

## **Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

#### **Present:**

##### **Chair**

Councillor Alistair Bradley, Chorley Borough Council

##### **Committee Members**

Councillor Andy Kay, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Councillor Geoff Driver, Lancashire County Council

Councillor Sue Graham, Burnley Borough Council

Councillor Clare Cleary, Hyndburn Borough Council

Councillor Jonathan Saksena, Preston City Council

Councillor Ben Aitken, Fylde Borough Council

Councillor Liz Oades, Fylde Borough Council

Councillor David Whipp, Pendle Borough Council

Councillor Terry Hill, Ribble Valley Borough Council

Councillor Paul Elms, Ribble Valley Borough Council

Councillor Jacqueline Mort, South Ribble Borough Council

Councillor Roger Berry, Wyre Borough Council

##### **Also in attendance**

- Clive Grunshaw, Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire
- Steve Freeman, Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- David Fairclough, Secretary Lancashire Police and Crime Panel
- Phil Llewellyn, Executive and Councillor Support Manager

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received for Councillors Ivan Taylor, Brendan Hughes, Kevin Wright, Adrian Lythgoe, Robert Boswell, David Henderson and Abdul Mulla and Altaf Bagdhadi, the Independent Co-opted Members.

#### **2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

#### **3. Declaration of interests**

There were no declarations of interests received.

#### 4. Public Questions

No public questions have been received.

#### 5. Task and Finish Groups – Verbal Updates

Verbal updates from Task Group Members were received as follows:

- **Contact Centre** – Phil Llewellyn, on behalf of the Task Group, advised that the Group would be meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and further updates would be provided accordingly.
- **Victim Services** – Clare Cleary advised that the Task Group were looking to visit the Hub, and that Ian Dickinson was making arrangements.
- **Frontline Policing** – Roger Berry reminded Members that an interim report had been submitted to the last meeting and since then the PCCs Office had provided various details concerning the current number of Police Officers, PCSOs and Specials and recent recruitment levels. Cllr Berry also advised of details received from the PCC on some of the work being delivered as part of the Early Action Project and gave details to the meeting of the following projects: Vulnerable Callers, The Avert Project and the Partnership Commissioning Review.

**RESOLVED-** That the updates be noted.

#### 6. Fracking Update

The Commissioner submitted a detailed report which provided an update to provide Members of the Panel with an update in relation to the policing aspects of the fracking operation by Cuadrilla.

Dealing with the level of protest had required a large on-going dedicated policing operation to be in place since January 2017. Operation Manilla was the overarching name for the policing operation in response to the anti-fracking protests. It included a significant daily public order capability, which could range between 50 and 75 officers per day. This main strand of the operation was supported by officers and staff providing a dedicated, investigative, intelligence, logistics, communication, reassurance and professional standards capability. In total the size of the operation has, at peak times, ranged between 75 - 100 officers per day.

Maintaining an operation of this scale had presented the force with significant resourcing and financial issues. Originally, the approach taken was to resource operation Manilla entirely with Lancashire officers, this was done by using a combination of officers abstracted from their normal duties and paid overtime on officer's rest days. Whilst this approach was successful in managing the early

phases of the protest, by July it became evident that Lancashire Constabulary could not operationally sustain this level of daily abstraction.

The impact of keeping an operation of this scale staffed entirely with Lancashire officers was a significant strain on the available policing resources to provide 'business as usual' policing in Lancashire. This situation was frequently being exacerbated by regular short notice emergency abstraction of officers from their scheduled duties due to unexpected spikes in protestor activity. There were also growing concerns around the accumulated officer wellbeing impact of continually working their rest days for several months.

The demands of resourcing operation Manilla also needed to be seen in the context of several other important factors creating strain on the force. Some notable competing issues had included the increased strain on the police service following the terrorist attacks in London and Manchester, plus the increase in demand nearly all police forces had experienced in recent months.

The decision was taken to start resourcing a significant proportion of the public order aspect of operation Manilla via mutual aid from other police forces in England and Wales (mutual aid contributed between a third and a half of the public order part of operation Manilla). The cost of Mutual Aid has been significant to the cost of the operation.

At the end of October 2017 the professional Standards Department at Lancashire Constabulary had recorded 145 complaints in respect of the policing of the fracking operation. The table in the report identified the nature of the complaints.

The Commissioner had written to the Home Office on a number of occasions to request financial support in respect of the policing of the fracking operation. Lancashire MPs had also submitted a cross party letter in support of the Commissioner's request.

The Commissioner had made a claim for 'Special Grant' support from the Home Office and HMICFRS attended Lancashire in the week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to review that claim. No indication was given as to when a decision on any award of grant by the Home Office would be made.

Members of the Panel asked the Commissioner a number of questions relating to the report, in particular relating to complaints received, the impact on local residents and the local economy, resources issues, and the approach of the Police in dealing with protesters.

The Commissioner responded, giving further details of complaints received and how they were dealt with, the difficulty of getting the balance right when managing the protesters and trying to build a relationship with them, whilst also responding to the concerns of the local community. The Commissioner also reminded the Panel that costs of policing outside the site had to be paid for by the taxpayer, Cuadrilla had to

pay for costs of security within the site, and had offered to assist with costs outside it, however this would not be appropriate as it would comprise the impartiality of the operation.

The Chair, on behalf of the Panel, requested that a report be submitted to the next full Panel meeting, reviewing whether the approach taken by the Police was appropriate and whether there were other options available.

**RESOLVED-** That the report be noted and, that a report be submitted to the next full Panel meeting reviewing the strategic approach to the management of the resourcing for the policing of the protests.

## **7. Police and Crime Plan Monitoring Report**

The Commissioner presented a report which provided Members of the Panel with an update on progress in delivering the Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire 2016-2021. The report covered the first quarter from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

The Commissioner highlighted that in July Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) completed the PEEL Spring Inspection of Efficiency, Legitimacy and Leadership. The Efficiency report was published on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 with an overall judgement of Good. The Legitimacy report was published on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and the Commissioner advised that this had also been judged Good.

In July HMICFRS also completed their inspection of Crime Data Integrity. This comprised of reviewing approximately 2500 incident logs to ensure that if a crime had been reported it had been recorded on the crime system or a suitable negation supplied, the data work was then followed up by four days of reality testing. The report was published on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017 with an overall judgement of 'inadequate'. Since the publication of the report the Commissioner had met with the Chief Constable and has been assured that work was already underway to urgently put into place the recommendations of HMICFRS.

Following comments, concerns and questions by Members, the Commissioner agreed to bring a report to the next full Panel meeting providing further detail, including information on the link with Victim Services.

In response to an update on the Force Control Room (FCR), concerns were also raised about the performance of the FCR, and the decanting of the FCR to facilitate the full roll out of Pod working and the lack of representative teams whilst the decant was ongoing. The Commissioner also advised that the Chief Constable had agreed to increase the number of Police Control Room Operators by a further 50 to meet increasing demand.

The Commissioner received questions on the rollout of the average speed camera programme, unnecessary referrals to the MASH, declining user satisfaction figures, data recording issues for Victim Support, the impact of Mental Health on policing and Hate Crime in terms of Eastern European victims.

In response, the Commissioner advised that the fifth of eight average speed cameras went live on 24<sup>th</sup> November. In terms of MASH referrals, the Commissioner advised that work was ongoing to introduce efficiencies. In relation to declining user satisfaction figures and data recording issues relating to Victim Support, the Commissioner advised that information systems were being updated to keep people updated on their cases, and that would lead to less 101 calls for those people who were ringing for update information, and should lead to increased user satisfaction levels. The Commissioner shared the concerns of the Panel about the amount of time spent on Mental Health issues, and advised that work was ongoing with Health on these issues. In terms of Hare Crime and Eastern European Victims, the Commissioner advised that dedicated 101 lines were in place, but that due to the fear of crime, many victims did not report incidents.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be noted and that the Commissioner submit a report to the next full Panel meeting on the response to the findings of the HMICFRS on Crime Data integrity including information on the link with Victim Services.

## **8. Police and Crime Commissioner Decisions**

Members received a report which outlined the decisions taken by the Commissioner since the last meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be noted.

## **9. National Conference for Police and Crime Panels**

A report was submitted which gave a summary of the Sixth National Conference for Police and Crime Panels held in Warwick 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

The Conference, as well as being a good opportunity to hear about the latest policy developments was also a good opportunity to meet representatives from other Police and Crime Panels and share good practice.

The Conference was very well attended, with representatives (Councillors and Officers) attending from the vast majority of Police and Crime Panels across England and Wales. Phil Llewellyn and Asad Laher (replacing Councillor Paul Elms who was unavailable) represented the Lancashire Panel

Key speakers debated the matters on the horizon for PCPs, which included potential scrutiny of PCC's with Fire responsibilities, the need to get information from a variety of sources when carrying out scrutiny, the need to better engage with residents and the need for faster resolution of complaints.

In terms of the proposed National Association, there was clear support for a LGA supported Special Interest Group (SIG) to be set up, and it was suggested that each Panel who joined make a £200 contribution, and there was debate on whether Members and Officers should both sit on the SIG, with the favoured approach being Members only. Volunteers were sought for a Steering Group, with the aim of making the necessary suggestions and recommendations by March 2018.

A number of workshops were available on topics including Complaints Handling, Public Engagement and Partnership Working.

The Conference provided a good opportunity to hear of the experiences of other PCPs and to make new contacts in other PCPs, and it was recommended that the Panel be represented at the next Conference, at Warwick on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

An e-mail had been circulated to all Members of the Panel, advising of plans for the plans for the Special Interest Group, in particular that representatives from each PCP would meet 'virtually' and agree the agenda for the inaugural meeting to be held in February/March.

#### **RESOLVED –**

1) That the report be noted and representation at the next Conference be confirmed at the AGM meeting in June 2018; and

2) That Councillor Paul Elms represent and lead on matters relating to the Special Interest Group on behalf of the Panel, supported by Phil Llewellyn.

#### **10. Monitoring of Complaints**

The Secretary presented a report which set out the current position with regard to communications relating to complaints received in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

**RESOLVED –** That the report be noted.

#### **11. Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

#### **12. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Panel (Precept only) would be held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018, at 6.30pm in Cabinet Room 'C' The Duke of Lancaster Room, County Hall, Preston.

Signed.....Chair  
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