

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **DERBYSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL** held on 17 November 2016 at County Hall, Matlock.

**PRESENT**

Councillor Julie Hill (in the Chair)

Councillors R Bright (Derbyshire Dales District Council), G Claff (High Peak Borough Council), J Frudd (Derbyshire County Council), S Ellis (Derbyshire County Council), C Hart (Erewash Borough Council), C Ludlow (Chesterfield Borough Council) P Murray (South Derbyshire District Council), J Orton (Amber Valley Borough Council), P Pegg (Derby City Council) and J Ritchie (Bolsover District Council)

Derbyshire County Council officers also in attendance: R Appleby (Assistant Director of Finance), J Luckraft (Human Resources), J McElvaney (Director of Legal Services), D Rose (Improvement and Scrutiny Officer) and I Walters (Democratic Services Officer).

H Dhindsa, Police and Crime Commissioner, D Peet (Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)), and H Boffy (Treasurer, OPCC), were also present.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors J McCabe (High Peak Borough Council), K Morgan (Derbyshire County Council), J Lilley (North East Derbyshire District Council), J Whitby (Derby City Council) and K Jackson-Horner (Independent Member)

**45/16** **MINUTES** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel held on 15 September 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**46/16** **MATTERS ARISING** Recruitment of Independent Member (minute 41/16/refers) At the last meeting nominations had been received to form the working group to undertake the shortlisting and interviewing of candidates. Membership of the working group was amended to achieve political balance and it was agreed that Councillors Hill, Frudd and Hart would form the group.

**47/16** **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT** **2015-16** Hardyal Dhindsa, Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire, gave an update on some of the areas of work that he had recently undertaken.

The Commissioner updated Panel Members in relation to community engagement work and focused particularly on the #D383 initiative, which had been launched in June 2016 and would reflect his manifesto pledge to visit all 383 towns and villages in Derbyshire and actively engage with the public in these communities. To date 19 separate locations had been visited.

Reference was also made to The Derbyshire Alert Scheme which had been launched on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and was a community messaging system for the whole of Derbyshire.

The Commissioner also gave a number of recent examples of his partnership facilitation role and how this could have a positive impact in resolving specific issues in communities.

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and also made a number of comments and observations on the update, to which the Police and Crime Commissioner responded.

Councillor Claff raised the issue of accountability for regional collaboration and explained that the Panel proposed to form a task and finish group to look at this matter in further detail. A number of Panel Members had attended the recent National Police and Crime Panel Conference where this matter had been discussed. The Commissioner welcomed this approach and agreed that David Peet, Chief Executive, would work closely with the group once it was established.

**RESOLVED** to note the update provided.

#### **48/16      PCC BUDGET TASK AND FINISH GROUP UPDATE REPORT**

The Panel was updated on the task and finish group's work in challenging and supporting the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) budget and financial performance.

The Panel agreed at its pre-meeting on 28 January 2016 to establish a working group to look in more detail at the PCC's in year and longer term budgets.

Members of the working group met with the (Chief Finance Officer (Treasurer) for the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office on the 13 October 2016. The meeting notes were appended to the report. The objective of the meeting was for members of the working group to further improve their understanding of the current and future budget position in order to assist the Panel with its budget scrutiny role.

Appendix 2 to the report provided a summary of financial information from the September Strategic Governance Board, which working group members had discussed during the meeting. There was a projected 2016/17 underspend for the Force of £2.123m (down from £2.368m). As in previous years, the overall financial strategy was to place achieved underspends into reserves.

Work was being carried out by the Home Office, in conjunction with the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC), to inform the development of a new funding formula. It was envisaged that the outcomes of the review work would be presented to Brandon Lewis, the Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service at the Home Office, for him to determine whether or not to make any changes.

However, for 2017/18, the settlement would be based on the current regime. It was expected that the provisional settlement on police funding for Derbyshire would be announced around 18th December, before the Parliamentary Christmas recess and confirmed in mid-February 2017.

Overall, the financial position as presented by the Chief Constable and Chief Finance Officer (Treasurer) was 'green' which meant it was low risk and no action was required. The working group were assured that the PCC was successfully managing the budget.

Members of the working group agreed to the offer from the Chief Finance Officer (Treasurer) for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) of a training session for all PCP Members. This would take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> December. The objective of the training would be to inform Panel Members of the budget setting process of the PCC in order to prepare Members for the precept meeting in January 2017. The Treasurer also agreed that following the issue raised by Councillor Claff with regards to accountability for regional collaboration that she would build the financial aspects of this into the training session.

The working group had also requested that one or two more Panel Members join the group. This would ensure there were sufficient Members who had the relevant information and knowledge to update the PCP on budget matters.

**RESOLVED** (1) to approve the Councillor Jeff Lilley be approached to become an additional member of the Budget Task and Finish Group;

(2) that Panel Members confirm their attendance at the financial training session on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016 by replying to David Rose, Improvement & Scrutiny Officer;

(3) that the Panel note the information provided in the update from the working group; and

(4) to approve that Councillors Claff, Frudd, Orton, Bright and Murray form the task and finish group to look at the issue of accountability for regional collaboration.

**49/16**      **DATE OF NEXT MEETING RESOLVED** to note that the next meeting of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel would take place on Thursday 26 January 2016 at 11.00 am at County Hall, Matlock.