



WATFORD  
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COUNCIL



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# MEETING OF THE HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Thursday 12 April 2018

St Albans City and District Council

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## MINUTES

**(Please note the minutes are a summary of the discussion and not verbatim)**

### 1 INTRODUCTIONS, APOLOGIES AND WELCOME

Apologies – Cllr Tony Hunter

### 2 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 12 APRIL 2018

Agreed

### 3 MATTERS ARISING

- Cllr Scarth – response to question asked at 1<sup>ST</sup> February awaited.

Chris Brace (CB) has spoken to the Constabulary Strategic Performance Board. CB suggested a briefing to panel members prior to the next meeting of the panel on 14 June.

DL- apologised that feedback not yet provided, but need to reflect on our prospective roles need to be careful we do not stray into operational areas as that is a matter for the Chief Constable.

Cllr Hutchings – not an unreasonable question, need to understand the impact of the Police and Crime Plan.

- Dr Ramsay – hard to get a full picture of Police effectiveness just looking at crime survey for England and Wales, need analysis with a more broad reaching approach.
- Chris Cowdrey thanked PCC for his written response.

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

4.1 Barbara Gibson (BG) posed the following question:-

“Given that Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire were considered as requiring improvement in the 2017 PEEL effectiveness Inspection, has any effort been made to determine –  
(a) Whether that rating also applied to the combined units in which Hertfordshire are involved?

(b) Whether Hertfordshire Policing has been affected, and the county suffered detriment?”

DL the Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire’s inspections saw them as requiring improvement. The inspector looks at each organisation in totality. Although we are linked through collaboration, the effectiveness of the separate organisations may be different. There has been no impact on Hertfordshire, which was judged as “good” following our inspection.

BG asked for clarification on whether there would now be a full time Chief Finance Officer (CFO) for the PCC instead of a shared CFO with the County.

DL the shared post was not the best outcome, given the amount of work, increased complexity and responsibility of the role, a full time CFO is required.

4.2 Hugh Brazier raised a concern regarding alleged loss and or mishandling of evidence contrary to home office guidance and asked the Panel to investigate.

Cllr Hutchings indicated the panel would look into the concerns raised but needed evidence in order to do so and advised Mr Brazier to liaise with the Panel’s clerk.

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

None

## **6 WORKSTREAM REPORTS**

6.1 Collaboration – Chris Cowdrey (report attached)

6.2 Victim Support – Cllr Roger Trigg and Cllr Jackie Hollywell

6.3 Cyber Crime & Scamming – Mr Malcolm Ramsay and Cllr Pervez Choudhury

6.4 Finance – Cllr Stephen Hodgson

6.5 Prevent – Cllr Tim Hutchings

6.2 to 6.5 to provide an update at the June meeting.

## **7 THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT (attached)**

DL summarise report. Need to ensure the right education and support is in place for young people. It should be noted you are still unlikely to be a victim of crime in Hertfordshire.

Cllr Woodward commented that the update report was a good news report and requested that future reports included some of the commissioners concerns.

Cllr Scarth referred to the Glasgow model for combatting youth crime.

DL/Panel - General discussion around Glasgow model and different approaches to stop and search.

Mr Laidlaw-Dickson – with regard to crimes against vulnerable people and domestic violence how are you holding the CC to account.

DL- your question has shown our direction of travel, the PCCs Project Delivery and Research Officer is working on the issue of domestic abuse and vulnerable people who become the victims of crime. It is often difficult to get these types of victims to press charges.

Cllr Rabi Martins – asked why the Action fund was limited to providing grants of £5,000, should thought be given to providing fewer grants of larger sums.

DL – there are larger pots of money for other crime reduction initiatives. £280,000 was recently given to Broxbourne Council for initiatives against knife crime.

Cllr Woodward/DL – general discussion/debate on knife crime and gangs.

## **8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 7:00PM THURSDAY 14 JUNE 2018 AT WATFORD COUNCIL**