



WATFORD  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



# MEETING OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Thursday 11 April 2019

North Hertfordshire District Council  
Gernon Road Letchworth Garden City  
SG6 3JF

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## MINUTES

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

**Members Present:** Cllr P Choudhury, Hertsmere Borough Council  
Mr Chris Cowdrey, Independent Member  
Cllr T Hutchings, Broxbourne Borough Council (Chairman)  
Mr Ian Laidlaw-Dickson, Independent Member  
Dr M Ramsay, Independent Member  
Cllr Roger Trigg, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
Cllr A Scarth, Three Rivers District Council  
Cllr Jackie Hollywell, Stevenage Borough Council  
Cllr I Imarni, Dacorum Borough Council

**Also Present:** Cllr Jeremy Pearce, Broxbourne Borough Council  
Mrs N Boateng, Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel  
Mr David Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner  
Mr David Gibson, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner  
Mr Chris Brace, Chief Executive, PCC  
Dr Amie Birkhamshaw, Director of Strategy, PCC

### 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Cllr P Boylan, Cllr S Hodgson, Cllr T Hunter, Cllr R Martins, Cllr B Sarson

### 2 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 31 January 2019

Agreed

### 3 MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Hutchings confirmed that the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel had been advertised on OWL in Broxbourne, all representative Council of the PCP had been written

to and asked to advertise the meeting on OWL for their area. A note of the meeting had also been sent out on Twitter and the meeting advertised on Broxbourne Council's website.

#### **4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

None

#### **5 QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL AND PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

None

#### **6 REQUEST FROM PCC FOR AN ADDITIONAL MEETING OF THE PCP**

Agreed, there will be an additional meeting of the Police and Crime Panel on **19<sup>th</sup> September 2019**, for a presentation to the Panel of the PCCs updated Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan.

#### **7 PRESENTATION ON POLICE STATISTICS**

This was the follow up on previous questions asked by Panel member - Dr Malcolm Ramsay.

Crest Advisory were scheduled to provide a presentation on the criminal dashboard for Hertfordshire which enables analysis of current crime levels and projects future trends to better support the Police and ensure resources are directed in the right place, based on standardised statistics and performance measures.

Crest Advisory had pulled out of the presentation at short notice.

The Police & Crime Commissioner expressed his disappointment at being let down at the last minute by Crest Advisory.

Cllr Hutchings and the Panel also expressed their disappointment.

Chris Brace and Dr Amie Birkhamshaw prepared a presentation on the dashboard, crime trends and projections, in place of the planned presentation.

The Panel expressed their thanks to CB and AB for stepping in, late in the afternoon, to prepare and present the presentation.

**The slides are attached.**

#### **Questions**

MR- the PCC has 7 years of crime data, all the data available should be used, crime survey data should be included.

Answer – To do this we would need to go against what everyone else is doing, so this would have to run alongside the usual approach.

## 8 PCC UPDATE REPORT (report attached)

Taking items 7 and 8 together DL summarised as follows:-

Statistics are always going to be a challenge; they will vary depending on how the Home Office want them recorded. You will see spikes when crime is recorded in different ways. Broadly crime is the same level; however, no level of crime above zero is good. Fear of crime is more likely than being an actual victim of crime.

### Update report

DL – Increased budget to spend on frontline Policing. Due to the precept increase, there are over 2,000 police officers in the establishment, which will be 75 additional officers by the end of the year.

We are working with Broxbourne to identify those at risk of knife crime, carrying on this work across Hertfordshire. We are investing in preventative action in schools.

Q – (CW) There are only a few places to hand in knives, will more knife bins be provided?

DL – Useful to have bins. If you carry a knife, more likely to be a victim of crime. Need to address the culture around carrying a knife.

Q – (AS) Do the Police insist that hospitals report knife crimes?

DL – Cardiff model, data started to show where the issues were. However, medical profession have a duty of patient confidentiality. But, health service is starting to see the need to provide this information.

Q – (CW) The problem solving conference didn't happen, is it likely to happen in September?

DL – It will take place in June instead of May.

Q – (PC) from probation statistics do you have information about what drives crime?

DL – The three most likely courses of crime are mental health problems, drug/alcohol and domestic abuse. I have put money into mental health triage.

Q – (CW) Engaging with residents to set Police priorities, this doesn't seem to happen anymore?

DL – I would be disappointed if this was not happening, (crime reduction partnership) I have asked the Chief Constable to ensure these happen.

Q (PC) PSCOs, will joint funding continue?

DL – This was phased out in 2009, but I continue to fund 50% of PCSOs. As long as the Boroughs are committed to this I will be also.

## 9 Any other Business

Future meetings:-

13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 venue tbc

19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 venue tbc

14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 venue tbc

**9 Thank you to Cllr Hutchings**

It was noted that this would be the last meeting for Cllr Hutchings; the Panel formally thanked him for his work as Chairman of the Panel.

**10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 7:00PM THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019 AT TBC**