

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

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

#### **Present:**

#### **Chair**

Councillor Alistair Bradley, Chorley Borough Council

#### **Committee Members**

Councillor Andy Kay, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Councillor Viv Wilder, Fylde Borough Council

Councillor Keith Iddon, Lancashire County Council

Councillor Munsif Dad, Hyndburn Borough Council

Councillor Alistair Sinclair, Lancaster City Council

Councillor David Whipp, Pendle Borough Council

Councillor Simon Hore, Ribble Valley Borough Council

#### **Also in attendance**

- Clive Grunshaw, Police and Crime Commissioner
- Angela Harrison, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Chief Superintendent Ian Dawson
- David Fairclough, Secretary
- Asad Laher, Head of Governance
- Phil Llewellyn, Governance and Democratic Manager

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

The Chair, Councillor Alistair Bradley welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies ahead of the meeting had been received from Councillors Geoff Driver, Ben Aitken, Paul Foster and Roger Berry, and apologies were received during the meeting as a result of an incident on the M6 from Councillors Ivan Taylor and Steve Hughes.

### **2. Minutes of the AGM Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**RESOLVED** - The Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

On behalf of Councillor Geoff Driver, Councillor Keith Iddon enquired about information on Non-Recorded Crimes which it was agreed at the last meeting would be circulated. Cllr Iddon was advised that the information had recently been circulated to all the Panel so a copy would be available from Councillor Driver.

### 3. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were submitted.

### 4. Public Questions

No public questions had been received.

### 5. Membership Update

A report was submitted on Membership of the Panel for 2019/20, following the discussions at the AGM in July.

Following the AGM the Lancashire Leaders further discussed the position and a further option was suggested as follows:

Labour 9	Conservative 7 (+3)	Lib Dem 1	Independent Member 1
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This option like its predecessor could not be unanimously agreed.

The Panel noted that whilst neither of the two options made it possible to achieve the exact political balance, the Local Government Association ['LGA'] Guidance on Panel Arrangements and the Balanced Appointment Objective stated that the balanced appointment objective must be secured 'as far as is practicable'. As the Home Office had also pointed out, whatever membership was eventually agreed on, the rationale for doing that needed to be robust enough to withstand legal challenge.

As reported previously, Local Authorities combined must 'agree' to the balance of the Panel and the Home Office has powers to intervene and make appointments if agreement could not be reached locally, though it had been made clear that the best Panel arrangements are those which are locally determined.

Unfortunately given the failure of the Panel to be able to fully agree its composition for 2019/20 it had been necessary for the Secretary following consultation with all Lancashire Leaders, to write to the Secretary of State to be advised as regards finalisation of membership arrangements for 2019/20, pending which the membership would remain at the core membership level of 15 Councillors (as nominated to date) and the 2 independent co-opted members.

In terms of substitute members on the Panel, the report submitted outlined nominations to date and the Panel was asked to note the substitute members for constituent councils for 2019/20.

At the AGM of the Panel in July it was resolved that existing Chairs and Members of Task and Finish Groups be contacted to check if they were still happy to be part of the process with additional volunteers sought as appropriate to facilitate membership and work scopes to be agreed at this meeting. Unfortunately, the Panel noted that due to the uncertainty about Panel membership this had not been possible.

It was suggested that Subject Task and Finish Leaders (Champions) be nominated from the core constituent membership as currently identified and that the Panel confirm these nominations and subject areas to facilitate work to commence on task and finish areas for 2019/20. Councillor Berry had already stated his willingness to continue with his existing Group – Frontline Policing and David Whipp stated that he would be happy to continue to lead on the Contact Centre Group and be a Member of the Frontline Group. The Chair asked for any further volunteers to let David Fairclough or Phil Llewellyn know if they would like to be involved.

Each year the Secretary arranged with the Chair an Annual Induction and Introduction to the role and function of the Police and Crime Panel. Unfortunately, the Panel had to note that due to the uncertainty about Panel membership it had not been possible to date to determine when it would be appropriate for this session to take place. The panel were asked to note the Secretary would finalise a date for the Annual Induction and Introduction to the role and function of the Police and Crime Panel, to take place as soon as the final membership was known as appropriate.

## **RESOLVED -**

### **That the Panel:**

1. Note the Membership Update Report;
2. Note the substitute Councillors for constituent councils for 2019/20;
3. Agree Subject Task and Finish Leaders (Champions) be nominated from the core constituent membership and the subject areas for task and finish work for 2019/20; and
4. Note the Annual Induction and Introduction to the role and function of the Police and Crime Panel would be considered for rescheduling once the final panel membership is known for 2019/20.

## **6. Force Management Statement**

Chief Superintendent Ian Dawson delivered a presentation, explaining that Lancashire Constabulary was an early adopter of the Force Management Statement (FMS), being one of twelve pilot forces, and the FMS was used as the basis for Business Planning.

CS Dawson outlined the Executive Summary for 2018, with 2018 demand profile predominately about increases in complex need and vulnerability, with a key theme being digital policing development. In 2019, the Executive Summary highlighted the investment in Child Protection had led to an improved vulnerability response and there had been an increased intelligence picture relating to County Lines, Child

Criminal Exploitation, Child Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking following investment.

The benefits of the FMS approach were outlined, which included accurate detailed understanding of demand, both in the present and future predications, and effective prioritisation of investment and efficiency.

Members of the Panel discussed the use of the information in the FMS and the impact and benefits for members of the public and its use as a scrutiny tool. There was also discussion on the benefits of investment in technology versus having more officers/PCSO's on the beat. It was confirmed that the FMS would feed into the business process and would be referred to in reports moving forwards as well as at the Finance Seminar in December.

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

## **7. Annual Report 2018/2019**

The PCC submitted his draft Annual Report for 2018/2019, highlighting key points and requesting feedback within the next two weeks ahead of the report being published.

The Commissioner particularly highlighted the investment in 'Our Lancashire', which was a social action platform for groups and would launch in Autumn 2019, as well as the new volunteer role of Community Champion which was currently being piloted and would provide a visible presence in local communities and bring groups together.

The Panel gave comments on the report and also requested more information on 'Our Lancashire' be provided at the next meeting.

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

## **8. Performance Monitoring Report**

The Commissioner submitted his latest performance monitoring report, which covered the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

In submitting his report, the Commissioner highlighted the successful grant funding bid for the sum of £1.82M to tackle knife crime, and advised that this needed to be invested by March 2020, and outlined the way the funding would be used.

Members of the Panel discussed the report, in particular the response times which were a cause for concern and were not levelling off as predicated, and if an improved position would be seen soon. The Commissioner advised that following the recruitment of 40 extra officers and other specialist staff improved response times would be seen, but extra staff were still required and it remained to be seen how

many extra officers there would be in Lancashire, following the Government's recent announcement of 20,000 new officers nationally.

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

## **9. PCC Decisions**

A report was submitted, highlighting decisions made in the period since the last meeting of the Panel on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

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

## **10. Verbal report back from the LGA Annual Police & Crime Panels Workshop held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019.**

The Vice Chair, Councillor Andy Kay, Asad Laher and Phil Llewellyn updated the Panel on their recent attendance at the Annual LGA PCP Workshop, held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 in London. The Workshop had been a good opportunity to hear the latest national position and network with counterparts, and updated Panel guidance was launched by Ed Hammond, Centre for Public Scrutiny. The Home Office also provided an update, and there was also been an update from the National Association and a Panel discussion on Serious Violent Crime, including County Lines.

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

## **11. Annual PCP Conference November 2019**

The Chair asked that any Member interested in attending the Annual PCP Conference at the University of Warwick let Phil Llewellyn know, and asked Phil to circulate the details again.

The Secretary advised that the Home Office had confirmed that Membership of the National Association could not be funded from the Home Office Grant, and one option would be for all the local authorities on the Panel to equally contribute towards the cost. The Vice Chair indicated that as Host Authority, Blackburn with Darwen would however cover the cost of the £500 subscription.

**RESOLVED** – 1. That attendance at the Annual Conference be discussed and confirmed outside of the meeting;

2. That it be noted that Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council would cover the cost of subscription to the National Association for 2019/20.

## **12. Forward Plan 2019/20**

Further to discussions at the AGM in July, the Panel was asked to identify and agree from the PCC's Reports to the Panel 2 (or more) areas of particular interest that the

Panel would focus on as special interest area at its meetings scheduled in, December 2019 and March 2020.

Unfortunately, due to the issues reported separately earlier in the meeting regarding Panel membership for 2019/20 it had not been possible to date to finalise full membership of Task and Finish Groups for 2019/20. However once those issues were resolved the Secretary would liaise with the PCC on the production of more detailed information to be prepared and circulated in advance of the meetings to facilitate full and detailed scrutiny of chosen areas of scrutiny.

The proposed Forward Plan had therefore been amended to reflect the delay to the establishment of the Task and Finish Groups. The title of the report due from these Groups would also be inserted following decisions taken at the meeting. In addition, the Government was also due to introduce new regulations regarding the implementation of new complaints and conduct legislation in 2019. However, the laying of this legislation was now not expected until at the earliest, December 2019. The updated Forward Plan now reflected this later date.

**RESOLVED** - That the Panel agree the updated Forward Plan for the Municipal Year 2019/20 and subject to considerations set out separately on the Agenda, agree the title of, and timetable for the reporting back from any Task and Finish Groups aligned to each area of the Plan (as appropriate).

### **13. Monitoring of Complaints**

A report was submitted which set out the current position with regard to communications relating to potential complaints received up to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Since the commencement of the Panel in 2012 there had now been 67 recorded communications which at the outset were described by the complainants as complaints against the Police & Crime Commissioner, and all 67 outcomes had been reported to previous meetings.

No complaints about the PCC had been received between 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

**RESOLVED** – That the update in relation to communications and complaints be noted.

### **14. Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

### **15. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Panel would be held at 6.30pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at Blackburn Town Hall, and would be preceded by a Finance Seminar for Members at 5.30pm.

Signed.....Chair  
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