

## **POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

Meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### **LGA Police and Crime Panels Workshop and proposals for national representation for Police and Crime Panels**

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

#### **Executive Summary**

This report gives details of a Police and Crime Panels Workshop held at the Local Government Association (LGA) in July and a consultation exercise towards a national representative body for PCPs.

#### **Recommendation**

The Panel is asked to note the report and give feedback on the consultation paper attached.

#### **Background and Advice**

A workshop was held at the LGA in London on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017, the aim of which was to bring Panel representatives from across the Country up to date on emerging policy and matters for consideration going forward.

The Chair agreed that the Vice Chair, Paul Elms would attend the workshop to represent the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel, along with Phil Llewellyn from the host authority on behalf of the Secretary.

The meeting was very well attended by members and officers from PCPs across England. The meeting was convened and facilitated by the LGA.

Much of the morning session was dedicated to changes relating to the Fire and Rescue Service. The Police and Crime Act 2017 enables Police and Crime Commissioners to take on governance of their local fire and rescue service through the creation of new PCC style Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRA) where it can be demonstrated to be in the interests of economy, efficiency and effectiveness or public safety. In order to take on responsibility for fire governance, the PCC and FRA boundaries had to be coterminous, and any PCC taking on responsibility for fire would occupy two separate legal entities, that of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Fire Rescue Authority and would be known as the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. In terms of funding, there would be separate precepts and budgets for each service, but with the scope for collaborative projects.

Several PCCs were already going through the process to take on the responsibilities referred to above, and clearly there would be a significant impact for the PCPs in those areas in terms of scrutiny of the new arrangements.

Further to previous discussions there was an update on the proposed Association of Police and Crime Panels. The favoured approach from feedback at the workshop was for a Special Interest Group (SIG) to be established, supported by the LGA, and it was agreed that an options paper would be produced for consultation with all PCPs with a final draft being submitted to the Annual National PCP Conference in November 2017. There was a general feeling that whilst the Association/SIG needed to be as independent as possible, the most appropriate option was to go with support from the LGA, although this was subject to the consultation referred to above. The consultation paper is attached at Appendix 1 and Members views are sought on options proposed.

The other main topic discussed was effective Panel scrutiny of the PCCs work on counter extremism and counter terrorism, particularly the need to check that funding of projects was not inadvertently supporting terrorism/extremism.

The Workshop provided a good opportunity to gain knowledge of the latest policy developments and also to network with other Members and Officers, and the National Conference in November should provide a further opportunity to gain more information and share good practice. It is hoped that once the proposed way forward for an SIG/Association is established that will provide another platform for Panel representatives to work more closely together and improve outcomes nationally for Police and Crime Panels.

## **Consultations**

The views of the Panel are being sought.

## **Implications:**

N/A

## **Legal Implications**

N/A

## **Financial Implications**

None at this stage.

## **Risk management**

N/A

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

Various documents and presentations from the LGA Workshop held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

Contact/Directorate/Tel

Phil Llewellyn, HR, Legal &  
Corporate Services  
(01254) 585369

Reasons for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate  
N/A