



WATFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL



MEETING OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Tuesday 25 November 2021 – 7:00pm

Borough of Broxbourne Council
Bishops' College, Cheshunt
Hertfordshire, EN8 9XQ

MINUTES

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

Members Present: Cllr P Choudhury (Chair), Hertsmere Borough Council
Dr M Ramsay, Independent Member
Mr I Laidlaw-Dickson 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 A Scarth, Three Rivers District Council

Also Present: Mr David Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner
Mr Lewis Cocking, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Mr Chris Brace, Chief Executive, PCC
Dr Amie Birkhamshaw, Director of Strategy, PCC
Mr Ian Rooney, Director of Finance, PCC
Mrs Nathalie Boateng, Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel
Mr Ibrahim Balta, Deputy Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel

1. WELCOME

Due to the absences of the Chair and Vice Chair, the Panel elected Cllr Choudhury to chair the meeting.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Police and Crime Panel meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Siobhan Monaghan (Broxbourne Borough Council), Cllr Israel Imarni (Dacorum Borough Council) and Cllr Bernard Sarson (Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council)

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 24 JUNE 2021

The minutes were agreed

4. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Thompson corrected an error in the minutes under item 17.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

None received

6. QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL AND PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None received

7. UPDATE REPORT FROM PCP WORKING GROUPS

It was agreed the working groups draft report on disproportionality would be withdrawn from the PCP website until the PCC had an opportunity to review and respond.

Disproportionality working group to meet with PCC's office.

8. PCC BUDGET MONITORING Q2 2021

IR (Chief Finance Officer) presented the quarter 2 budget monitoring report to the panel.

AC: Referred to underspend and asked how this would be used.

IR: Explained that the PCC had moved to a commissioning approach in line with priorities in the PCC plan.

DL: Confirmed the funds could be used at any stage as they were raised from Council tax not government grant.

IL: Enquired about vacancies and the impact this had on service delivery.

DL: We have more officers than ever before. It takes slightly longer to get through on 101 but 999 calls are on target.

SN: Referred to the number of new officers, while losing experienced officers, enquired whether this resulted in a less effective police force.

DL: This is something that is managed by ensuring new officers are better trained. New recruits are trained in Prevention first.

SN: Asked whether PCC raised council tax by too much, with reference to underspend.

DL: Considered that PCCs should be able to raise Council tax by what is needed without a cap, so that some years there would be no rise and only apply increases when needed.

JT: Referred to the 34 officer vacancies and suggested this might be better given as a percentage to understand the impact.

AS: Commented that call centres should be staffed by civilians and Officers on long term sick and not Police officers.

DL: The additional government funding was provided for Police officers not other staff, this has lead in a few cases, in some forces, to Police officers in roles which were previously undertaken by civilians.

AS: Requested a future report on how many officers are recruited from ethnic minorities.

DL: 23 BAME recruited making up 12% of successful applications.

FT: Referred to page 3 and HR overspend and asked whether this was a one off due to Covid.

IR: Confirmed that it was.

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2020-2021

Panel reviewed plan page by page with PCC providing further clarification when requested.

10. PRESENTATION ON BUILDING AN EVIDENCE BASED COMMUNITY SAFETY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLAN

Presentation by Dr Amie Birkhamshaw



Item 10 -
Presentation - Buildin

11. PROPOSED DATES FOR PCP MEETINGS IN 2022

Tuesday 8 February

Thursday 17 March

Thursday 23 June

Thursday 15 September (provisional date if needed)

Thursday 17 November

12. AOB

DL: Requested PCP look at meeting times.

PCP to consider starting the meeting at 6pm, with the PCP pre-meeting to take place in advance via Zoom or Teams.

SN: Proposed the PCP request the PCC provide a report on Police welfare.

ID: Suggested due to the late hour that SN proposal go on the agenda at the next meeting with information regarding whether this falls within the powers of the PCP.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 6:00PM THURSDAY 8th February 2022 venue tbc