

**Item 5**

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**Friday 5th October 2018**

**County Hall, Wakefield**

**Community Safety Partnerships –**

**Assessing the Impact of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

1. **Background**

1.1 Since its inception in 2012, the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel recognises the benefits of strong and effective relationships with Community Safety Partnerships and Local Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committees. This ensures that the Police and Crime Panel;

* are aware of community safety priorities at a local level
* understand the impact that the Police and Crime Commissioner is having on local communities
* can validate/’reality check’ data and intelligence

1.2 To ensure that an effective framework is in place to allow for effective partnership working, the Panel and the five CSPs developed and agreed a set of Principles for Engagement back in 2012. The Principles of Engagement set out the minimum standards for engagement between the Panel and CSPs and the Panel and C&D Scrutiny committees and have formed the basis for how each body will conduct itself around:

* Engagement at Panel meetings
* Ways of working to influence the Police and Crime Plan
* Exchange of Information and Intelligence
* Arrangements and responsibilities for supporting links

1.3 The Principles for Engagement clearly set out the rationale for strong and effective relationships with Community Safety Partnerships and Local Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committees before going on to set out some parameters of how this should be undertaken.

1.4 The Principles for Engagement are a framework for the relationships and they ensure that there is a two way flow of information to and from Partnerships/Committees and Panel; it can help to:

* build a fuller picture and better understanding of community safety priorities at a local level
* understand the impact that the Police and Crime Commissioner is having on local communities
* link the strategic thinking with the impact at local level
* give support to the CSPs in holding the Commissioner to account on his relationship with them and the demands that are made of them.

1.5 As part of the commitment to engage, CSP Chairs are invited to meet with the Panel at least annually and the Chair or Vice Chair of the Panel will also attend each one of the five CSP meetings in the districts. CSP’s are also asked to complete a short questionnaire to provide Panel with an understanding of the impact of the PCC.

1. **Purpose**

2.1 Wakefield CSP Chair, Councillor Maureen Cummings is to attend the October meeting as she is unable to join the other CSP Chairs at the session in November. Wakefield CSP have completed the attached local perspectives questionnaire.

**3. Recommendation**

3.1 It is recommended that the Panel notes the views and issues highlighted in the completed questionnaire and discusses these further with the CSP Chair. Suggestions for future work may be included in the Panel’s work programme and members may also wish to record items to raise with the Commissioner at future meetings.