

WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WILTSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETING HELD ON 11 JUNE 2014 AT WESSEX ROOM, CORN EXCHANGE, MARKET PLACE, DEVIZES SN10 1HS.

Present:

Cllr Abdul Amin, Cllr Glenis Ansell, Cllr Richard Britton (Chairman), Cllr Trevor Carbin, Cllr Chris Caswill, Cllr Oliver Donachie (Vice Chairman), Chris Henwood, Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Peter Hutton, Cllr Julian Johnson and Cllr Steve Wakefield

Also Present:

Carlton Brand (Corporate Director), Ian Gibbons (WC), Paul Kelly (WC), Kirsty Butcher (WC) Kieran Kilgallen (OPCC), Chris McMullin (OPCC) and Sarah Kyte (OPCC)

27 Election of Chairman

The Democratic Services Officer sought nominations for the position of Chairman of the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel for the 2014/15 municipal year.

Resolved:

Councillor Richard Britton was elected Chairman of the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel for the 2014/15 municipal year.

Councillor Britton in the Chair.

28 Election of Vice-Chairman

The Chairman sought nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel for the 2014/15 municipal year.

Resolved:

Councillor Oliver Donachie was elected Vice-Chairman of the Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel for the 2014/15 municipal year.

29 **Apologies for Absence and Changes to Membership**

Apologies were received from Angus Macpherson, Police and Crime Commissioner, Amanda Newbery, Professor Johns (OPCC) and Cllr Andrew Bennett.

The Chairman welcomed new members from both Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council following their appointments at their annual council meetings.

The Chairman detailed the recruitment procedure for the role of Independent Co-Opted Member and asked the Panel to endorse the appointment of Chris Henwood.

Resolved:

The Panel endorsed the appointment of Chris Henwood as an Independent Co-Opted member.

30 **Minutes and matters arising**

Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

31 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest made.

32 **Chairman's Announcements**

The Panel were encouraged to hear that the Commissioner was out of intensive care and asked for their best wishes to be passed on.

The Chairman noted that the Dorset Police and Crime Panel held a pre-meeting to discuss their performance report. Panel members were asked to consider whether they felt this would be worthwhile.

33 **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

34 **PCC Diary report**

The PCC Diary report which set out a summary of commitments the Commissioner had undertaken since the last Police and Crime Panel meeting on 6 March 2014 was presented to the Panel.

The Panel raised concern over the continuation of services to Wiltshire given the regional collaboration around more serious and complex crime and asked for a report detailing the extent of the collaboration to be brought to the Panel.

The OPCC's Chief Executive noted that the Air Ambulance funding was being diverted into the National Police Air Service from January 2015. The Wiltshire Air Ambulance Trust was happy they could fund their service and were entering into a licence agreement with the police to occupy the site at Devizes from 31 December 2014. The Commissioner had asked for a report detailing what the National Police Air Service was providing and how that compared with existing arrangements, including the impact on flying times. This report would be shared with the Panel.

A 'stop and search' results paper would be brought to a future meeting of the Panel.

The murals produced by students and displayed under the bridge at Biss Meadows in Trowbridge had engaged youngsters in looking after the community, working constructively and engaging with PCSO's.

The Commissioner had signed off on the purchase of Neighbourhood Alert, which was part funded by the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice. It was a community alert system focused on Neighbourhood Watch with the potential to include other watch schemes. The Panel noted ambiguity around the preferred solution and the OPCC's Chief Executive agreed that the OPCC would circulate a general update with a clear message which identified the pilot areas. One member of staff was already in place and another would be in post by October 2014.

A report providing a summary on the PCC's Innovation Fund would be brought both to the Panel and also to Area Board and Locality meetings.

The Panel welcomed the Commissioner's focus on mental health, and his support for the Neighbourhood Justice Panels.

The Panel asked for clear understanding on the significance of the break-up of the probation service with reference to the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan. A briefing note on transporting rehabilitation would be circulated to members. Community rehabilitation companies would be up and running by 1 April 2015.

All OPCC freedom of information requests were published on the OPCC website with responses. The Winsor report, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary end of year report on policing was to be circulated to Panel members.

The OPCC's Chief Executive noted that there were still issues to be resolved with Her Majesty's Chief Inspectors new Police Efficiency, Effectiveness and Legitimacy (PEEL) process and his methodology would be published.

Resolved:

The Panel noted the PCC's diary report.

35 OPCC Annual report (including Quarter 4 data)

The OPCC annual report was presented to the Panel by their Chief Executive. He noted that the end of year grading was fair, against a backdrop of a 25% reduction in the cost of service.

He drew attention to the culture change within the force, the integration with Wiltshire Council and noted they were at the beginning of a process of integration with Swindon Borough Council. The force was debt free, with a balance to fund much needed IT improvements. The force was sixth nationally for lowest crime per head of population.

He explained the increase in serious sexual offences was linked both to increased reporting and the work of the Crime Validation Team in ensuring crimes were recorded accurately. The total number of incidences had probably not increased.

It was confirmed that no crimes had been recorded twice. Volunteering numbers were a red measure and the Panel was reminded that the plan was over a four year period. An issue had been highlighted with how special constables could record their hours on the system which was being addressed, but the system did not properly reflect the numbers of hours worked.

The public opinion survey commissioned by the OPCC was subject to review and tender, and had moved from face-to face interviews to a telephone survey, with a much larger sample. The victim satisfaction survey was completed separately by an external regional provider.

He noted that the Commissioner would be bringing before the Panel a series of addenda to his Police and Crime Plan.

The Panel noted that the resolution rate was an area for improvement, and it was noted that a large proportion of out-of-court disposals should have been reflected in the figures but were not. A separate panel, drawn from various aspects of the community, had been established to provide a scrutiny role on local resolutions. A superintendent was in post and training on national guidelines was being rolled out across the force.

The Panel queried whether the police were clear on which resolution path is preferred and gave their support for out of court resolution.

The OPCC's Chief Executive confirmed the commitment to licensed premises checks.

The Panel highlighted the prosecutions that fail due to quality of police input, and it was confirmed that although a highly operational area the Commissioner was heavily engaged.

Resolved:

The Panel noted the report.

36 **Quick View Performance (QVP)**

A presentation on managing performance was given by Mr McMullin.

He explained that performance monitoring process mainly consisted of reviewing two products – Quick View Performance (QVP) and iQuanta.

QVP was an internal document which allowed different levels within the force to extract their requirements for performance monitoring. It was also used by the Commissioner to scrutinise the performance of the force.

iQuanta was a web based service that allowed accredited users to access provisional data for information on crime types, outcomes and satisfaction, before finalised National Statistics were published.

Examples were given on serious sexual offences and out of court disposals and it was noted that the level of detail routinely considered made it difficult to separate strategic information from operational information. Reference was made to the long term cultural changes within the force regarding performance management. The Commissioner had a separate risk register to the force.

The need to measure the right things in the right way was highlighted and the focus nationally was to get the integrity of reporting right.

The Panel thanked Mr McMullin for his presentation.

Resolved:

The Panel noted the presentation.

37 **Police Complaints procedure**

The police complaints procedure was presented to the Panel by the OPCC's Chief Executive, who explained a complaint was recorded if it regarded the conduct of an officer.

A complaint was registered on the Professional Standards Department database within two days and recorded within ten days. Panel members unease over the timescales involved was noted.

Reference was made to Northumbria who had merged the function under their OPCC, and the OPCC had arranged to visit there. The Panel requested feedback from the visit and information on their procedure which, by seemingly ignoring the Home Office / IPCC guidance achieved a faster resolution of complaints.

Resolved:

The Panel noted the procedure presented.

38 Complaints against the Commissioner

The Complaint and Conduct matters report for the period 1 November 2013 to 30 April 2014 was presented to the Panel.

Resolved:

The Panel noted the report.

39 Final Report of the Volunteers and Special Constables Task Group

The final report of the Volunteers and Special Constables Task Group was presented to the Panel.

The OPCC's Chief Executive confirmed that the Commissioner would respond at the Panel's meeting scheduled for 4 September 2014.

The role of the volunteer co-ordinator was key and it was confirmed that this would be filled imminently.

Resolved:

The Panel noted the report.

40 Task Group update

The task group update was presented to the panel.

Due to changes in the Panel's membership following the appointment to committee's at each constituent council's annual meeting, it was agreed that paragraph 3 of the report be amended to read:

3. Several members expressed an interest in taking part. It has subsequently been agreed that Amanda Newbery, Independent Member of the Panel,

will not take part as a member due to the potential for her status as a licensee being perceived as a conflict of interest. She will therefore play a role as a witness. The task group membership is proposed as follows:

Cllr Richard Britton (elected as chairman by the task group)
Cllr Chris Caswill
Cllr Linda Packard
Chris Henwood

Resolved:

The Panel

1. **Noted the update provided;**
2. **Approved the membership of the Licensing Task Group as follows:**

**Richard Britton
Chris Caswill
Linda Packard
Chris Henwood**

3. **Approved the terms of reference of the Licensing Task Group as set out in the report.**

41 Forward Work Plan

The forward work plan was presented to the Panel.

Panel members were asked to consider if the Performance reporting and Risk Register working group should be reconvened to completed a task / finish exercise on the performance report in light of changes to ambitions, and to consider setting up a scrutiny review to look at procurement and how the Commissioner was making sure the regional procurement project was working for Wiltshire. Responses were to be sent to the Chairman.

Resolved:

The Panel noted the forward work plan.

42 Future meeting dates

The next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel will be on 4 September 2014 at the Alamein Suite - City Hall, Malthouse Lane, Salisbury, SP2 7TU.

Future meeting dates were:

19 November 2014

(Duration of meeting: 2.00 - 4.30 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kirsty Butcher, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 713948, e-mail kirsty.butcher@wiltshire.gov.uk

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