

PUBLIC

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **DERBYSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL** held on 26 January 2017 at County Hall, Matlock.

**PRESENT**

Councillor Julie Hill (in the Chair)

Councillors G Claff (High Peak Borough Council), J Frudd (Derbyshire County Council), S Ellis (Derbyshire County Council), C Hart (Erewash Borough Council), P Murray (South Derbyshire District Council), J Orton (Amber Valley Borough Council), P Pegg (Derby City Council) J Ritchie (Bolsover District Council) J Whitby (Derby City Council) and V Newbury and K Jackson-Horner (Independent Member).

Derbyshire County Council officers also in attendance: P Handford (Director of Finance), J McElvaney (Director of Legal Services), D Rose (Improvement and Scrutiny Officer) and I Walters (Democratic Services Officer).

H Dhindsa, Police and Crime Commissioner and members of his support staff were also present.

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors R Bright (Derbyshire Dales District Council), C Ludlow (Chesterfield Borough Council), J McCabe (High Peak Borough Council), K Morgan (Derbyshire County Council), J Lilley (North East Derbyshire District Council) and S Handsley (Independent Member).

**01/17**      **RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS** The Director of Legal Services proposed the appointment of two new Independent Members of the Police and Crime Panel.

Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires police and crime panels to co-opt at least two non-political Independent Members. The term of office for an Independent Member was four years. The term of office of one of the Independent Panel Members, Ms. Vicky Newbury, came to an end in November 2016 and so it had been necessary to undertake an open recruitment process so that the Panel remained fully constituted.

On 15 September 2016, the Panel had noted the recruitment and selection process for an Independent Panel Member and agreed a working group to undertake the interviews.

The Panel was required by law to have at least two Independent Members and, with the approval of the Secretary of State, may appoint additional Independent Members provided that the overall membership of the Panel did not exceed 20.

The calibre of the applicants was high and the working group considered that the appointment of two applicants, Vicky Newbury and Stephen Handsley, would be appropriate. The appointments would provide the Panel with additional skills and experience and would provide an opportunity to achieve the balanced appointment objective by improving the geographic spread of Independent Members across the police area.

**RESOLVED** (1) to agree to increase the number of Independent Members to three; and

(2) to approve the recommendation of the working group that Stephen Handsley and Vicky Newbury be appointed as Independent Members of the Police and Crime Panel, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

**02/17**      **MINUTES**    **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel held on 17 November 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**03/17**      **PROPOSED PRECEPT FOR 2017/18** Hardyal Dhindsa , Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire, presented to the Panel his proposed precept for the forthcoming financial year in accordance with the duty under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The Commissioner informed the Panel of his proposal to issue a precept increase of 1.99%, which equated to an increase of £3.53 per year to the current Band D precept of £177.07 and would give a Band D precept for 2017/18 of £180.60.

The Commissioner was questioned in detail by Panel members with regard to his proposed precept increase.

**RESOLVED** to approve the proposed precept for 2017/18 without qualification or comment.

**04/17**      **POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT**  
Hardyal Dhindsa, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) 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, 27 separate locations had been visited. It was noted that in relation to the 'Listening to You' consultation, 1200 surveys had been completed between June – December 2016 with 5 consultation events held since the last Panel meeting.

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 and made particular reference to the recent City Centre Summit.

Reference was also made to recent grants awarded under the 'Community Action Grant' scheme in each of the 3 categories:- small, large and extended large grants.

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. With reference to earlier discussions during the Panel's consideration of the precept report, Members raised particular concerns over the allocation of certain grants under the Commissioner's Community Action Grant scheme, in particular a grant for £25,000 which had been made to the Eastern European Network CIC. Whilst noting the response from the Police and Crime Commissioner that there was a robust and transparent selection criteria in place for the awarding of these grants, Members felt that this was an area that merited further scrutiny by the already established PCC Budget Working Group.

**RESOLVED** (1) to note the update provided; and

(2) that the PCC Budget Working Group be invited to look in more detail at the processes and criteria in place for the allocation of grant funding under the Commissioner's Community Action Grant scheme in general.

**05/17**      **REGIONAL COLLABORATION WORKING GROUP UPDATE REPORT** The Panel was updated on the regional collaboration work carried out by the working group.

The Panel agreed at its pre-meeting on 17 November to establish a working group to look in more detail at regional collaboration of PCCs and police forces.

Members of the working group had met for the first time on 16 December to discuss initial lines of inquiry. A copy of the meeting notes were appended to the Director of Legal Service's report. The discussion was based on a briefing on regional collaboration which could be found in Appendix 2 of the same report.

Members agreed that there was a need for the Panel to be informed of the current and future accountability, governance and performance monitoring arrangements for regional collaboration. As a result, a meeting was arranged with the PCC's Chief Executive on 10 January 2017. The meeting notes were attached at Appendix 3 to the report

Members were informed at this meeting that Derbyshire was leading on developing a governance and assurance model for the five East Midland areas. The model was looking at who was accountable for what and to whom, when it came to regional collaboration. There was significant spend and activity in regional collaboration. For example, this could be a major crime in the Derbyshire area but was handled by East Midlands Special Operations Unit (EMSOU).

In terms of the Panel, the accountability would still be with the Derbyshire PCC. The Panel could then challenge and support the PCC to satisfy them that he had made sound decisions and had gained assurances that the regional collaboration was of benefit. The PCC was accountable to the PCP for his actions and decisions but in the case of regional collaboration there was a vacuum, as the PCP did not have a role. The working group thought this governance deficit should be addressed.

The work of governance and assurance was still being developed and the information would be brought to a future Panel meeting. Additionally, the working group felt it would be of benefit to engage with other East Midland PCPs to further understand regional collaboration and consider the value of any collective working.

Furthermore, there was a desire to understand more the nature of Derbyshire's current and planned collaborative arrangements and the EMSOU. This could be requested through a formal update by the PCC to the Panel in 2017.

The working group also noted the potential future of regional collaboration across police forces and Blue Light Services. There were provisions in the Police and Crime Bill to enable PCCs to take on responsibility for fire and rescue services. These matters had major implications for police forces, including Derbyshire, and the working group felt

the PCP should be using its role to scrutinise the PCC on any of these potential developments and this was provided for in the draft legislation.

**RESOLVED** (1) to note the information provided in this update from the working group;

(2) to note the work on the development of the East Midlands Regional Collaboration governance and assurance arrangements;

(3) to agree to meet with other East Midlands PCPs to discuss regional collaboration arrangements;

(4) to agree that the regional collaboration working group become a standing working group;

(5) to agree that regional collaboration becomes a regular PCP agenda item; and

(6) to agree to the PCC updating the Panel on regional collaboration developments at a future Panel meeting.

**06/17 RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE EAST MIDLANDS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL NETWORK** The Director of Legal Services of Derbyshire County Council asked members to consider the proposal to renew the subscription to the support network for East Midlands Police and Crime Panels for 2017/18.

Members were reminded that in 2014, East Midlands Councils supported Frontline Consulting in the establishment of an East Midlands Police and Crime Panel Network. The aim of the network was to give representatives of the Panels the opportunity to link up on a regional basis with other Police and Crime Panels and explore issues of common interest, exchange information and share good practice.

In January 2014 the Panel had agreed to join the network at a cost of £500 and review its membership on an annual basis. During 2015, Derbyshire Panel Members had benefited from the national conference which was held in July 2015 and the ability to share good practice. The consensus from subscribing members was that the Network was very helpful and useful with some participants noting particularly that Frontline Consulting's nationwide experience and knowledge of PCP's was very valuable.

Furthermore, due to the success of the East Midlands Network, there were plans for other regional networks to form and also a national Police and Crime Panel. It was anticipated that this would take place in 2017/18 and being part of the network will enable the Derbyshire PCP to contribute to these developments.

**RESOLVED** to approve that Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel renew its membership of the East Midlands Police and Crime Panel Network for 2017/18.

**07/17**      **PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2017/18** It was proposed that the Police and Crime Panel table of meetings be as follows:-

- Thursday 13 July 2017
- Thursday 14 September 2017
- Thursday 16 November 2017
- Thursday 25 January 2018 – precept meeting
- Thursday 15 February 2018 - 2nd precept meeting (if veto exercised)
- Thursday 22 March 2018

All meetings will commence at 11am, at County Hall, Matlock.

It was recognised that there needed to be a degree of flexibility with any work planning process and the Panel should note that it will be possible to vary the timetable throughout the year should pressing matters arise.

In addition to the above meetings, a principal role for the Panel will be to conduct confirmation hearings for the Police and Crime Commissioner's senior appointments. When notification of these appointments was made the Panel must review the senior appointment and make a report to the Police and Crime Commissioner within a period of three weeks.

**RESOLVED** to approve the timetable of meetings for 2017/18.

**08/17**      **FORTHCOMING EVENTS** The PCC was giving an address at a meeting at the Quad, Derby on 26 January as part of the Holocaust Memorial Events week.

There were also a number of other events which were detailed on the OPCC website including a joint event with the force in relation to International Womens Day on 11 March

**09/17**      **DATE OF NEXT MEETING RESOLVED** to note that the next meeting of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel would take place on Thursday 23 March 2017 at 11.00 am at County Hall, Matlock.