



## West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

### Draft Minutes

6 February 2016, Wakefield Town Hall

#### PRESENT:

Councillor Alison Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
Councillor Michael Walls	- Bradford Council
Councillor Steve Pullen	- Bradford Council
Councillor Geraldine Carter	- Calderdale Council
Councillor Ann Martin	- Calderdale Council
Councillor Masood Ahmed	- Kirklees MBC
Councillor Mohammed Iqbal	- Leeds City Council
Councillor Amanda Carter	- Leeds City Council
Councillor Kevin Barker	- City of Wakefield MDC
Councillor Alan Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
Mr Roger Grasby	- Independent
Mrs Jo Sykes	- Independent

#### IN ATTENDANCE:

Emma Duckett	- City of Wakefield MDC
Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC
Sharon Fraser	- City of Wakefield MDC
Stuart McKinnon-Evans	- Bradford Council

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 The Chair of the Panel noted apologies from Councillor Hassan Khan (Bradford).

#### 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015

- 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 There were no interests declared.

***Mark Burns-Williamson, the Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire attended the meeting for items 5 and 6 along with; John Robbins - Temporary Deputy Chief Constable, Mark Reeves - Director of Finance at West Yorkshire Police, Katherine Johnson - Treasurer at the OPCC and Kelly Laycock – Partnerships Manager at the OPCC.***

## **5. The Precept Proposal for 2016/17**

- 5.1 The Commissioner presented a report to the Panel on his proposed precept for 2016/17.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 The questions covered:
- The rationale for recruiting additional police officers.
  - The Force's ability to recruit and train the high numbers of police officers and the need to ensure that the workforce reflects the diversity of West Yorkshire.
  - Deployment of the newly recruited police officers.
  - The prudence of forecasting a deficit in predicted budgets beyond 2017 at the same time as increasing recruitment.
  - The need to increase the precept at all if there is an underspend for 2015/16.
  - The Force's ambitions to recoup as much as possible from the top-sliced funding schemes.
  - Clarity on the reserves position and how this compares to other forces.
  - The cost of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and how this compares to previous years.

## **6. Panel Response to the Precept Proposal**

### **6.1 RESOLVED**

The Panel, through its discussion with the Commissioner on 5<sup>th</sup> February 16, agreed to endorse the proposal to increase the Council Tax by 3.6% or £5 on a band D property on the basis that the Police and Crime Commissioner would:

1. Recruit 300 new Police Officers and provide regular updates to the Panel on the progress of this recruitment.

2. Protect PCSO numbers at their current level at 2015/16 (565).
3. With nearly 90% of the budget going on pay, the shape and deployment of the workforce is key to VFM. The Panel has been provided with the high level workforce strategy. The Commissioner should provide further detail on the work force plans and how this resource will be deployed, managed and developed to give both value for money and best outcomes to the people of West Yorkshire.
4. Provide oversight of the BME Action and Evaluation Plan along with regular updates as to its implementation and progress so that the West Yorkshire Force reflects the diversity of West Yorkshire.
5. Provide more information on the details of the plans to manage the potential deficit from 2017/18 onwards and that detail of these plans and any material exceptions be reported in a timely way with suitable contingencies in place.
6. Ensure that information relating to commissioned services is transparent and provided to Panel in order that they can be reassured that the people of West Yorkshire are receiving the right services at the right cost.

## **7. Any Other Business**

- 7.1 Members noted that a complaint had been received against the Police and Crime Panel and officers were preparing information requested by the Local Government's Ombudsman.
- 7.2 Councillor G Carter volunteered attend the LGA's conference on 14 March 16 with a Police and Crime Panel Officer. Councillor Masood Ahmed and Mrs Jo Sykes also expressed a wish to attend.

## **8. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

- 8.1 Meeting to be held at 10am on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at Halifax Town Hall.