



West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Draft Minutes

15 July 2016, Wakefield Town Hall

PRESENT:	Councillor Alison Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Tariq Hussain	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Steve Pullen	- Bradford Council
	Councillor Steve Sweeney	- Calderdale Council
	Councillor Linda Wilkinson	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Amanda Carter	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Josephine Jarosz	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Alan Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Mr Roger Grasby	- Independent
IN ATTENDANCE:	Emma Duckett	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Liz Ogden	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Bernadette Livesey	- City of Wakefield MDC

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

- 1.1 The Chair of the Panel noted apologies from Mrs Jo Sykes and Councillors Steve Tulley, Mumtaz Hussain, Andrew Mallinson and Chris Pearson.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 June 2016.

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

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 Mr Roger Grasby declared an interest in Item 11 – Recruitment of Independent Members to the Police and Crime Panel.

The Panel observed a minute silence to mark the memorial service for Jo Cox MP.

Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 5-10 with ACC Andy Battle, DCI Mark Gaunt and Katherine Johnson OPCC Treasurer.

5. Transformation Fund Update

- 5.1 The Panel was presented with an update on the Transformation Fund with particular reference to the business benefits of two projects; Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) and digital interview recording.
- 5.2 The Panel noted the process flow for investment decisions with final sign off by the Joint Executive Group which is chaired by the Commissioner. The Force then manages the projects with detailed reporting to the Assets Board which is chaired by the OPCC Treasurer.
- 5.3 In terms of ANPR, ACC Battle provided a detailed overview of the Transformation Fund projects and the business benefits realised. Whilst ANPR has existed for a number of years, the Transformation Fund projects have upgraded and enhanced the system. Members noted that West Yorkshire Police now operate one ANPR system, rather than five, supported by a newly created ANPR Control Room. West Yorkshire Police's new ANPR system will also be compatible with the national system which is expected to go live in 2017.
- 5.4 ACC Battle stated that the business benefits included; reduction in burglary, road safety improvements, and increased intelligence linked to counter-terrorism, child sexual exploitation and organised crime groups. ACC Battle also highlighted that in October 2015, a female, who had been kidnapped, was rescued by West Yorkshire Police and her four kidnappers were arrested directly as a result of an ANPR alert.
- 5.5 Members noted that whilst there had always been arrests from ANPR, it had never been on this scale. The Commissioner added that he would expect the business benefits to continue to increase as the ANPR projects had only recently completed.
- 5.6 ACC Battle also outlined the business benefits relating to the digital interview recording project namely; cost savings, portable equipment, full online access to interviews and integration with Force systems and the wider Criminal Justice System and increased agile working.

RESOLVED

- 5.7.2 ACC Battle invited Panel Members to visit the ANPR Control Room at Force Headquarters.**
- 5.7.3 ACC Battle to check whether data on arrests that were directly attributable to ANPR is available prior to the introduction of the enhanced ANPR system.**

The Panel observed a minute silence in respect of those who died in the attack in Nice on 14 July 2016.

6. Crime Data Integrity Update

- 6.1 DCI Gaunt, Force Crime Registrar, provided an update on crime data integrity to the Panel. He explained that Force compliance with the National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) was 67% when inspected by HMIC in 2014. Improvements in Force processes and recording practices have seen greater compliance to NCRS, with the latest mirror audit in April 2016 showing 91% compliance.
- 6.2 As a result of greater compliance with NCRS, West Yorkshire Police has seen a significant increase in recorded crime. The latest figures show a 28.5% increase, of which two-thirds is estimated to be attributable to better recording practices with some of the remaining increase attributable to changes in Home Office counting rules. Therefore, the Force is estimated to have seen a 'real' increase in recorded crime of between 5 and 6% when compared to the previous year.
- 6.3 DCI Gaunt explained that the Force undertook mirror audits to identify crime types where compliance was an issue. The Force also undertakes risk based audits for emerging trends, such as knife crime. Members noted that there has been an increase in training and awareness of NCRS for all officers, especially new recruits.
- 6.4 Members asked why there had been some disparity across districts in domestic abuse crime recording compliance. In response, DCI Gaunt stated that there had been recent improvements in the recording of domestic abuse crimes. In terms of the disparity across districts, some of the data shown is based on relatively small sample sizes and is therefore less robust. However, Members were assured that overall the Force's mirror audits were based on much larger sample sizes than those in the initial HMIC inspection in 2014.

RESOLVED

- 6.5.1 The Commissioner to provide detail of how he is holding the Force to account for the estimated 5/6% 'real' increase in recorded crime to the September meeting.**
- 6.5.2 The Commissioner to provide a report to a future meeting of the Panel following HMIC's unannounced crime data integrity inspection in 2016.**

7. Recruitment and Retention of Police Officers, PCSOs and Positive Action

- 7.1 ACC Battle provided an update to Members on the current progress in recruiting and retaining police officers and PCSOs.
- 7.2 Members noted that the planned recruitment for 2016/17 is 600 police officers, of which 254 are growth posts. ACC Battle explained that there are 24 police officers per

cohort with 48 or 72 new recruits each month. Recruitment of existing police officers transferring from other forces is permanently open.

- 7.3 In terms of positive action, ACC Battle explained that there has and continues to be a drive from within communities with comprehensive action plans in place at district level. He stated that the Force is working with the College of Policing and other forces to share best practice. The Force has also appointed a Positive Action Coordinator to help to increase applicants from all under-represented groups.
- 7.4 Members noted that there had been an increase in BME police officer applicants – 20% in May and 17% in June. However, it is unclear at this stage what the attrition rate will be. Members questioned why there had been an increased proportion of BME applicants who had been unsuccessful. In response, ACC Battle stated that there had been a number of applicants who had not met the national standards of NVQ Level 3 and therefore had been unsuccessful at the first stage. He stated that at interview 60% of white applicants were successful compared to 55% of BME applicants.

RESOLVED

7.5.1 ACC Battle invited a Panel Member to link into the Force’s work on Positive Action.

7.5.2 Members welcomed ACC Battle’s commitment to Positive Action.

8. Published Key Decisions

- 8.1 Panel noted the published key decisions.

9. Agreed Actions Log

- 9.1 The agreed actions were noted. It was further noted that there were no outstanding issues of concern.

10. Commissioner’s Response to any current issues

10.1 Jo Cox MP investigation

10.1.1 The Commissioner stated that the suspect has been charged and will appear at the Old Bailey in autumn. A session was held in Birstall on 30 June to support anyone who has been affected by the murder of Jo Cox.

10.2 Police and Crime Plan Consultation

10.2.1 The Commissioner stated that the OPCC has received 4,000 responses to the online public survey. He also stated that is engaging with communities and partners and will be liaising with Panel as this work develops.

10.3 Hate crime following Brexit

10.3.1 The Force saw an increase in hate crime reporting from 13 incidents per day to around 20 per day following the EU Referendum. This has dropped back to previous levels. The Commissioner assured the Panel that the Force would not tolerate hate crime. He referred to the Hate Hurts campaign and highlighted that a number of hate crime projects had received funding through his Safer Communities Fund.

10.4 Police and Crime Bill

10.4.1 The Commissioner stated that the Police and Crime Bill made provision for increased working with fire and rescue. As such, he has agreed to second the OPCC Chief Executive to work with North Yorkshire to progress this work.

11. Recruitment of Independent Members to the Police and Crime Panel

11.1 The Panel discussed the proposed recruitment process for independent members. Members felt that it would be beneficial to advertise the posts on the Commissioner's website, the voluntary action website and council websites.

RESOLVED

11.2.1 The Panel agreed that Councillors Lowe, Wassell and Wilkinson would form a sub panel to deal with shortlisting and interviewing.

11.2.2 It was agreed that the outline timetable would be brought forward by one week.

11.2.3 Shortlisting to take place at 10am on 26 September and Interviews to take place at 1pm on 6 October.

12. Complaints Received by the Panel

12.1 Members noted that no new complaints had been recorded since the last meeting of the Panel on 10 June 2016. The Panel would be undertaking a complaints review, in private session, later on in the meeting.

12.2 Members noted that an issue which was self-referred by the Commissioner had been referred to both West Yorkshire Police and the IPCC. Both organisations informed the Panel that they would be taking no action and the matter has now been formally closed.

13. Panel Forward Agenda Plan 2016

13.1 Members noted the Forward Agenda Plan 2016.

Liz Ogden left the meeting at this point and Bernadette Livesey joined the meeting for the last three items.

IN PRIVATE

14. Review of Complaint's Sub-Panel Decision

14.1 The full Panel was asked to review the decision of the Complaints Sub-Panel in relation to a complaint against the Commissioner. The complainant asked for a review of the Complaints Sub-Panel's decision not to uphold their complaint about the Commissioner.

14.2 The full Panel reviewed the information considered by the Complaint's Sub-Panel relating to the complaint and considered the process that had been undertaken to arrive at their decision.

14.3 After considering all of the information provided, the full Panel agreed that:

- The Complaints Sub-Panel had followed the legislation and the Panel's complaints processes correctly in seeking to address the complaint.

RESOLVED

14.4 That the original decision by the Complaint's Sub-Panel be upheld. The full Police and Crime Panel's decision is final and the matter is now closed.

15. Any Other Business

15.1 Panel Officers to draft a response to the Commissioner's Partnership Survey and circulate to Members for approval prior to submission.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting

16.1 The next meeting will be held on Friday, 9th September 2016 in the Old Court Room, Wakefield Town Hall.