Item 2



**West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel**

**Draft Minutes**

**12th June 2015, Wakefield One**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Lowe (Chair) - Leeds City Council

Councillor Iqbal - Leeds City Council

Councillor Carter - Leeds City Council

Councillor Walls - Bradford Council

Councillor Khan - Bradford Council

Councillor Pullen - Bradford Council

Councillor Martin - Calderdale Council

Councillor Thompson - Calderdale Council

Councillor Ahmed - Kirklees MBC

Councillor Scott - Kirklees MBC

Councillor Barker - City of Wakefield MDC

Councillor Wassell - City of Wakefield MDC

Roger Grasby - Independent

Jo Sykes - Independent

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Samantha Wilkinson - City of Wakefield MDC

Emma Duckett - City of Wakefield MDC

Liz Ogden - City of Wakefield MDC

Neil Mackenzie - City of Wakefield MDC

**1. Appointment of Chair**

**RESOLVED**

1.1.1 That Councillor Alison Lowe (Leeds City Council) be appointed Chair for the period to May 2016.

1.1.2 That Councillor Alan Wassell (City of Wakefield MDC) be appointed Vice-Chair for the period to May 2016.

**2. Police and Crime Panel Membership**

2.1 Following the start of the new civic year, Panel considered the changes to its membership

2.2 **RESOLVED**

2.2.1 That the Panel notes and accepts the 10 local authority nominations.

2.2.2 That the Panel notes and accepts the two independent co-opted members.

2.2.3 That the Panel accepts the nomination from the City of Bradford MDC of Councillor Steve Pullen and Councillor Marcus Thompson from Calderdale MDC as a local authority co-opted members.

2.2.4 That on behalf of the Panel, the Chair writes to the outgoing members thanking them for all their efforts and contributions to the work of the Panel so far.

**3. Apologies for Absence**

3.1 None received.

**4. Panel Arrangements and Rules of Conduct and Business**

4.1 The Panel considered the Panel Procedures and Protocols

**RESOLVED**

4.1.1 The Panel endorsed the existing Panel Procedures and Protocols with no change at this time.

**5. Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th April 2015**

5.1The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.

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

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

**7. Members’ Declaration of Interests**

7.1 There were no interests declared.

**8. Police and Crime Panel Budget 2015/16**

8.1 The Panel were informed of the funding outcome for 2014/15 and the draft budget for the Panel going forward into 2015/16.

**RESOLVED**

8.1.1 The Panel noted the funding position for 2014/15.

8.1.2 The Panel agreed the budget for 2015/16 with no local authority contribution for 2015/16.

**9. Police and Crime Panel Annual Report**

9.1 Panel Members were provided with a hard copy of the Police and Crime Panel’s Annual Report 2014/15.

9.2 The Panel were keen to ensure that the Annual Report was circulated to partners and key stakeholders both regionally and nationally.

**RESOLVED**

9.2.1 The Panel thanked the Police and Crime Panel Officers for their work in compiling the Annual Report.

9.2.2 That the Annual Report be sent to all elected Members across West Yorkshire as well as the Policing Minister, Keith Vaz (Home Affairs Select Committee), David Livesey (Home Office) and Mike Cunningham (HMIC).

9.2.3 Police and Crime Panel Officers to seek opportunities to launch the Annual Report to the media.

**10. Panel Attendance 2014/15**

10.1 Members noted Panel attendance in 2014/15.

**11. Complaints Received by the Panel**

11.1 The Complaints Lead Member stated that no new complaints had been received by the Panel since the last meeting. He went on to explain that the Panel is still awaiting a decision from the IPCC with regard to investigating complaint 765962.

**RESOLVED**

11.1.1 Police and Crime Panel Officers to notify Councillor Wassell, Councillor Walls and Jo Sykes if they are required to form a Complaints Sub Panel to consider complaint 765962.

**12. Forward Agenda Plan 2015**

12.1Members considered the Panel’s Forward Agenda Plan for 2015.

12.2 Members discussed the purpose of the private meeting with HMIC scheduled at 2pm on 25 June. The Chair explained that the HMIC visit enabled the Panel to triangulate information provided to them by the Force and the Commissioner, in particular, crime data integrity, PEEL and child protection.

12.3 Members also discussed the agenda for the Panel Awayday on 3 July and agreed that they would consider the LGA’s recent good practice guidance for police and crime panels.

**RESOLVED**

12.3.1 Police and Crime Panel Officers to invite an LGA representative to the Panel’s Awayday.

***Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 13 to 18 along with David Smith, Victim Services Commissioning, and Julie Reid and Clair Parker from the OPCC.***

**13. Victim Services Preparatory Grant Overview**

13.1 The Commissioner provided an update on the work undertaken in respect of the Victim Service Preparatory Grant provided by the Ministry of Justice.

13.2 He explained that there were 16 projects during the preparatory stage including; Help for Victims website, Victims Hubs and restorative approaches. Members noted that raising awareness of the services available has been a key challenge.

13.3 The Commissioner explained that funding is allocated to the PCC from the Ministry of Justice on an annual basis and it is planned to move to more of a commissioning and procurement basis.

13.4 The Panel asked the Commissioner about the issue of victims of forced marriage and what is being done to encourage victims to come forward and provide support.

The Commissioner reported that he is working with partners to ensure reporting practices are co-ordinated in one place and are working with the victims’ hubs to encourage and support victims in coming forward. A BME Victims Champion has also been appointed to ensure that the message and support is getting to those who are affected.

13.5 Panel Members felt that it was important to capture the views of victims to ensure the support available meets their needs. In response, the Commissioner stated that this was being done through the Victim Engagement Panel and through the engagement and evaluation work undertaken by Victim Support.

**RESOLVED**

13.5.1 The Chair thanked the Commissioner for the detailed report and noted the progress made.

**14. Update on the Implementation of the Crawford Review of Complaints**

14.1 The Panel expressed their sympathies to the family of Catherine Crawford on the news of her death earlier in the year.

14.2 The Commissioner explained that it is expected that there will be a change in legislation that will mean that the responsibility for all complaints will fall to the PCC rather than the Chief Constable.

14.3 The OPCC is working with Professional Standards at the Force to look at best practice in other forces.

14.4 The Panel were informed of the success of an early resolution pilot undertaken in West Yorkshire and the significant improvement in early resolution of incidents. It was noted that the Chief Constable is currently looking at the financial implications of rolling this pilot out across the Force.

14.5 The Commissioner also informed the Panel that he is considering whether there should be a separate Ethics Committee. As there is already an Audit Committee, it may be that this could take on the role with the addition of other independent persons.

14.6Whilst welcoming the progress that has been made, Panel commented that the implementation plan should include more detail and an indication of timescales.

14.7 The Panel welcomed the improvements made as a result of the early resolution pilot. Panel urged the Commissioner to do what he could to ensure that this is rolled out across the Force.

14.8 **RESOLVED**

14.8.1 The Commissioner to ensure that the implementation plan includes more detail and be clear timescales for each action.

**15. Published Key Decisions**

15.1 The published key decisions were noted.

15.2 The Panel questioned why the decision to lift Chief Constable Gilmore’s suspension was not recorded on the Commissioner’s website.

**15.3 Resolved**

15.3.1 The Commissioner committed to ensuring that the published key decisions are kept up to date on his website.

**16. Agreed Action Log**

16.1 Members noted that the agreed action log was up to date.

**Resolved**

The Police and Crime Panel Officers extended their thanks to the Partnership Manager at the OPCC for her continued support in ensuring that agreed actions are disseminated and completed in a timely manner.

**17. Commissioner’s Response to current issues**

17.1 The Commissioner noted that a number of Chief Police Officer profiles on the West Yorkshire Police website require updating and agreed to raise this with the Temporary Chief Constable.

17.2 The Commissioner reported that an Armed Forces Covenant is under active consideration and he agreed to keep the Panel abreast of any developments.

17.3 The Commissioner commented on the previous day’s incident where a teacher was stabbed at a school in Bradford and commended the way in which the school and the police had handled the situation.

17.4 The Commissioner referred to the Home Secretary’s recent speech to the Police Federation. It was noted that funding cuts will continue at a pace, however, the Home Secretary did speak about funding for placed-based health services, particularly mental health, which has a big impact on policing resources. There was an emphasis on the need for joint working with Fire and Rescue Service to use shared assets.

17.5 The Commissioner agreed to circulate a letter from Irene Curtis regarding the Home Office Review of Police Targets and would welcome any comments from Panel members on this.

**17.6 RESOLVED**

17.6.1 The Commissioner to ask the Temporary Chief Constable to update Chief Officer Profiles on the Force website.

17.6.2 The Commissioner to keep the Panel informed of any progress on the Armed Forces Covenant.

17.6.3 The Commissioner to circulate the letter regarding the Home Office Review of Police Targets and for the Panel to forward any views back to the OPCC.

**18. Quarterly Performance Scrutiny to 31 March 2015**

18.1 The Commissioner presented a report on the Force’s performance to 31 March 2015. He prefaced the report against the backdrop of significant central government funding cuts to policing.

18.2 Members noted that whilst there had been a reduction of 1% in total crime over the 12 months to 31 March 2015, there had been an increase in crime during the latest quarter of 12.3%.

18.3 Similarly, domestic burglary had seen increases which were due, in part, to the change in the recording of domestic burglary in multi-occupancy dwellings. The Commissioner then went on to highlight the 25% increase in distraction burglary as an area of concern.

18.4 Panel were keen to ask the Commissioner for his views on the impact of crime data integrity and whether he had confidence in West Yorkshire Police’s recorded crime figures. The Commissioner stated that he felt reassured by the work undertaken by the Force in response to the HMIC crime data integrity (CDI) inspection. He went on to state that officers from the OPCC attended the Force’s CDI Gold Group which helped to provide him with evidence and assurance around the progress being made.

18.5 A Panel Member questioned the Commissioner over the increase in youth re-offending rates and drew reference to the Police and Crime Plan. In response, an officer from the OPCC stated that there had been a significant reduction in the number of young offenders within the cohort which is used to calculate the re-offending rate. These offenders tended to have a higher re-offending pattern and more complex needs.

18.6 Further discussion focused on the sexual offences data and the increase in blackmail offences.

**RESOLVED**

18.6.1 That the Commissioner provides information to the Police and Crime Panel Officers on the reasons for the increase in blackmail.

**19. Any Other Business**

19.1 The Chair referred to an invitation she and two other members had received to the opening of the Force’s Training and Development Centre on 10 July.

**RESOLVED**

19.1.1 That Councillor Ahmed and Councillor Wassell attend the opening with Councillor Lowe.

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

17.1 10am on Friday 17 July at Wakefield One.