

## Agenda item 7

### **Police and Crime Panel**

Meeting to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013

### **Public Questions Procedure**

Contact for further information: Phil Llewellyn, (01254) 585369, Democratic Services, [phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk)

### **Executive Summary**

Attached to this report is a proposed procedure to enable members of the public to submit questions to the Police and Crime Panel (PCP).

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Procedure for Public Questions attached at Appendix 1 be approved and implemented with effect from the next meeting of the PCP.

### **Background and Advice**

At the last meeting of the PCP on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013, it was agreed that the Chair and Secretary would agree the basis for public participation at future meetings of the Panel.

The Chair and Secretary have met and the Procedure attached at Appendix 1 is put forward for consideration.

Engagement with the public is vital in order that the Police and Crime Panel can carry out its role effectively. A process that allows members of the public to ask questions is an important tool in facilitating public involvement, and the proposed procedure will enable public questions to be submitted within set timescales which will ensure that meaningful answers can be produced.

### **Consultations**

The Secretary of the PCP has met with the Chair to produce the Procedure for Public Speaking attached to this report.

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Legal Implications**

The agreed Procedure for Public Speaking will be included in the Operational Procedure for the Police and Crime Panel.

## **Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

## **Risk management**

The requirement for an independent Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire is in accordance with the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

<u>Paper</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact/Directorate/Tel</u>
Minutes from the Police and Crime Panel	8 <sup>th</sup> July 2013	Phil Llewellyn Democratic Services 01254 585369