**Item 2**



**West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel**

**Draft Minutes**

**7th February 2020 Wakefield Town Hall**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mohammed Iqbal - Leeds City Council

Councillor Tariq Hussain - Bradford Council

Councillor Stuart Heptinstall - Wakefield Council

Councillor Sophie Whittaker - Calderdale Council

Councillor Mark Thompson - Kirklees Council

Councillor Matthew Robinson - Leeds City Council

Councillor Mohammed Naeem - Calderdale Council

Councillor Cahal Burke - Kirklees Council

Councillor Peter Gruen - Leeds City Council

Councillor Kevin Swift - Wakefield Council

Councillor Richard Dunbar - Bradford Council

Councillor Masood Ahmed - Kirklees Council

Mr Roger Grasby - Independent

Mrs Jo Sykes - Independent

**1. Acceptance of apologies for absence**

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllrs Russell Brown, Amanda Carter and Alan Wassell. Councillors Matthew Robinson and Kevin Swift substituted for Councillors Amanda Carter and Alan Wassell respectively.

**2. Minutes of the meeting held 20th December 2019**

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

2.2 The Panel requested further information around re-offending rates as part of matters arising from the last meeting minutes and were informed this would be included as part of the Quarterly Delivery Report at the next meeting.

**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 there were no items to add to the agenda.

**4. Members’ Declaration of Interests**

4.1 There were no declarations of interest

**5. PCC Precept Proposal for 2020/21**

5.1 The Commissioner presented a report to the Panel on his proposed precept for 2020/21.

* 1. The Panel asked the Commissioner a series of questions which related to his precept proposal, the budget assumptions which underpinned it and his future financial plans.
  2. Questions and discussion covered issues including:
     1. How new officers will be distributed throughout the force.
     2. Reassurance around how the Commissioner plans to protect and increase the current reserves funding.
     3. The impact of the current funding formula and how this affects West Yorkshire Police and the expectations of when this is likely to be reviewed.
     4. The implications of the requirement for new police officers to undertake the PEQF qualification.
     5. What outcomes the public can expect as part of the increase in the precept.
     6. How the reduction in the capital grant is expected to affect West Yorkshire Police.
     7. How the Commissioner intends to inform the Panel of projected expenditure throughout the year.
     8. How the Commissioner intends to work with the public to improve the perception of reduction in crime.
     9. How the Commissioner intends to address future concerns around limited accommodation for an increased number of Police Officers.
     10. If the Commissioner proposes to further fund initiatives already in place in order to continue with those projects where benefits have been evidenced previously.
     11. If the Commissioner intends to provide further funding towards major issues in specific areas such as the prevention and detection of Domestic Violence.
     12. The Panel discussed the recruitment into specialist roles in the Force with the Commissioner and sought reassurance that a balance would be sought between these and front line services.
     13. The Panel sought reassurance that reserve funding was sufficient to protect against unforeseen emergency.
     14. The Panel sought reassurance around evidence that previous crime reduction had been a result of a precept increase rather than other efficiencies that had been made.
     15. In light of previous discussions around the reduction of the Capital Grant and the recent news around the increase of police officers to be employed, the Panel expressed concern about the lack of accommodation for an increase number of Officers within West Yorkshire.
     16. The PCC informed the Panel that the Capital Grant funds both police accommodation and equipment and it was noted that a number of properties owned by the force have been closed and sold over time and that this is something that the Commissioner will focus on in order to provide appropriate accommodation to staff.
     17. The Panel queried if the Commissioner was aware of any progress around the review of the funding formula and if he would be seeking to challenge a future review in order to obtain an outcome beneficial for West Yorkshire.
     18. The PCC confirmed that he had not yet received further information regarding a funding formula review but that he was aware of the possibility of one in the future. The PCC assured the Panel that should a review take place he would use his position on the APCC to lobby for a review that would benefit West Yorkshire.
     19. The Panel sought an update around the funding that has been committed to the Force by the Home Office and if there had been further update around this.
     20. The PCC informed the Panel that it had been confirmed by the Home Office in writing that the current over recruitment of Officers would not be counted against West Yorkshire when funding was released. The PCC also informed the Panel that a contract had been signed between the force and Leeds Trinity University to act as the academic partner for those officers who will be recruited under the PEQF.

**6. Panel Response to Precept Proposal**

**6.1 RESOLVED**

**Following discussion with the Commissioner, Panel members voted to endorse the proposal to increase the precept by 4.99% which equates to £9.33 on the council tax for a Band D property on the basis that the Police and Crime Commissioner would:**

6.1.1 Recruit 311 additional Police Officers and over 100 Police staff and provide Panel with updates on progress of their recruitment and deployment.

6.1.2 Protect PCSO numbers at 603.

6.1.3 Report back to Panel to provide assurance that contingency plans are in place to mitigate any in-year budget shortfalls and to rebuild future reserves.

6.1.4 That the PCC report back to Panel on the impact of the increased resources allocated to the identified key areas, along with updates on the operational benefits set out in the PCC’s report.

6.1.5 In view of the longer-term budget pressures, that the PCC report to Panel on how the necessary savings that are required will be met and how the delivery of these efficiencies will be monitored.

6.1.6 That there is a discussion with Panel about future consultations.

**6.2 RESOLVED**

**Following wider discussion with the Commissioner, Panel have requested further information on the following at a future meeting:**

6.2.1 That the PCC report on accommodation for the future increase in Officers at a future Panel meeting.

6.2.2 That the PCC provide an update around the figures for Home Office funding when further information is released.

**7. Commissioner’s response to any current issues**

7.1 The PCC notified the Panel that the latest of the HMICFRS Integrated Peel Assessment reports had just been released. It was noted that West Yorkshire Police had been graded as ‘Good’ for Effective, ‘Outstanding’ for Efficiency and ‘Good’ for Legitimacy. It was noted that this would be considered at a future meeting.

**8. Published Key Decisions**

8.1 The published Key Decisions were noted.

**9. Agreed Actions Log**

9.1 The agreed actions log was noted and approved by the Panel.

**10. Forward Agenda Plan**

10.1 The forward agenda plan was noted.

**11. Complaints Update**

11.1 The Panel received a report containing an update of complaints ongoing, noting that a complaint against the PCC was currently under review by the Complaints Sub-Panel.

**12. Any Other Business**

12.1 The Panel expressed their thanks to the Commissioner and Chief Constable for the West Yorkshire Police’s response to the recent major fire at a bakery in Wakefield.

**13. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

13.1 The next meeting of the Panel will take place on 28th February 2020 at the Town Hall in Wakefield.