**Item 8**



**West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel**

**Draft Minutes**

**20 April 2018, 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 Josephine Jarosz - Leeds City 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:** Mark Tolson - City of Wakefield MDC

Samantha Wilkinson - City of Wakefield MDC

**1. Acceptance of apologies for absence**

1.1 The Chair of the Panel noted apologies from Councillors Geraldine Carter and Linda Wilkinson.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th March 2018.**

2.1The 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 Non- Pecuniary Interests were declared by Councillor Alison Lowe, Mr Roger Grasby and Mrs Jo Sykes in relation to Item 6 - as all have been involved in the provision of commissioner services referred to in the Commissioner’s report.

***Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 5-10 with Chief Constable Dee Collins and Jayne Sykes (Interim OPCC Chief Exec)***

**5. NPAS HMICFRS Report Response**

5.1 The PCC gave Panel some background to the establishment of the NPAS, the current governance arrangements and the recently conducted study by HMICFRS.

5.2 The PCC pointed out the successes of the function in providing a 24/7 national borderless service. Panel also noted that many of the areas raised within the study had already been identified and had ongoing strands of work around them.

5.3 The findings of the study have been discussed at the NPAS National Strategic Board with actions agreed and further updates on the actions will be provided to the NPAS Board.

5.4 It was noted that an evolving business case for fleet replacement is to be submitted in June and Government support for this is essential. The outcome of this will have a significant impact on the future of NPAS going forward. If there is not Government support for then the sustainability of the service comes into question.

5.5 Last year NPAS was recognised by the National Police Aviators for their outstanding work. The Chief Constable clarified that the challenges are strategic ones and are not about operational delivery and that the staff do an amazing job. The most recent Aviation Authority Assessment is good and identifies the service as a safe and well run operation and that it does well with the resources it has.

5.6 The reality is that NPAS has an ageing fleet that requires more maintenance than it did four years ago. During the course of the year, there will be four new fixed wing aircraft supplementing the fleet and enhancing the work that the service does.

5.7 The first phase of NPAS was to ensure there was provision of a 24/7 national borderless service and this has been delivered. The next stage is to capitalise on capability and develop a clear understanding about what the different types of support can deliver, including the use of drones.

5.8 A dedicated ACC has been allocated to pick up this work and has already delivered an interim strategy and also guidance for control rooms as to when to ask for helicopters and when not to.

5.9 It has been difficult to get consensus about funding. There is now work looking at national specialist capabilities and it is hoped that a model for funding can be developed and rolled out across the different specialist areas.

5.10 Panel questioned the PCC as to why West Yorkshire has the responsibility of NPAS seeing as it is such a difficult and time consuming area of work in addition to the everyday matters of policing West Yorkshire.

5.11 Panel noted that as part of the Strategic Policing Requirement, Police Forces are required to lead on some specialist capabilities, eg the Metropolitan Police lead on Counter Terrorism command, and West Yorkshire operates the lead force for NPAS. The PCC also stated that the work of NPAS is not distinct to his core mission which is to keep West Yorkshire safe and feeling safe.

5.12 The PCC reported that Phase 1 is now complete as all the Police Forces are now signed up to the National Service. He also commented that there has been a draw back by the Home Office on this and efforts are currently being made to try to re-engage them.

5.13 The nature of this service means that there is a need to be planning 3 to 4 years ahead. The next stage is critical in terms of the future of the service. The PCC acknowledged that the governance model for this is likely to need to change following the outcome of the business case for fleet replacement.

5.14 The PCC was asked why NPAS had purchased fixed wing aircraft. Panel was informed that the fixed wing aircraft do a different role to that of helicopters. They are able to sustain longer sorties, are more covert, fly higher and are less of a public nuisance. It was stated that the fixed wing craft complement the work of the helicopters.

5.15 The Panel questioned what provision had been made for depreciation and capital replacement.

5.16 Panel were informed that the working assumption was that as in the past the capital receipts would be underwritten by Government.

5.17 The Chief Constable also clarified that there was clear performance criteria and individual forces and regions regularly gets a breakdown of performance data for their area. This is currently being looked at to ensure that the data that they receive is the type of data that they require.

5.18 The PCC stated that the model cannot work if decisions about deployment are made on resources instead of threat, harm and risk.

5.19 The PCC was asked about the role of Chair of the Strategic Board and whether an independent Chair would be more appropriate.

5.20 The PCC stated that this is something that will be discussed by National Board members and the governance model will be revised but that in the short term it is necessary for the PCC as current Chair to continue to carry NPAS through the critical stages.

5.21 The Chief Constable confirmed that they were working towards addressing all the recommendations set out by HMIC.

**RESOLVED**

**5.21.1 It was agreed to report back to panel when the outcome of the business case is known.**

**6. Police & Crime Plan Focus – Mental Health**

6.1 The PCC gave an overview of the report which outlines the work that is being undertaken on this key priority within the Police and Crime Plan.

6.2 Police officers are having to deal with people with mental health issues in communities on a daily basis. Managing the increasing demand implications and the impact of mental health on police, partners and local communities is a matter of concern.

6.3 The PCC outlined some of the achievements and progress on this key priority which included the establishment of the WY Criminal Justice and Mental health Forum in 2015 which has been invaluable in bringing key partners together to best support those in need.

6.4 The PCC highlighted various partnership funding initiatives including the introduction of Mental Health Nurses into District Control rooms covering 3 of the 5 districts and it is hoped to get more consistency and to role this out across the rest of West Yorkshire.

6.5 Panel also noted that there has been a successfully bid for vanguard capital funding for the some places of safety in West Yorkshire. The Bradford model has been particularly successful around the creation of safer spaces for young people

6.6 Safer communities fund grant always has a number of projects which include an element of helping mental health within them

6.7 Panel asked the PCC about where the places of safety are located. It was noted that there are some ongoing discussions with the Health Service about Places of Safety. There are issues about consistency of approach across West Yorkshire when different Health Trusts are involved. This is something that the PCC is working on along with the Health Service.

6.8 It was noted that the Police have to work closely with the mental health specialist and policing decisions are made in conjunction with expert advice.

6.9 It was suggested that perhaps more effective use could be made of voluntary-led facilities.

6.10 It was also suggested that it would be useful to utilise the lead member in this area of work. It was agreed to include Cllr Lowe, as lead member for mental health, on the mental health forum.

**RESOLVED**

**6.10.1 That Councillor Lowe be included on the mental health forum.**

**6.10.2 That the PCC looks at ways that better use of the voluntary led facilities and services could be made.**

**7. Published Key Decisions**

7.1 Panel noted the published key decisions.

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

Violent Crime Strategy

8.1 The PCC commented on the latest government announcement on its Violent Crime Strategy. The PCC informed Panel that he is already working on a Violent Crime Strategy for West Yorkshire and that the restructuring of Neighbourhood Policing aims to have an impact on that area.

8.2 The PCC also reported that the next round of Safer Communities funding will have a focus on community projects that specifically tackle all forms of serious violent crime, including those focusing on prevention and early intervention, supporting diversion away from crime, protection and education and support for victims of serious violence.

8.3 The PCC was asked if the significant spike in knife crime in the capital had been replicated in west Yorkshire. It was acknowledged that whilst the increase had been nothing like that in London, there is a general increase and worryingly the profile of offenders seems to be moving towards younger people.

8.4 It was agreed to bring the local Violent Crime Strategy to a meeting of the Panel when it is available.

Victim Support

8.5 The PCC reported that the core-referral service for victim support and restorative justice are going live this month. This also includes support for young people. The PCC has also awarded a contract to Restorative Solutions who will work closely with Victim Support and others.

8.6 It was also noted that the latest awarding of the funding of SCF had been held the previous night with 39 groups being successful.

8.7 **RESOLVED**

**8.7.1 It was agreed to bring the local Violent Crime Strategy to a meeting of the Panel when it is available.**

**9. Agreed Actions Log**

9.1 The updated action log was noted. There were no outstanding items of concern.

**10. Forward Agenda Plan**

10.1 It was noted that the agenda for the next meeting would include:

Delivery Quarterly

Police and Crime Plan Priority Focus: Cyber Crime

Re-offending Strategy Update

Draft Police and Crime Plan.

10.2 It was agreed to move PEEL Inspections to July on the condition that action plans for the recommendations are available at that time.

10.3 **RESOLVED**

10.3.1 It was agreed to move PEEL Inspections to July on the condition that action plans for the recommendations are available at that time.

**11. Complaints received by the Panel**

11.1 Panel noted the update report. It was noted that following a request by the complainant, the full Panel would be reviewing the decision of the Complaints Sub-Panel at the close of the public meeting in relation to the complaint referred to in the report.

It was also noted that there are no new recorded complaints at this stage, although there are two which are currently under consideration in conjunction with legal officers.

**12. Any Other Business**

National PCP Association

12.1 Jo Sykes reported on the previous day’s inaugural meeting of the LGA’s Police and Crime Panel SIG.

12.2 It was noted that the SIG would be known as the National Association of Police, Fire & Crime Panels. The draft Terms of Reference had been agreed with minor changes. Panel noted that Cllr Lowe had been appointed as one of two Vice-Chairs. The subscription fees for the first year for the Association will be £500 per PCP.

12.3 The annual meeting will take place at the National PCP Conference at Warwick University in November.

Outgoing Panel Members

12.4 It was noted that the following members would not be standing in the local elections on 3rd May.

Cllr Josie Jarosz

Cllr Steve Pullen

Cllr Linda Wilkinson

Cllr Andrew Mallinson.

On behalf of the Panel, Cllr Lowe thanked the members for their contribution to the work of the Panel and wished them well for the future.

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

13.1 The next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel will be held on Friday, 15th June 2018.