



## **Durham Police and Crime Panel**

**23 June 2023**

### **Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2022/23 and Work Programme 2023/24**

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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 present the Durham Police and Crime Panel Annual report 2022/23 and consider development of the Panel's Work Programme for 2023/24.

##### **Executive summary**

- 2 The Panel's Annual report provides details of activity undertaken by the Panel in 2022/23 and development of a work programme for 2023/24 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 2022/23 as attached in appendix 2, and
  - (b) Agree the panel's work programme as attached in appendix 3 for 2023/2024 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 2022/23. 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 30 June 2023.
- 5 In summary, 2022/23 has been a busy year for the panel in which we held five scheduled meetings, one confirmation hearing, three development sessions and also undertook a site visit to the Police Training Centre at Meadowfield, Durham. The Panel also was represented at an LGA/Home Office Webinar in September 2023.
- 6 Within this period, the panel received the PCC's draft Annual Report 2021/22 in September 2022, confirmed the appointment of Andrea Petty as the Office of the PCC'S Chief of Staff in November 2022 and agreed the PCC's precept in February 2023. The panel has also undertaken recruitment for an Independent Co-opted Member and responded to government consultation on Reforming our Fire and Rescue Service.
- 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 2023/24**

- 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 previously 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 These items have now been merged into the Police and Crime Commissioner's Quarterly Performance Report for 2023/24 onwards.
- 12 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.
- 13 Within this context, Appendix 3 outlines a work programme for 2023/24. It is to note that the work programme is to be flexible to accommodate additional items throughout the year.

## **Main implications**

### *Crime & Disorder*

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

## **Conclusion**

- 15 The Annual report provides Members with an overview of activity undertaken by the panel during 2022/23 and development of the panel's work programme for 2023/24.

## **Background papers**

- None

## **Other useful documents**

- None

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **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 2022/23.

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 2022/23**

## Chair's Foreword

Welcome to the Durham Police and Crime Panel Annual Report for 2022/23 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 June 2022.



In summary, 2022/23 has been a busy year for the panel in which we held five scheduled meetings, one confirmation hearing, three development sessions and also undertook a site visit to the Police Training Centre at Meadowfield, Durham.

Within this period, the panel received the PCC's draft Annual Report 2021/22 in September 2022, confirmed the appointment of Andrea Petty as the Office of the PCC'S Chief of Staff in November 2022 and agreed the PCC's precept in February 2023. The panel has also undertaken recruitment for an Independent Co-opted Member and responded to government consultation on Reforming our Fire and Rescue Service.

Within these challenging times, the Panel has continued to deliver its work programme and duties within the Police, Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

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. Finally, this will be my last year as a Councillor as I officially stood down in May 2023 and also my last as a member of the Police and Crime Panel. I wish the Panel and the Police and Crime Commissioner well for the future and thank all of the Panel support staff.

Cllr Brian Jones  
Chair of Durham Police and Crime Panel 2022/23



## 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 2022/23 is illustrated in the following table with their nominated substitute members listed in underneath.

<b>Durham County Council</b>	<b>Darlington Borough Council</b>	<b>Independent Co-Opted Members</b>
<b>Cllr D Boyes</b> (Cllr S Quinn)	<b>Cllr I McCollum</b> (Cllr M Layton)	<b>Mr N Hallam</b>
<b>Cllr L Hovvels</b> (Cllr J Miller)	<b>Cllr B Jones (Chair)</b> (Cllr P Culley)	<b>Mr R Rodiss</b>
<b>Cllr D Nicholls</b> (Cllr C Varty)	<b>Cllr M Renton</b> (Cllr J Bartch)	
<b>Cllr J Nicholson (Vice Chair)</b> (Cllr K Fantarrow)		
<b>Cllr R Potts</b> (Cllr L Holmes)		
<b>Cllr A Savory</b> (Cllr A Bell)		
<b>Cllr M Simmons</b> (Cllr L Brown)		

# Police and Crime Panel Activity 2022/23

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

### Number of Public Meetings held

The Panel has held five public meetings and 1 confirmation hearing between 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

### **Thursday 23 June 2022, Committee Room 2, County Hall**

- Joint Independent Audit Committee Annual Report 2021/22
- Media Report
- Quarterly Performance report
- PCC Decision Records
- PCC Commissioning Update
- HMICFRS inspections
- Home Office White Paper Consultation – “Reforming our Fire and Rescue Service”
- Complaints Update
- Review of Procedure for dealing with Complaints and Conduct Matters against the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2021/22 and Work Programme 2022/23

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Meeting 23 June 2022](#)

### **Friday 9 September 2022, Committee Room 2, County Hall**

- Draft PCC Annual Report 2021/22
- Police and Crime Panel Revised Work Programme 2022/23
- Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) Report
- Media Report
- PCC Commissioning Update
- PCC Decision Records
- HMICFRS inspections

- Complaints Update

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Meeting 9 September 2022](#)

**Friday 28 October 2022 – Special Meeting, Committee Room 1, Darlington Town Hall**

- Chief Constable Update
- Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) Report

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Special Meeting 28 October 2022](#)

**Friday 4 November 2022 – Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham 10.00 a.m.**

- Police and Crime Commissioner's Performance and Delivery Update Report
- Report on Investigative Hub

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Meeting 4 November 2023](#)

**Friday 4 November 2022 – Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham 11.00 a.m.**

- Confirmation Hearing – Proposed Appointment of Chief of Staff for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Meeting - Confirmation Hearing - 4 November 2022](#)

**Wednesday 1 February 2023, Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham**

- Precept Consultation
- Victims' Champions' Reports
- National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels Annual Report 2022
- Complaints Update

Link to agenda and minutes - [PCP Meeting 1 February 2023](#)

## **Panel Development**

### **Panel Member Induction/Refresher Sessions**

- 6 May 2022 – Complaints Process refresher training
- 29 July 2022 – Induction session for new Panel Member and Co-opted member
- 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 – PCP Role & Responsibilities including examining the PCC Precepting proposals

### **LGA/Home Office Events**

- LGA/Home Office webinar 27 September 2022

### **Police Custody, Communications and Training –**

- Development session on performance framework and visit to control and communications centre – 5 September 2022
- Development session and visit to police training centre, Meadowfield, Durham – 20 September 2022

## **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 2022/23, there were 6 complaints received for consideration by the Police and Crime Panel. Of these, 5 were rejected as not being within the scope for Panel determination. One complaint was heard by the Panel at its meeting held on 23 June 2022. In accordance with Reg 28 (13) of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012, the Panel resolved not to publish the outcome of the complaint.

## **Engagement with the work of the Panel by members of the public and the Police and Crime 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 2022/23 have been held in-person at County Hall, Durham with the October meeting held in the Town Hall, Darlington. In addition, activity from Police and Crime Panel meetings has received coverage within local newspapers and their websites.

### **Engagement with the Office of the PCC**

The Panel has held a professional and positive relationship with the Office of the PCC. Throughout 2022/23 engagement with the Office of the PCC has included arrangements and preparations for the PCP's work programme, development sessions, consideration of the PCC's Annual report and precept, undertaking a confirmation hearing for the OPCC Chief of Staff appointment and the PCC's revised performance reporting arrangements.

At its meeting in June 2022, the panel considered the Joint Independent Audit Committee Annual report 2021-22 presented by the PCC and which provides detail of the assurance and risk management frameworks within which the PCC and Chief Constable operates.

At the Panel meeting in October 2022, members received a report from the PCC setting out how she was holding Durham Constabulary to account for the delivery of recommendations laid out by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA). The PCC confirmed that she was satisfied that work is being undertaken to address the criticisms and progress the recommendations within the IICSA report.

The Panel considered the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels' Annual Report 2022 in February 2023 and has worked with the PCC to bring follow up reports to the Panel in respect of police recruitment and vetting procedures and acceptable behaviours and standards within Durham Constabulary.

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 PCC's Annual report 2021/22, 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.

### **Responding to Government Consultations**

The Panel has provided a response to the Home Office consultation "Reforming our Fire and Rescue Service" in July 2022.



## 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 2022/23 was £86,889.29 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.

<b>Breakdown of expenditure (items)</b>	<b>£ (0,000s)</b>
<b>Director of Resources advice/ support</b>	<b>9981.07</b>
<b>Legal Advice /Support</b>	<b>42632.50</b>
<b>Overview and Scrutiny Support</b>	<b>14996.35</b>
<b>Democratic Services Support</b>	<b>6695.83</b>
<b>HR/ICT/Finance/Accommodation costs</b>	<b>11940.04</b>
<b>Printing and distribution</b>	<b>83.50</b>
<b>Travelling Expenses</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>Dedicated Data base</b>	<b>560</b>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>86889.29</b>

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

The Panel's Grant Claim for 2022-23 has been considered by the Council's Internal Audit as part of the financial management assurance framework and confirmation has been received that the expenditure incurred has been in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

## APPENDIX 3

### Draft Durham PCP Work Programme 2023/24

Date & Time	Suggested Items for Work Programme
Friday 23 June 2023 10.00am Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panel AGM – Appoint Chair/Vice Chair</li> <li>• Problem Orientated Policing Presentation – CI Emma Kay</li> <li>• Joint Audit Committee Annual Report 2022/23 – Eddie Bell, Independent Chair of Joint Internal Audit Committee</li> <li>• Quarterly Performance Report Q4 2022/23</li> <li>• Complaints Report</li> <li>• PCP Annual report and Work Programme</li> </ul>
Thursday 21 September 2023 1.30pm Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCC Annual Report 2022/23</li> <li>• Quarterly Performance Report Q1 2023/24</li> <li>• Investigative Hub Update - TBC</li> <li>• Complaints Report</li> </ul>
Thursday 14 December 2023 1:00pm Committee Room 1 Town Hall Darlington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External Scrutiny Review – Sweety Sahani, OPCC</li> <li>• Quarterly Performance Report Q2 2023/24</li> <li>• Complaints report</li> </ul>
Thursday 1 February 2024 10.00 am Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police, Crime and Commissioner’s Proposed Precept for 2024/25</li> <li>• Victims Champions Annual Update – TBC</li> <li>• National Association of Police Fire and Crime Panels Annual Report 2023</li> <li>• Complaints Report</li> </ul>
Friday 22 March 2024 10.00 a.m. Committee Room 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarterly Performance Report 2023/24 Q3</li> <li>• Vetting Process update</li> <li>• Acceptable Policing Behaviours and Standards update</li> <li>• Complaints Report</li> </ul>

