



Durham Police and Crime Panel

23 June 2022

Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2021/22 and Work Programme 2022/23

Report of Helen Lynch, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present the Durham Police and Crime Panel Annual report 2021/22 and consider development of the Panel's Work Programme for 2022/23.

Executive summary

- 2 The Panel's Annual report provides details of activity undertaken by the Panel in 2021/22 and development of a work programme for 2022/23 in accordance with the panel's arrangements and requirements within the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Recommendation

- 3 The Police and Crime Panel are asked to
 - (a) Endorse the Durham Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2021/22 as attached in appendix 2, and
 - (b) Agree the panel's work programme as attached in appendix 3 for 2022/2023 and the flexibility it offers to respond to emerging issues.

Background

- 4 The Durham Police and Crime Panel Annual Report presents the Panel's activity during 2021/22. The report, attached in Appendix 2 provides detail on the role and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), the Police and Crime Panel, the Panel's Membership, activity through panel meetings, panel development, complaints, engagement with public and the Office of the PCC and panel support. It is to note that the Annual Report is to be submitted to the Home Office as an element of the Panel's Grant Agreement by the 29 July 2022.
- 5 In summary, 2021/22 has been a busy year for the panel in which the panel has delivered a member induction and training session with all panel and substitute members, held five scheduled meetings, one confirmation hearing and one development session. The Panel was also represented at the AGM of the National Police, Fire and Crime Panels AGM and attended two LGA webinars.
- 6 Within this period, the panel has also approved and responded to the PCC's draft Police and Crime Panel in September 2021, confirmed the appointment of the Deputy PCC in November 2021 and agreed the PCC's precept in February 2022. The panel has also undertaken recruitment for an Independent Co-opted Member and responded to government consultations on remote meetings and Part 2 of the Home Office's review of PCCs.
- 7 Within these challenging times, the Panel has continued to deliver its work programme and duties within the Police, Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Work Programme 2022/23

- 8 The Panel's rules of procedure state that the PCP will be responsible for setting its own work programme taking into account the priorities defined by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) within the context of the Police and Crime Plan and Annual Report. The work programme must also include the functions described in the terms of reference for the panel.
- 9 The work programme will enable the PCP to plan and focus on how it will effectively provide challenge to the PCC and deliver its responsibilities within the context of the terms of reference and rules of procedure namely:
 - (a) Review and comment on the Draft Police and Crime Plan and Precept
 - (b) Reviewing the PCC's Annual Report

- (c) Holding confirmation hearings following a proposed appointment by the PCC to the posts of Chief Constable, Deputy PCC, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance Officer within the Commissioner's Office.
- 10 In addition, the Panel's meetings have included the following areas as standard agenda items:
- (a) Media Articles
 - (b) PCC Quarterly Performance Report
 - (c) PCC Commissioning Activity
 - (d) PCC Decisions
 - (e) HMICFRS Inspection Reports
- 11 The Panel can also establish 'Sub Committees and Task Groups' to undertake specific task based work on issues it deems necessary in line with its remit.
- 12 Within this context, Appendix 3 outlines a work programme for 2022/23. It is to note that the work programme is to be flexible to accommodate additional items throughout the year.

Main implications

Crime & Disorder

- 13 Activity within the Panel's Annual report and work programme aims to contribute to reducing crime and disorder within County Durham & Darlington.

Conclusion

- 14 The Annual report provides Members with an overview of activity undertaken by the panel during 2021/22 and development of the panel's work programme for 2022/23.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact:	Kamila Coulson-Patel	Tel: 03000 269674
	Jonathan Slee	Tel: 03000 268142

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

The Panel's Annual Report includes Panel activity in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and requirements within the Home Office Grant Agreement 2021/22.

The Panel's work programme is to be delivered in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

Finance

The Panel's Annual report includes panel support within the Home Office Grant Agreement and activity through precept consultation and consideration of the PCC's precept

The Panel's work programme includes precept consultation and consideration of the PCC's precept.

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.

Durham Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2021/22

Chair's Foreword

Welcome to the Durham Police and Crime Panel Annual Report for 2021/22 and provides detail on our activity throughout the past year.

Having served as a Member of the Police and Crime Panel since its inception in 2012, I was delighted and honoured to be elected as the Panel's Chair together with Cllr Joan Nicholson as Vice Chair at its Annual General Meeting in July 2021.



In summary, 2021/22 has been a busy year for the panel in which we delivered a member induction and training session with all panel and substitute members with a valuable contribution from the newly elected PCC Joy Allen, held five scheduled meetings, one confirmation hearing and one development session. The Panel was also represented at the AGM of the National Police, Fire and Crime Panels AGM and attended two LGA webinars.

Within this period, the panel approved and responded to the PCC's draft Police and Crime Panel in September 2021, confirmed the appointment of the Deputy PCC Nigel Bryson in November and agreed the PCC's precept in February 2022. The panel has also undertaken recruitment for an Independent Co-opted Member and responded to government consultations on remote meetings and Part 2 of the Home Office's review of PCCs.

Within these challenging times, the Panel has continued to deliver its work programme and duties within the Police, Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Looking ahead to 2022/23, in addition to responsibilities within the Act, the panel's work programme will also include outcomes of the Home Office Review of PCCs.

To conclude, I would like to thank the office of the Durham PCC for their continued support and to all Panel and substitute Members for their valued and dedicated commitment to the work of the Durham Police and Crime Panel.

Cllr Brian Jones
Chair of Durham Police and Crime Panel 2021/22

Background

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced arrangements for elected Police and Crime Commissioners who are to be the voice of the people and have responsibility for holding their chief constable to account for policing in their force area. The Act also required the establishment of a Police and Crime Panels who are required to scrutinise and support the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Elections for Police and Crime Commissioners take place every four years. The first election in November 2012 elected Mr Ron Hogg as the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner and following re-election in May 2016, Mr Hogg included victims within his title to be known as the Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner (PCVC).

Sadly, in December 2019, Mr Hogg passed away following a short illness. Prior to the passing of Mr Hogg, Steve White, Chief Executive, Office of the Durham PCVC, was appointed into the role of acting PCVC in September 2019, by the Police and Crime Panel.

Elections for Police and Crime Commissioners were scheduled to take place in May 2020. Following the outbreak of coronavirus, the government announced in March 2020 that the elections for the Police and Crime Commissioners in May 2020 were postponed and was subsequently held in May 2021 and elected Joy Allen as the Durham PCC.

Police and Crime Commissioner

The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and hold the police to account. They are responsible for the totality of policing.



The PCC is elected by the public to hold the Chief Constable and the force to account, thus making the police answerable to the communities they serve. The PCC is to ensure community needs are met as effectively as possible and are improving local relationships through building confidence and restoring trust. The PCC works in partnership across a range of agencies at local and national level to ensure there is a unified approach to preventing and reducing crime.

The PCC has the mandate for ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of policing services across County Durham and Darlington. As well as holding the Chief Constable to account on behalf of local people, the role will also involve:

- represent and engage with all those who live and work in the force area, including the vulnerable and victims;
- set the police and crime objectives for their area through a police and crime plan;
- set the force budget and determine the precept;
- appoint the Chief Constable, hold them to account for running the force, and if necessary dismiss them;
- contribute to the national and international policing capabilities set out by the Home Secretary; and
- bring together community safety and criminal justice partners, to make sure local priorities are joined up
- Publishing an Annual Report;
- Securing the maintenance of an efficient and effective police force for the area;
- Responsibility for holding community safety budgets and commissioning services

Police and Crime Panels

The Durham PCC and Constabulary area covers the local authorities of Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council. The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 required the two constituent authorities within Durham Constabulary area have a statutory duty to create a Police and Crime Panel.



DARLINGTON
Borough Council

This led to the establishment of the Durham Police and Crime Panel holding its inaugural meeting in October 2012 and the Panel is hosted by Durham County Council. A web page containing information on the panel including the panel arrangements can be accessed from the following link:

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/policeandcrimepanel>

The Panel's membership consists of 10 elected members for the constituent authorities and two co-opted independent members.

The Durham Police and Crime Commissioner is held to account by the Durham Police and Crime Panel. The role of the Durham Police and Crime Panel is to provide scrutiny of the Commissioner, but also has decision making powers and are also required to provide support to the PCC in pursuit of objectives within the Police and Crime and Plan.

Within the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act, the Panel's key responsibilities are:

- to review the draft Police and Crime Plan;
- to publicly scrutinise the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) Annual Report;
- to review and scrutinise decisions and actions by the PCC;
- to review the PCC's proposed precept levels;
- to review the PCC's Conduct;
- to review and confirm the PCC's proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer, and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner

The Act also includes procedures and processes for undertaking the above responsibilities and the panel are required to publish reports following reviewing the PCC's Annual report, police, crime and victims' plan, precept and confirmation hearings. The panel also has a power of veto on the PCC's precept and proposed appointment of Chief Constable.

Panel Membership

The Panel is politically balanced and consists of 12 members, seven elected members from Durham County Council, three elected members from Darlington Borough Council and two independent co-opted members. In addition, each elected Member has a nominated substitute member. The Panel's Membership for 2021/22 is illustrated in the following table with their nominated substitute members listed in underneath.

Durham County Council	Darlington Borough Council	Independent Co-Opted Members
Cllr D Boyes (Cllr S Quinn)	Cllr J Dulston (Cllr Jamie Bartch)	Mr NJH Cooke
Cllr L Hovvels (Cllr J Miller)	Cllr B Jones (Chair) (Cllr R Mills) May 2021 – Feb 2022 (Cllr P Culley) Feb 2022	Mr DKG Dodwell
Cllr D Nichols (Cllr C Varty)	Cllr N Wallis (Cllr M Layton)	
Cllr J Nicholson (Vice Chair) (Cllr K Fantarrow)		
Cllr R Potts (Cllr L Holmes)		
Cllr A Savory (Cllr A Bell)		
Cllr M Simmons (Cllr L Brown)		

Panel Recruitment - Independent Co-opted Member

The term of office for the panel's Independent Co-opted Members ceases on 30 April 2023. At its meeting in January 2022, the panel agreed to undertake a recruitment exercise following notification that for personal reasons Mr DKG Dodwell was unable to continue his role to the end of his term of office.

Following a recruitment exercise, the panel formally appointed Mr R Roddis at its meeting in March 2022 and Mr Roddis will commence his role from 1 May 2022. The Panel placed on record its appreciation to Mr DKG Dodwell for his valuable contribution and dedicated service as an Independent Co-opted Member to the panel since his appointment in October 2014.

Police and Crime Panel Activity 2021/22

This section highlights the Panel's activity in relation to:

- Panel Meetings
- Panel Development
- Complaints
- Engagement with public and Office of the PCVC
- Responding to Government Consultations

Panel meetings

Coronavirus Act 2020

In May 2021, regulations for holding remote meetings within section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020 expired and all formal meetings of panel during 2021/22 were held in person.

Number of Public Meetings held

The Panel has held six public meetings in public between 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Monday 19 July 2021, Council Chamber, County Hall

- Acting Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner's Annual Report
- Draft Police and Crime Plan
- Media Report
- Quarterly Performance report
- PCC Decision Records
- PCC Commissioning Update
- HMICFRS inspections
- Complaints Update
- Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2020/21 and Work Programme

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP 19 July 2021](#)

Link to video recording - [Video Recording - PCP 19 July 2021](#)

Friday 17 September 2021, Council Chamber, County Hall

- Draft Police and Crime Plan
- Media Report
- Performance Progress Report
- HMICFRS inspections
- PCC Decision Records
- PCC Commissioning Update
- Complaints Update

- Police and Crime Panel work programme update

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP 17 September 2021](#)

Link to video recording - [Video recording PCP 17 September 2021](#)

Friday 5 November 2021 – Special Meeting, Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham

- Confirmation Hearing - Appointment of a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Media Articles

Link to agenda and minutes- [PCP Special Meeting 5 November 2021](#)

Link to video recording - [video recording PCP 5 November 2021](#)

Monday 10 January 2022, Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham

- HMICFRS Inspection Reports
- Precept Consultation
- Performance Progress Report
- Media Report
- PCC Commissioning Update
- PCC Decision Records
- Independent Co-Opted Members of the Police and Crime Panel
- Complaints Update

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Meeting 10 January 2022](#)

Link to video recording - [Video recording PCP 10 January 2022](#)

Thursday 3 February 2022, Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham

- Precept Consultation
- Performance Progress Report
- Media Report
- PCC Commissioning Update
- HMICFRS inspections
- Complaints report

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Meeting 3 February 2022](#)

Link to video recording - [PCP February 2022](#)

Monday 7 March 2022, Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham

- Media Report
- PCC Commissioning Report
- PCC Decision Records
- HMICFRS publications
- Revenue and Capital Budgets

- Neighbourhood Problem Solving Approach
- Appointment of Victim Champions
- Complaints Update

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP 7 March 2022](#)

Panel Development

Panel Member Induction/Refresher Sessions

- 9th July 2021
- 9th September 2021
- 31st January 2022

LGA/Home Office Events

- LGA PCP Workshop 13 July 2021
- LGA/Home Office webinar 2 March 2022

HMICFRS Inspections and Office of the PCC Structure – 20 January 2022

- Presentation from Chief Constable Jo Farrell to provide an overview of HMICFRS inspection process and inspections undertaken with Durham Constabulary.
- Update on organisational structure of the Office of the PCC

Police Custody, Communications and Training – TBA

- Development session on performance framework and linked to the Panel's work programme visits to custody, communications 101 system and police training centre are to be arranged.

Complaints

The Panel has responsibilities within the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 to record and consider non-criminal complaints made against the PCC. A report on complaints received is presented as a standard item at each panel meeting. During 2021/22, there were no complaints received for consideration by the Police and Crime Panel.

Engagement with the work of the Panel by members of the public and the Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner for Durham Constabulary

The host authority's website includes a PCP webpage, that provides an overview of the panel's PCC's role and responsibilities. The page also provides reference to documentation including the panel's arrangements, complaints procedure and links to the panel's agendas and minutes and PCC's webpage.

The Panel's meetings during 2021/22 have been held in-person at County Hall, Durham. The panel's meetings in July, September 2021, November 2021, January 2022 and February 2022 were broadcasted live on youtube via Durham County Council's webpage and are available for the public to view. In addition, activity from Police and Crime Panel meetings has received coverage within local newspapers and their websites.

Engagement with the Office of the PCVC

The Panel has held a professional and positive relationship with the Office of the PCC. In May 2021, Joy Allen was elected as the Durham PCC and has positively engaged with the panel on development of the police and crime plan and has also held a specific briefing session with panel members on potential options for the requirement to appoint a Deputy PCC.

Local elections for Durham County Council were also held in May 2021 and prior to the Panel's AGM, arrangements were made to hold a Police and Crime Panel Member Induction Session to which all Panel and Substitute members were invited. The session was held virtually on Microsoft teams and included an overview presentation delivered by the PCC on the roles and responsibilities of the office of the Durham PCC.

At its meeting in September 2021, the panel reviewed the PCC's draft police and crime plan to which in responding to the panel, the PCC expressed a wish to engage with the panel to seek comment from members on priority areas for further consultation on tackling ASB.

Following the confirmation hearing for the appointment of the Deputy PCC, Cllr Jones, Chair of the PCP, the panel's role within the appointment was included within the Office of the PCC's press release.

Following a request at the Panel's meeting in January 2022, arrangements with the Office of the PCC for a development session with the Panel to receive further detail on the HMICFRS inspection process and the Office of the Durham PCC Organisational Structure. The session was held on the 20 January 2022, via Microsoft Teams and the Chief Constable delivered the

presentation on HMICFRS inspections and the PCC's Chief Executive updated the Panel on the Office of the PCC's Organisational structure.

In addition to the above, there has been regular engagement between the panel secretariat and overview and scrutiny officer with the office of the PCC with reports to the panel's meetings to consider the Acting PCVC's Annual report 2020/21 and the PCC's Draft Police and Crime Plan, media reports, quarterly performance reports, PCC Decisions, Commissioning activity and HMICFRS Inspection reports.

The office of the PCC has also shared with the panel secretariat press releases for circulation to panel members upon release and linked to the panel's activity on concerns on 101 system has offered panel members a tour of the Police Control Room. In addition, linked to the Panel's work programme arrangements are also being made for a visit to a custody suite and the Police's training centre.

Responding to Government Consultations

The Panel has provided responses to the MHCLG's consultation on remote meetings and to the Local Government Association for the Home Office's Part 2 review of PCCs.

Panel Support

The Panel receives financial support through grant funding from the Home Office. The grant enables the host to claim up to £64,340 for administration and members expenses.

Total panel expenditure for 2021/22 was £100,184 with £64,340 to be recovered from the central government grant and the variance met by the Host Authority. A breakdown of expenditure is listed in the table below.

Breakdown of expenditure (items)	£
Director of Corporate Resources/Head of Service advice/support	17,923.51
Legal Advice/Support	45,477.19
Overview and Scrutiny Support	13,080.16
Democratic Services Support	9,264.67
HR/ICT/Finance/Accommodation costs	13,778.27
Printing and distribution	100.20
Travelling Expenses	380.00
Dedicated Data base	560.00
Subtotal Total:	100,184.00

It is to note that elected member expenses for panel activity are borne by their respective authority.

The Panel's expenditure has been reviewed in May 2022 by Durham County Council's Internal Audit and Risk Management Division, who concluded that *"The review confirmed that expenditure incurred had been in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant."*

APPENDIX 3

Durham PCP Work Programme 2022/23

Date & Time	Suggested Items for Work Programme
23 June 2022 1.30pm Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Panel AGM – Appoint Char/Vice Chair ● Joint Audit Committee Annual Report 2021/22 ● Media Report ● Quarterly Performance Report ● PCC Commissioning Activity ● PCC Decisions ● HMICFRS Inspection reports ● Complaints Procedure Review ● Complaints Report ● PCP Annual report and Work Programme
9 September 2022 10.00am Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PCC Annual Report 2021/22 ● Media Report ● Quarterly Performance Report ● PCC Commissioning Activity ● PCC Decisions ● HMICFRS Inspection reports ● Complaints Report
4 November 2022 10.00 am Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Media Report ● Quarterly Performance Report ● PCC Commissioning Activity ● PCC Decisions ● HMICFRS Inspection reports ● Complaints Report
1 February 2023 10.00 am Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Police, Crime and Commissioner's Proposed Precept for 2023/24 ● Media Report ● Quarterly Performance Report ● PCC Commissioning Activity ● PCC Decisions ● HMICFRS Inspection reports ● Complaints Report