



Draft Minutes

18th July 2014, Wakefield Suite, Wakefield One

PRESENT:	Councillor Lowe (Chair)	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Walls	- City of Bradford MDC
	Councillor Thompson	- Calderdale MBC
	Councillor Sweeney	- Calderdale MBC
	Councillor Ahmed	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Scott	- Kirklees MBC
	Councillor Carter	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Iqbal	- Leeds City Council
	Councillor Loughran	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Councillor Wassell	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Roger Grasby	- Independent
	Jo Sykes	- Independent
IN ATTENDANCE:	Samantha Wilkinson	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Bernadette Livesey	- City of Wakefield MDC
	Andrew Taylor	- City of Wakefield MDC

1. Apologies for Absence

1.1 Apologies were noted from Councillors Imran Hussain and Shakeela Lal both of Bradford.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held 20th June 2014

2.1 The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

3. Agreed Actions Log

3.1 It was noted that all actions had been completed. However, Panel noted with disappointment that there has been no information received following the Panel's request for information on items deferred from the last meeting.

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

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

5. Members' Declaration of Interests

5.1 There were no interests declared.

6. Community Safety Partnership Chairs – Assessing the Impact of the Commissioner

- 6.1 Community Safety Partnership Chairs had been invited to meet with the Panel to discuss their views on the impact of the Commissioner. Written submissions, in the form of the Local Perspectives questionnaire were also made by Bradford and Calderdale.
- 6.2 Apologies were received from Councillors Peter O’Neill (Kirklees), Peter Gruen (Leeds) and Councillor Imran Hussain (Bradford).
- 6.3 The Panel welcomed Councillor Maureen Cummings, Wakefield CSP and Angela Williams, Deputy Chair of Calderdale CSP and invited them to give views on the impact that the Commissioner is having on community safety matters within the districts.
- 6.4 Panel noted that overall, partners are pleased with the PCC’s ways of working and there is a welcomed and consistent commitment to partnership work.
- 6.5 CSPs are particularly appreciative of the steps the PCC has taken to either consult or engage directly with partners. This includes the establishment of quarterly meetings that the Commissioner holds with all CSP Chairs, the purpose of which is to identify common priorities and joint opportunities, as well as sharing good practice on what works in West Yorkshire to reduce crime and disorder and improve community safety. It was noted, however, that these are not always well attended by CSP chairs.
- 6.6 CSPs welcome the passporting of the Community Safety Fund through to them until 2016.
- 6.7 It was suggested that it would be better if grant funding were also given to CSP’s to identify where it is best spent rather than going through a bidding process.
- 6.8 It was felt that there should be much shorter timescales for the distribution of POCA funding to be more re-active to immediate need and that the currently quarterly distribution was not helpful.
- 6.9 CSPs commented that communication with the Commissioner could be better and that information is not always received within reasonable timescales.
- 6.10 Panel noted that the Commissioner has attended some CSP stakeholder events but not attended any of the CSP meetings (of the authorities present) themselves.
- 6.11 Panel shared with CSP chairs the outcome of their recent private Panel session and how Panel is keen to move to a more thematic way of holding the Commissioner to account. CSP’s welcomed the idea of being involved in a joint prioritisation event to ensure that priority issues are picked up and that duplication across West Yorkshire is avoided.

6.11 RESOLVED

- 6.11.1 Panel thanked CSP Chairs for their contributions
- 6.11.2 Panel agreed to raise the issues discussed with the Commissioner.
- 6.11.3 CSP's agreed to share the agendas and minutes from their meetings with the Panel.
- 6.11.4 CSP Chairs to be jointly involved in a prioritisation session to consider the future priorities that the Panel can take forward as part of their future work programme.

7. Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee Chairs – Assessing the impact of the Commissioner

- 7.1 Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee Chairs had been invited to meet with the Panel to discuss their views on the impact of the Commissioner. Written submissions, in the form of the Local Perspectives questionnaire were also made by Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield.
- 7.2 Apologies were received from Councillors Rizwan Malik (Bradford), Nigel Patrick (Kirklees) and Barry Anderson (Leeds).
- 7.3 The Panel welcomed Councillors Christine Beale (Calderdale), Andrew Marchington (Deputy Chair Kirklees) and Albert Manifold (Wakefield) and asked them to update the Panel on the work of their Scrutiny Boards.
- 7.4 Scrutiny Chairs gave an overview of the key themes that their Committees are planning to investigate in the Autumn.
- 7.6 Chairs were also keen to have more two way information between the Police and Crime Panel. Whilst the agenda papers and minutes are already circulated, it was agreed to copy in both CSP and Scrutiny Chairs to the 'Key Communications' which come out from each Panel meeting.
- 7.5 There was a desire for better sharing of information across West Yorkshire Scrutiny Committees to avoid duplication and a desire to work closer with the Panel. It was agreed to circulate Wakefield's recent report on 'Hate Crime'.
- 7.6 It was noted that the districts do get local statistics from the Commissioner and are able to scrutinise the Force, unlike the Panel whose role is to scrutinise the Commissioner.
- 7.7 Chairs welcomed the suggestion of a prioritisation session involving Panel and CSP chairs. This would help working relationships and help triangulate the processes

between the Panel, Districts and Commissioner and give a wider West Yorkshire context to district considerations.

7.8 It was noted that the Principles of Engagement between the Scrutiny Committees and the Panel needed updating.

7.9 **RESOLVED**

7.9.1 Panel thanked Scrutiny Chairs for their contributions

7.9.2 Scrutiny Committees agreed to share the agendas and minutes and final scrutiny reports with the Panel and other Scrutiny committees.

7.9.3 Panel to circulate Key Communications to Scrutiny and CSP Chairs.

7.9.4 To circulate Wakefield's recent scrutiny report on 'Hate Crime' to Panel members and other Scrutiny Chairs.

7.9.5 That the Principles of Engagement be updated and resigned.

7.9.6 Scrutiny Chairs to be jointly involved in a prioritisation session to consider the future priorities that the Panel can take forward as part of their future work programme.

8. Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report

8.1 The Commissioner attended to give an overview of his Annual Report which outlines progress in delivering his commitments in the Police and Crime Plan. Panel were given the opportunity to comment on the report and ask the Commissioner questions.

8.2 Panel asked the Commissioner what he is putting in place to turn round the continuing trend showing an increase in shoplifting.

8.3 The Commissioner pointed out that the rate of increase has now slowed. Neighbourhood Policing Teams are working at a local level with (smaller) local businesses to address this at a very local level. The Crime Prevention team within West Yorkshire Police meet regularly with larger businesses to work with them to help them tackle the problem and increase prevention.

8.4 Panel asked the Commissioner if he could reassure Panel that he ensures that resources are going to the right areas but with the reassurance that there is no imbalance across West Yorkshire.

8.5 The Commissioner responded that the Neighbourhood Policing Model is consistent across West Yorkshire. In addition, there are specialist teams and support units which deal with specific types of crime. The current Divisional resourcing model

looking at how resources are deployed is being reviewed. The Commissioner agreed to look at how Panel members might be involved in the review.

- 8.6 The Commissioner was asked about his engagement with CSP's and in particular the quarterly meetings that he has with CSPs.
- 8.7 The Panel was assured that whilst the Commissioner could not personally attend all CSP meetings, representatives from his office will be going to future meetings and will report back.
- 8.8 It was noted that there is information regarding the CSP Forum that meets with the Commissioner on a quarterly basis on the Commissioner's website. The Commissioner was happy that the Panel have copies of the minutes of these meetings.
- 8.9 The Panel were pleased to congratulate the Commissioner and West Yorkshire Police for ensuring the Tour de France event was policed safely and successfully in West Yorkshire with unprecedented crowds lining the route.
- 8.10 In relation to a question regarding the utilisation of Havertop custody suite, Panel noted that as part of the 'Programme of Change' review of custody arrangements, a six month review into the impact of the changes will be conducted.
- 8.11 The Commissioner informed Panel that in an effort to improve the process there is to be a review into how POCA funding has worked and to look at what the spread has been across West Yorkshire. A representative from each district will be on the review panel along with a two independent persons.
- 8.12 Panel welcomed the improvements in some areas of West Yorkshire Police's performance, but acknowledged that West Yorkshire is still near the bottom of the most similar forces.
- 8.13 The Commissioner emphasised that there has been improvement in a number of key areas and statistics which will be published later in the week show a continuing reduction of crime within West Yorkshire.
- 8.14 It was noted that there will be reporting changes as the HMIC moves to whole force inspections and there may also be changes to the categorisation of 'most similar groups'.

Other issues raised with the Commissioner

- 8.15 Panel expressed their concern that the Commissioner has still not provided Panel with information on a number of key areas that have been agreed. It was agreed to send a copy of the Panel's log of information requests/agreed actions for the Commissioner to chase up. It was also agreed that the Commissioner and Chair should hold a further meeting to follow up on Panel involvement and communications issues as soon as possible.

8.16 Panel asked for an update from the Commissioner on the timeframe to recruit to the OPCC Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer. The Commissioner agreed to send an urgent update to the Panel outside the meeting process.

8.17 Following discussion with the Commissioner, it was agreed that Dee Collins, the Temporary Chief Constable, should meet with the Panel to discuss how she intends to meet objectives within the Commissioners Police and Crime Plan whilst remaining operationally independent from the Commissioner. The Commissioner agreed to arrange this for the Panel's September meeting.

8.18 **RESOLVED**

8.18.1 The Commissioner agreed to look at how Panel members might be involved in the review of the Divisional Resourcing model.

8.18.2 That the Commissioner provides Panel with the notes of the meetings of the CSP Forum that the Commissioner holds on a quarterly basis.

8.12.3 The Panel were pleased to congratulate the Commissioner and West Yorkshire Police for ensuring the Tour de France event was policed safely and successfully in West Yorkshire with unprecedented crowds lining the route.

8.12.4 That the Panel share their log of information requests/agreed actions for the Commissioner to respond to and that a further meeting with the Commissioner and Chair on Panel involvement and communications issues be arranged as soon as possible.

8.12.5 That the Commissioner provide Panel with an urgent update on the process to recruit to the OPCC Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer role.

8.12.6 That the Commissioner arrange for the Temporary Chief Constable to meet with Panel in September to discuss how she intends to meet objectives within the Commissioners Police and Crime Plan whilst remaining operationally independent from the Commissioner.

9. **Complaints**

9.1 Councillor Alan Wassell, the Panel's lead on complaints and engagement, gave an update to the Panel on the current position relating to ongoing complaints. It was noted that meetings of the Complaints Sub-Panel have now been arranged.

9.2 **RESOLVED**

9.2.1 That the Panel's complaints update be noted.

10. Forward Agenda Plan 2014

10.1 RESOLVED

10.1.1 That the Panel's forward agenda plan be approved.

10.1.2 It was agreed that Temporary Chief Constable to attend the September meeting and discuss with Panel how she intends to meet objectives within the Commissioners Police and Crime Plan whilst remaining operationally independent from the Commissioner.

10.1.3 Panel agreed that due to the high volume of items for the next Panel meeting, if necessary, the Panel meeting should start half an hour earlier and continue until 12.30 pm.

11. Any Other Business

11.1 There was no other business raised.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

1.1 The next Panel meeting is scheduled for Friday 12th September 2014 in the Wakefield Suite, Wakefield One, Wakefield – time to be confirmed