

MEETING OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Thursday 24 June 2021 - 7:00pm

The Spotlight Theatre High Street Hoddesdon EN11 8BE

MINUTES

(Please note the minutes are a brief summary of the discussion and not intended to be verbatim)

Members Present: Cllr S Monaghan (Chair), Broxbourne Borough Council

Cllr P Choudhury, Hertsmere Borough Council

Dr M Ramsay, Independent Member (Independent member)

Cllr J Hollywell, Stevenage Borough Council Cllr F Thomson, Hertfordshire County Council Cllr G Saffery, Watford Borough Council Cllr A Curtis, East Herts District Council

Cllr J Taylor, St Albans City and District Council

Cllr Scarth, Three Rivers District Council

Cllr Bernard Sarson - Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Cllr Sam North - North Herts District Council

Also Present: Mr David Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner

Mr Chris Brace, Chief Executive, PCC

Mrs N Boateng, Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Cllr Monaghan was voted in a Chair of the Panel

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Cllr Imarni was voted in as Vice Chair of the Panel

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr Ian Laidlaw-Dickson, Cllr Imarni and Cllr Saffery

4. CONFIRMATION OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

Mr Malcolm Ramsay and Mr Ian Laidlaw-Dickson were confirmed by the Panel as independent members.

5. THANK YOU TO CLLRS HODGSON AND WOODWARD

The Chair thanked Cllr Hodgson and Cllr Woodward, on behalf of the Panel for their hard work and dedication to the work of the Panel.

6. WELCOME TO NEW MBEMBERS FROM HERTFORDSHIRE CC AND ST ALBANS

The Chair welcomed the two new Panel members Cllr Thomson and Cllr Taylor.

7. REVIEW AND CONFIRMATION HEARING OF THE PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

DL introduced this item, advised the Panel DG was retiring from the role of DPCC and commented he had been brilliant in the role, going the extra mile.

LC exceeds the JD for the role of DPCC, he brings the benefit of youth, political insight as Leader of BoB and he will be able to work with Councillors.

DL reminded the Panel that the appointment was his decision and that the Panel were not able to bar any candidate.

JH asked about the public perception of DL appointing a senior politician to the role, and commented that it could be seen as 'jobs for the boys'.

DL the appointment of LC of DPCC sits outside employment law, it is a political role appointed to by a politician. Reiterated he thought LC held skills to perform well in the role.

AS you are Leader of BoB and a County Councillor will you be able to split your time to undertake this role.

LC I am Leader of BoB and a County Councillor. I work full time, I do my Councillor work in the evenings and weekends. If appointed to this post I will resign from my day job. I will give this role 110%.

PC what skills/ experience were you looking for to fill this role.

DL the JD covers that. LC will bring a different perspective in age, location and enthusiasm to the role. I have set out in my letter why I think he is the suitable candidate.

AC (to LC) what is your understanding of policing by consent?

LC We exercise policing by consent in UK, (LC then summarised the 9 principles of policing by consent).

SN Thanked DL for a good competition and congratulated him on his re-election as PCC.

SN It is fantastic to see someone of my age employed in the role of DPCC.

The Panel voted on the appointment of LC as DPCC – the Panel voted unanimously in favour of the appointment.

8. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 4 February 2021

The minutes were agreed

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Chair read a statement regarding the Mary Fleming complaint making a recommendation to the PCC (attached).

10. PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

None

11. QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL FROM THE PUBLIC

None

12. STATEMENT FROM CHAIR - MARY FLEMING COMPLAINT

This was dealt with under item 9.

13. ESTABLISHMENT OF PCP WORKING GROUPS

The Chair announced that the Panel will be setting up three working groups to look at:

- Disproportionality/Statistics to be led by Cllr Pervez and Dr Ramsay
- Finance to be led by Cllr Curtis
- Prevention first to be led by Cllr Hollywell

14. MEMBER TRAINING - POLICE HEADQUARTERS/TOUR OF CONTROL ROOM (WHEN POSSIBLE)

The Chair indicated that it would be beneficial for a training day to be put together for the Panel at Police Headquarters including a tour of the control room when Covid restrictions allow. Similar to the training day arranged for the Panel that took place in October 2017.

DL indicated the Panel should direct this request to the constabulary directly via CB.

15. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ANNUAL REPORT

DL introduced report.

AC referred to p20 of the Nightingale report and asked what has been done to move this along?

DL biggest crisis the criminal justice system has seen, the backlog is not good enough. I continue to press for what can be done, I raised it at the National Criminal Justice Board. South Wales and other areas are getting back to normal. I will contact those areas to see what they have done to achieve this. We need someone directly responsible for the criminal justice system, with a plan and budget.

JT you mention in the report that crime is down, the public don't want to hear this, they want to hear what has actually been done about crime.

DL Chief Constable recognises this. Increase in crime statistics often shows the police have been more active in a particular area of crime.

AC p33 widening public engagement, when will in person engagement take place.

DL when government give the go ahead after Pandemic.

AC p48 can you explain the under spend?

DL complex range of reasons for this. Moved from a grant giving position to a commissioning position. Grant not linked to our budget in the sense that they are to be spent by a certain point, they can be used in the future.

16. INDEPENDENT STOP & SEARCH SCRUTINY PANEL ANNUAL REPORT

Marianne Murphy (Chair of the Independent Stop and Search Panel) introduced the report. She confirmed the Panel had a challenge and scrutinising role, we don't have an investigative role.

The membership of the Panel has changed, more diverse in relation to ethnicity and age. The panel have been re-trained. Officers/Sergeants join our meetings so they can feed back to the constabulary.

432 records were recorded. 79 instances of not being confident in the record.

Going forward we want to include body warn video footage.

The Panel will work with the PCP on disproportionality.

For the year ahead the key activity for the Panel will be:

- · Review body warn video
- Engage with public more to raise awareness of the Panel
- Identify areas for scrutiny for deep dives

SN commented that the structure of the report was good and easy to follow. The make-up of the Panel is better. Makes sense that there will be collaboration with the PCP.

PC concern raised about instances where body warn cameras not warn.

MM confirmed she would take that comment back.

DL need to get as close to 100% of use of body worn cameras.

SN Body worn cameras are one of the best things to happen to policing. Thanked MM for stepping into the role. But raised concern about the similarity between this report and the one last year. Stop and search is politically charged, the level of none confidences is unacceptable.

MM we looked at reasons for none confidences. Possible reasons for this may be:

- Influx of new members
- New police recruits
- Differences over what 'no confidence' means

We have changed the feedback form, so that the Panel member has to explain why they are not confident.

Dr MR welcomed the research project which may link to the work of the working group. Asked if they could provide an update in September.

17. DOG WELFARE ANNUAL REPORT

DL summarised report

AC asked for clarification on scheme administrator.

DL confirmed they are located in his office, the report is produced by his office.

FT asked for update on the appropriate adult.

DL Undertook to bring a report on this.

18. INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VOLUNTEERS ANNUAL REPORT

DL summarised report

PC referred to p10 – Age profile, majority 50 and above

DL difficulty getting young people to volunteer in areas.

PC p7 and 9 referred to figures not recorded.

DL not mandatory to define ethnicity on anthena which explains discrepancy.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AC e-scooter regulation is deficient.

DL there is detailed guidance on the use of e-scooters (section from guidance read to the meeting).

Chair – advised the Panel she had been appointed to the NACFP and will feed back the PCP and PCC.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 23 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7PM VENUE TBC