COVID and added that post-May, a session for the full Panel could be arranged. Councillor D Nicholls noted he felt that would be useful.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Neighbourhood Problem Solving Approach

The Panel considered a report of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner which set out her Neighbourhood Problem Solving Approach (for copy of report see file of Minutes).

The PCC noted prior to Unitary Local Government for Durham, there had been one Neighbourhood Watch per district, paid for by the Local Authorities, noting she had been in that role at Sedgefield Borough Council.

She explained as regards local problem-solving approach to be developed through the employment and deployment of Community Safety Champions in 2022/23 and 2023/24 noting the Champions would help in delivering the Police and Crime Plan, noting area-based problem solving groups, working with businesses, and encouraging communities in activities such as community speedwatch. The PCC noted two pilot areas had been identified, one in the south of the area, one in the east. She concluded by noting there would be six areas established in Durham, one in Darlington, with evaluation to be carried out and further information brought back to the Panel.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11 Appointment of Victim Champions

The Panel considered a report of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner relating to the appointment of Victim Champions (for copy of report see file of Minutes).

The Head of Private Office explained as regards the recent appointments of the three Victim Champions in the Durham OPCC, namely a Victims' Champion, a Domestic Abuse Victims' Voice Worker and an Anti-Social Behaviour Champion and provided an overview of their main roles, responsibilities, and priority areas of work.

Councillor R Potts noted he had concerns as regards the recruitment process, noting the Anti-Social Behaviour Champion had been interviewed by a panel including the PCC and executive officers, including the Deputy PCC, and was a Labour appointment who had helped the PCC during her election campaign. He added he did not feel it was right that the PCC sat on the interview panel and noted his concern as regards the PCC being involved in the process, stating he felt the PCC should have stepped away.

The PCC noted she had explained previously as regards the appointment of the Deputy PCC and legislation, she gave the example of the PM, Boris Johnson choosing his appointments, and reiterated it had been within her gift as regards the Deputy PCC appointment. She added that if one looked at other PCCs, the majority appointed without interview, including Conservative PCCs. She noted she was very happy with the Deputy PCC, adding he had worked as regards her campaign, reiterating previous comments that she had only two years to deliver the Police and Crime Plan. The PCC noted that, as regards the Anti-Social Behaviour Champion position, she had been involved in community safety for over 30 years, having been a Head of Community Safety and also her work at the Fire Authority.

She explained she did know the Anti-Social Behaviour Champion, a former County Councillor, who had lost her seat at the election. The PCC added that did not disbar the Anti-Social Behaviour Champion and added that the Anti-Social Behaviour Champion had a lot of experience in youth work and community safety, had been the rural champion and had a role in Overview and Scrutiny while at DCC, and was currently delivering on the Plan.

The PCC noted that all three champions were passionate and helping to deliver the Plan. She noted page 12 of the Plan referred to anti-social behaviour and page 20 of the Plan referred to victims of crime and anti-social behaviour. She added that she felt around a third of the Plan reflected actions for the Champions and added she was very satisfied with the appointments, noting the OPCC gave assurance the appointments had been proper.

The Head of Governance and Finance noted the process had been very standard, with a job advertised, application received followed by a sifting process relating to criteria, followed by short-listing and then interviews. He explained that had involved himself, the PCC and the Service Lead, with five questions that were then scored, then following process to select the candidate that best met the criteria and role. He noted that was then reported to the Chief Executive Officer as part of the OPCC. The Lawyer (Governance) noted as regards discussions relating to individuals within the public part of the meeting.

Councillor R Potts noted as regards recruitment and noted that of four posts that had been reported, two had been to Labour Party members. The PCC noted that one had had to be a Labour Party Member. Councillor R Potts noted it had not been required to be a Labour Party Member. The PCC challenged that, adding it was a political appointment. Councillor R Potts noted there were many PCCs that had independent Deputies, the PCC noted that the majority did not. The Head of Private Office noted that all OPCC posts were politically restricted posts. Councillor R Potts noted he had no issue with the Anti-Social Behaviour Champion, rather the role and impartiality of the PCC in terms of appointments. The PCC noted that anti-social behaviour had been identified by residents as the top priority and noted she had managed the largest street warden team in the past and understood the importance of the Anti-Social Behaviour Champion post. She noted that give the importance of the post she wanted to be happy and satisfied with the appointment, adding that she was.

Councillor D Boyes noted he was familiar with two of the Champions and asked and noted he was happy with appointments, although he was not familiar with the Domestic Abuse Victims' Voice Worker.

He noted that the Deputy PCC would answer to the PCC and the three Champions would report to the OPCC Chief Executive Officer. He noted he would not wish for any duplication of work.

The PCC noted all three Champions regularly reported to the Chief Executive Officer and PCC, adding there was a clear plan in terms of what, who and when in terms of delivering the Plan, and the Chief Executive Officer and PCC would hold them to account. She added that they would bring the voice of victim forward and noted that very much, victims were at the heart of everything. She noted the National Victims' Commissioner had encouraged the appointment of such Champions, with Durham being one of three PCCs so far in the country to do so, adding she felt more would follow suit. She reiterated that the Champions would help deliver the Police and Crime Plan.

Councillor D Boyes asked as regards how success would be measured, for example in terms of the levels of anti-social behaviour or domestic violence and asked if there were improvement would the Champions be mainstreamed or if issues deteriorated would they be escalated. The PCC noted the Local Authorities and the Police were responsible in terms of tackling anti-social behaviour and noted that looking at reporting from the public, there were few reports and therefore it was preferable for an increase in reporting to get a true picture of the issues, to then be able to allocate resources efficiently to deliver on a local level. She noted as regards holding partners to account and her support of community trigger, adding that more information would be coming from the Home Office as regards anti-social behaviour. The Chair asked if it would be possible for the Panel to meet the Champions at a future meeting, the PCC noted it would.

Councillor J Dulston noted that accountability meetings were good, with more being better in terms of the PCC holding the Chief Constable to account. The PCC noted those were public-facing meetings, however, there were other internal meetings where she would provide challenge, with weekly focussed meetings. She added that when looking at issues such as domestic violence, then it would include partners who helped to deliver operationally. She noted accountability meetings that had been held looking at issues such as custody suites, off-road bikes and domestic violence, including violence against women and girls. Councillor D Nicholls noted he welcomed the appointment of the new Assistant Chief Constable, noting her background in tackling domestic violence and violence against women and girls. He added that the appointment showed that the Force took the issue seriously. He noted the National Victims' Commissioner asking for PCCs to tackle the issue, adding Durham as being one of three areas to appoint such a Champion nationally.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

12 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 relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner or the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (for copy see file of Minutes). It was noted that between 27 January 2022 and 24 February 2022 there have been no formal complaints received in accordance with the procedure.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

13 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

14 Independent Co-opted Member Appointment

The Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel regarding the appointment of an independent co-opted Member (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor D Nicholls left the meeting at 11.39am

Resolved:

- a) That the process undertaken be noted;
- b) That the proposed appointment of Robbie Roddis (subject to satisfactory references) as an independent co-opted Member to take effect from 1 May 2022 with a term of office until 30 April 2026 be agreed;
- c) To delegate authority to the Clerk in consultation with Appointments Panel to take up references and confirm that they are satisfactory.