



West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Draft Minutes

15th September 2017, Wakefield Town Hall

PRESENT:	Councillor Alison Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Tariq Hussain	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Andrew Mallinson	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Geraldine Carter	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Steve Sweeney	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Linda Wilkinson	- Kirklees Council
	Councillor Amanda Carter	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Steve Tulley	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Alan Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Mr Roger Grasby	- Independent
	Mrs Jo Sykes	- Independent
IN ATTENDANCE:	Sharon Fraser	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Julia Bates	- Work experience

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Councillors Alan Wassell, Josie Jarosz, Mumtaz Hussain and Steve Pullen.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th July 2017

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.

2.2 Matters Arising

Item 14 – OPCC Organisational Review Update

The Commissioner reported that the process was still on going with interviews still being finalised. The Commissioner stated that he hopes the process will be complete by October and hopes to report back to Panel in November.

2.3 RESOLVED

2.3.1 That the Commissioner reports back on the OPCC organisational review when it is complete.

3. To note any items which the Chair has agreed to add to the agenda on the grounds of urgency.

3.1 The Chair confirmed that there were no items to add to the agenda.

4. Members' Declaration of Interests

4.1 Jo Sykes declared an interest for item 5, Confirmation Hearing of Jayne Sykes as Interim Chief Executive OPCC, as she has previously worked with the candidate's husband and has subsequently maintained contact.

Mark Burns-Williamson the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire and the proposed candidate for the Interim Chief Executive post, Jayne Sykes, attended the meeting for items 5 to 12.

5. Confirmation Hearing - Interim OPCC Chief Executive

5.1 As part of the regulations within the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Police and Crime Panels must hold a confirmation hearing for all senior appointments made by the Commissioner.

5.2 The Panel was formally notified on 4th September 2017 of the Commissioner's intention to appoint Jayne Sykes to the post of Interim Chief Executive to the OPCC. Jayne Sykes was therefore invited to attend the meeting to undergo a public confirmation hearing.

5.3 The Commissioner outlined the competitive process that had been undertaken and the reasons why he was proposing to appoint Jayne Sykes to the role of Interim Chief Executive.

5.4 Panel members introduced themselves to Jayne and the Chair asked her to provide some information on her background.

5.5 Members noted that Jayne Sykes has long service in senior roles within West Yorkshire Police particularly as Head of Performance, Review and Analysis. Jayne has also undertaken the Senior Police Staff National Assessment Centre in 2016 and the Strategic Command Course in 2017.

5.6 Panel members then went on to question Jayne to ascertain her suitability for the role of Interim Chief Executive.

5.7 Jayne was asked, and responded to, a series of questions around the following themes:

- Her relevant experience which evidences her capability to be a Chief Executive
- Her understanding of the role and of her relationship with the Panel
- The transition from working alongside the Police Chief Officer Team to supporting the Commissioner to hold the Chief Constable and the force to account
- How she would undertake the duties of Monitoring Officer and provide advice and challenge to the PCC
- What she saw as immediate tasks and what are the key challenges over the next twelve months

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC - EXEMPT INFORMATION

5.9 RESOLVED

- 5.9.1 That the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Item 5.10 on the grounds that they were likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as described in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire and the proposed candidate for the Interim Chief Executive post, Jayne Sykes, left the meeting.

- 5.10 Panel considered the information provided by the Commissioner and Jayne Sykes.

Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire and the proposed candidate for the Interim Chief Executive post, Jayne Sykes returned to the meeting.

5.11 RESOLVED

- 5.11.1 Panel endorsed the appointment of Jayne Sykes to the post of Interim Chief Executive and agreed to report formally with the following recommendations to the Commissioner:**

- That the PCC ensures that Mrs Sykes develops close links with the Panel, including quarterly meetings with the Police and Crime Panel Officer, to ensure that there is a close working relationship between the Panel and the OPCC.
- That Mrs Sykes takes up the offer of spending some time with the Monitoring Officer of Wakefield Council or one of her team to provide her with some insight into the nuances of the legislative framework in which the OPCC and Panel works.
- Panel welcomed that Mrs Sykes had already established a suitable experienced OPCC Chief Executive mentor to help with her professional development.

6. Draft Annual Report

6.1 The Commissioner presented his draft Annual Report for 2016/17 for the Panel's consideration and comment. The purpose of the Annual Report is to highlight how the Commissioner has discharged his legal duties and the progress made against the objectives outlined within the Police and Crime Plan.

6.2 It was noted that there was some overlap with the previous annual report which had covered an 18 month period, but as required by legislation, the annual report is required to cover each financial year and this reporting period brings the Commissioner's report back in line with the financial year.

6.3 The Commissioner commented that he hoped the examples given in the annual report gave confidence that progress has been made in delivering his Police and Crime Plan.

6.4 The Panel welcomed the draft report and commented that they felt that each year the annual report the Commissioner has produced has got better. Panel felt that this report links well to the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan and it is easier to cross reference Police and Crime Plan aspirations with delivery.

6.5 RESOLVED

6.5.1 The Panel endorsed the Commissioner's Draft Annual Report for 2016/17.

7. Delivery Quarterly Performance Report

7.1 Mark Burns-Williamson presented the report on performance in the 12 month period to June 2017.

7.2 The Commissioner stated that generally performance is good but there are some issues which continue to be looked at carefully.

7.3 It was noted that the reporting includes more data from the Your Views survey as well as an amended victim satisfaction questionnaire.

7.4 Panel noted that total recorded crime has risen by 17.9% - this is a small reduction from 18% in the previous quarter. The Commissioner reported that analysis shows that this is a real crime rise of around 6%.

7.5 There are three main areas that show an increase in crime. These being:

- Cyber enabled crime
- Violence without injury
- Vehicle crime.

7.6 The Commissioner reported that recent HMIC inspections on Crime Data Integrity (CDI) within 14 forces across the country had identified a high number of Forces requiring

- improvement or being deemed inadequate in terms of CDI compliance rates. The Commissioner felt that this justified his defence that West Yorkshire's crime figures had appeared to rise to higher levels than other forces because work to improve compliance began much sooner and these figures are now beginning to level off.
- 7.7 The Commissioner was challenged about the re-offending rate which appears to have remained constant for the last five years.
- 7.8 It was explained that work is continuing to address this difficult area. The Commissioner is working with CRCs, the Police and other partners across West Yorkshire to develop a reducing re-offending strategy. It was also noted that that WY Police are now monitoring the offending behaviours of two cohorts of offenders to provide more detailed and timely data. It is hoped that this will help identify what interventions are having the most success in addressing re-offending.
- 7.9 The Commissioner was asked what actions he is taking to address the increase in vehicle crime.
- 7.10 It was noted that there are two categories of vehicle crime i) theft of – which accounts for 1/3rd of vehicle crime, and ii) theft from – which is an opportunistic crime which accounts for 2/3^{rds} of vehicle crime. The increase in these types of crime is being reflected nationally.
- 7.11 The Commissioner stated that he is promoting an awareness campaign to encourage people to reduce the opportunities for theft from vehicles by not leaving valuables on show. As new keyless technology has had an impact on vehicle theft with regional organised crime gangs stealing cars, work is being undertaken with manufacturers to address security issues.
- 7.12 The Panel quizzed the Commissioner about the continued decrease in victim satisfaction and specifically about the increasing satisfaction gap for BME residents.
- 7.13 The Commissioner stated that he has continued to hold the Chief Constable to account for this and work is being to address this.
- 7.14 Deputy Chief Constable John Robins reported that work has been undertaken to look in more detail at why victims are less satisfied. It was noted that a key issue which causes a reduction in satisfaction levels is around keeping people informed. With this in mind mechanisms are being introduced to prompt officers to keep people informed and this seems to be helping improve satisfaction.
- 7.15 In terms of the increased gap in BME victim satisfaction, analysis shows that BME victims are much less likely to feel satisfied if there has not been a physical attendance by an officer following a crime. As resource levels have reduced and there is less physical attendance following a crime, this gap has increased. DCC Robins stressed that despite this the percentage of victims that are satisfied with the Police treatment remains at a consistent high level of over 90%.

8. 101 and 999 Call Handling Update

- 8.1 The Panel were pleased to receive reports on the excellent 999 call handling figures. It was reported that West Yorkshire now has the best call-handling rate in the country.
- 8.2 The Commissioner and the Force were thanked for the work that has been done in improving call-handling for both 999 and 101 calls in the past year despite a significant increase in demand. Whilst it was noted that there are still inconsistencies to the handling of 101 calls in peak periods over 90% of callers are satisfied with how the Police deal with their call.
- 8.3 The Panel questioned the Commissioner about what action is being undertaken to address the 101 call-handling inconsistencies.
- 8.4 Work is being undertaken to address the recruitment and retention issues to ensure that valuable skills and experience are not lost . It was noted that a high percentage of staff leaving move into other policing roles and the call centre experience provides them with excellent communication skills in other policing roles.
- 8.5 The Commissioner also commented that he is keen to revisit opportunities for a multi-agency approach to 101 call-handling, which was the original idea when the non-emergency line was first envisaged.

8.5 RESOLVED

8.5.1 That the Commissioner continues to monitor 101 call handling performance and thanks Tom Donohoe, CCC Head on the work that has been undertaken to make improvements to date.

9. Victim and Witness Commissioning Scrutiny Review – PCC Update on Recommendations

- 9.1 The Commissioner reported on the implementation of key recommendations that were at early stages at the last report some six months ago.
- 9.2 It was noted that the core referral service for victim support is currently out to market with new contracts to be in place by March 2018.
- 9.3 The Commissioner reported that in attempt to provide more stability, new contracts will be offered on a three year basis with 2 + 1 years with break clauses.
- 9.4 Also being developed by the OPCC is an improved performance tool to ensure delivery is achieved.

9.5 It was noted that progress is being made in relation to introducing video link facilities in both Halifax and Wakefield town centres following the closure of Magistrates courts in those towns. The Commissioner reported that he had also met with Judges and partners in the North East where this has been rolled out to look at their experiences and good practice. Work is also being undertaken on improving SARS and providing live links in that service as well.

9.6 The Commissioner reported that there had not been much progress in terms of trying to secure a mutual aid agreement with other forces due to the different provisions that are in place. He did comment that West Yorkshire does support people who have been affected elsewhere in the country and recently that had included local victims and families of those affected by the Manchester bombings.

9. **RESOLVED**

9.5.1 That the Commissioner continues to try to progress a mutual aid agreement with other forces.

10. **Published Key Decisions**

10.1 Panel noted the decisions that have been published on the Commissioner's website since the last meeting

11. **Commissioner's Response to any Current Issues**

11.1 Police Officer Recruitment

The Commissioner informed the Panel that PC recruitment is currently underway and that details are available on the Commissioner's website.

11.2 Safer Communities Fund

The Commissioner reminded Panel that the latest round of Safer Communities Funding had been launched and closes on 6th October. This is a generic round open to groups with any projects which can demonstrate how they are delivering on the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan

11.3 Lifting of Pay Cap for Police Officers

The Commissioner welcomed the recent announcement of the lifting of the Police Officer pay cap, however, he stated that he has concern about where this will be funded from and will be making representations to MPs.

11.4 Interim Chief Executive

The Commissioner and the Panel thanked Susan Field for her work as interim Chief Executive of the OPCC and the Commissioner commented that he looked forward to continuing to work with Susan to develop the Reducing Re-offending Strategy.

11.5 David Lammy MP Review into over-representation of black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) individuals in the criminal justice system

The Commissioner was asked if he would be looking at the recent report by David Lammy. He responded that he will be considering the report along with the LCJB and responding to the Government in due course.

11.6 Increase in arrests for Terrorism offences in WY

Following the release of national data showing a significant increase in arrests for terrorism offences, the Commissioner was asked if there had been an increase in West Yorkshire.

11.7 The Commissioner stated that there had been a big increase in referrals to the Prevent programme but that a lot of behind the scenes work is effective in preventing terrorism. It was agreed to bring back more detail on these figures and it was pointed out that the figures would also include right wing terrorism.

11.8 RESOLVED

11.8.1 That Susan Field was thanked for her work as Interim Chief Executive of the OPCC.

11.8.2 That the Commissioner brings back more detail on the numbers of arrests for terrorism offences in West Yorkshire.

12. Agreed Actions Log

12.1 The agreed actions log was noted.

12.2 Cllr Andrew Mallinson thanked the Commissioner and Force for the reminder to Divisional Commanders to ensure that local councillors are informed as a priority of any local serious incidents. Cllr Mallinson commented that there had been a serious incident and he was informed speedily as a result of this direction.

13. Forward Agenda Plan

The Forward agenda plan was noted.

14. Complaints Received by the Panel

14.1 Panel noted that there were currently no recorded complaints, however one complaint was under consideration and may be recorded.

15. Link Member Roles

15.1 Members were happy with the draft outline of Link Panel Member Roles. It was agreed to notify members as soon as OPCC link officers are identified as the organisational review is implemented.

15.2 RESOLVED

15.2.1 That Panel members are notified of the OPCC link officers as soon as they are made available.

16. Any Other Business

16.1 PCP Event at Warwick University - 6th November

It was noted that there had been significant interest in attendance at the annual conference. Cllr Lowe is on a discussion Panel at the event. It was agreed that Cllr Geraldine Carter and Roger Grasby should attend the event along with Cllr Lowe and the Panel Officer.

16.2 RESOLVED

16.2.1 That Cllr Geraldine Carter and Roger Grasby should attend the event along with Cllr Lowe and the Panel Officer.

17. Date and Time of Next Meeting

17.1 The next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel will be held at 10.30am on Friday, 6th October 2017 in the Old Court Room, Wakefield Town Hall.