

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 18th July 2023

PANEL BUDGET 2022/23

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Executive Summary

This report outlines Panel expenditure in 2022/23.

Recommendation

1. The Panel is asked to note expenditure for 2022/23, which will be published on the PCP website.
2. The Panel is asked to consider the payment of allowances to Independent Co-opted Members.

Background and Advice

The Government committed to providing limited funding to cover the costs of maintaining Police and Crime Panels. The host authority for a Police and Crime Panel in a police force area will receive a maximum annually of up to £71,700 in total, which includes a maximum of £53,300 for costs of administering Panels and up to £920 for expenses per member to a maximum of £18,400 (maximum 20 Panel members). This was confirmed again by the Home Office for 2022/23 but no commitment has been made to funding for future years at this stage.

Home Office funding is provided via a grant agreement which is paid in arrears to Blackburn with Darwen as the host authority.

As part of the agreement to fund Police and Crime Panels, the Home Office stipulated that for 2015/16 onwards a transparency requirement was attached as a condition of the single grant payment to allow public scrutiny of PCP spending. This now required PCPs to publish, as a minimum on their website, details of all their expenditure including all panel administration costs and individual panel member claims for expenses and allowances.

Attached at Appendix 1 is a breakdown of costs and expenditure submitted to the Home Office for the Grant Claim for 2022/23.

At the AGM in July 2021, the Panel agreed that the rates for the Payment of Allowances (also covering expenses) set out in the report submitted, as first discussed in July 2019 be confirmed, being single annual payments (based on 4 ordinary meetings a year and subject to regular attendance at all meetings), namely:

Chair of the Panel £600
Vice Chair of the Panel £480
Task & Finish Group Lead £400
Task and Finish Group Members £300
To be paid after the last meeting in the cycle each year (one allowance only per qualifying Member).

Arrangements have been made to pay the qualifying Panel Members from 2022/23 who have indicated they wish to take up the Allowance.

Now that two Independent Co-opted Members have been appointed to the Panel, it is an appropriate time to consider the payment of allowances to Co-opted Independent Members, and the AGM is asked to consider this today.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

N/A

Legal Implications

From 2015/16 it is a condition of the funding from the Home Office that details of all expenditure are published as a minimum on the Panel's website.

Financial Implications

The Grant Agreement includes a maximum of £53,300 for costs of administering Panels and up to £920 for expenses per member to a maximum of £18,400 (maximum 20 Panel members). This was confirmed again by the Home Office for 2022/23 but no commitment has been made to funding for future years at this stage.

Risk management

N/A

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

Grant documentation

Contact/Directorate/Tel

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

2022/23

Administration costs £39,904.97

Members Allowances £1,880.00

Total £41,784.97

Note

Admin costs = webcasting, training, conferences, travel costs, hospitality, printing, postage, website and PR&Comms.