

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

Meeting to be held on the 20 July 2021

### **Independent review of deaths and serious incidents in custody**

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#### **Executive Summary**

The purpose of the report is to advise the Police and Crime Panel how the PCC provides independent scrutiny of Lancashire Constabulary to ensure that detainees in custody are being treated fairly and in accordance with Code C, G and H of the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE).

#### **Recommendation**

The Panel is asked to consider this report.

#### **Information**

The Panel will recall that at its meeting in December 2020 that consideration was given to how the Commissioner's response on the independent review of deaths and serious incidents in custody chaired by Dame Elish Angiolini DBE QC - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/deathsand-serious-incidents-in-police-custody> reported in January 2017 should be presented to the Panel. Accordingly, the Panel asked for a briefing paper to be presented to the July meeting.

In the report pages 160-164 it refers to the PCC's statutory duty to have an Independent Custody Visitors scheme in place, and to ensure that appropriately trained medical staff are available in police station custody suites.

In a communication in September 2020, it was suggested by NAPFCP that Police and Crime Panels may wish to scrutinise the work of the PCC in custody and how he holds the Chief Constable to account for the operational running of custody. The purpose of this report is therefore to provide assurances about the position in Lancashire and how this is monitored.

Attached at Appendix A is a briefing paper setting out how the Commissioner through his office provides independent scrutiny of Lancashire Constabulary to ensure that detainees in custody are being treated fairly and in accordance with Code C, G and H of the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE).

## **Consultations**

N/A.

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **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. The role of the Panel is to scrutinise.

## **Legal Implications**

The role of the Panel includes the scrutiny of the actions of the PCC in respect of his Police & Crime Plan and use of resources to deliver effective Policing across Lancashire. This report is in accordance with those responsibilities.

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

NAPFCP Note and documents September 2020

David Fairclough  
Secretary to the  
Police & Crime Panel

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