

Agenda item

Police and Crime Panel

Meeting to be held on 16th September 2020

LANCASHIRE POLICE & CRIME PANEL FORWARD PLAN 2020/21

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

This report sets out arrangements to prepare and action a forward plan for the Panel for the Municipal Year 2020/21.

Recommendations

The Panel

1. Receive the update from Frontline Policing Task and Finish Group from the last municipal year
2. Agree that Covid 19 – Action and recovery be a regular Agenda item for scrutiny by the Panel on meetings throughout this municipal year
3. Agree the Forward Plan for 2020/21 inclusive of work areas and/or task and finish group activity focussing on key aspects of the Commissioners Police and Crime Plan for Lancashire for publication.

Background and Advice

The report by the Standards in Public Life Report – Tone from the Top – identified the importance of Forward Plans.

Police and Crime Panels should focus attention on key areas for scrutiny each year by reviewing the PCC's Police and Crime Plan.

To facilitate work in advance of the scheduled meetings for areas selected for further scrutiny the Panel has previously agreed Task & Finish Groups to review information in advance of the meetings and engage directly with the PCC & the Office of the PCC as appropriate.

At the last meeting the Chair referred to the written update provided by Councillors Berry and Whipp on the work of the Frontline Policing Task and Finish Group from the last municipal year. In view of both Councillors being unable to join that meeting, it was agreed that they would report fully at this meeting along with other remaining Members updating on the progress of their groups.

The Chair also suggested that Covid-19 recovery and Community Cohesion were areas of the scrutiny the Panel may wish to look at during 2020/21.

It is suggested therefore that Covid-19 action and recovery be regularly reported and be a separate agenda item for the remaining scheduled full panel meetings for this municipal year.

Since the last meeting all Panel members were also further invited to suggest areas for additional scrutiny this year on consideration of the Commissioners Annual Report and Performance Reports at the AGM in July 2020.

The responses were as follows:

1. Local & Neighbourhood Policing Strategy – Suggested lead – Councillor Jackie Oakes
2. Police Response Team – Funding & Expenditure – Suggested lead – Councillor Roger Berry
3. Violence Reduction Network – Suggested lead - TBC
4. Volunteering Services – TBC
5. Community Cohesion - Building Confidence in Local Communities – Suggested lead - Councillor Mohammed Khan

All Panel members were asked to consider which of the 5 specific areas they would have a particular interest (minimum one area) in for more detailed examination and scrutiny, perhaps via a Task and Finish Group or presentation.

Subject to these considerations and finalisation by the Panel of the Forward Plan, the Secretary would make the necessary administrative arrangements to support this work including the setting up of Task and Finish Groups as appropriate.

From the feedback received the Secretary has drafted the attached Forward Plan which when completed could incorporate therefore up to five specific areas of scrutiny.

The Panel is asked to discuss and agree the number and membership of Task & Finish Groups and agree that the Secretary then populate and publish the forward plan for the year, following consultation with the Chair.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Legal Implications

Forward Plans are a requirement for local authorities, and a good programme of work, with a forward plan for any public reports, cuts down on 'surprises'; unexpected decisions or issues that a Panel may be required to respond to. It is considered that a Forward Plan helps the Panel in carrying out its scrutiny role in an effective manner.

Financial Implications

N/A

Risk management

The provision of effective scrutiny by the Police and Crime Panel 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>
Good Practice for Police and Crime Panels Guidance Document	May 2015	David Fairclough 01254 585642