



MEETING OF HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Thursday 6 December 2012
Hertfordshire County
Council, County Hall,
Hertford

Present:

- Cllr M Alexander, East Herts District Council
- Cllr Mrs A Brewster, St Albans City and District Council
- Cllr M Bright, Hertsmere Borough Council
- Cllr Mrs T Cowley, North Herts District Council
- Cllr J Dean, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
- Ms A Francis, Co-opted Member
- Cllr A Franey (substitute), Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
- Cllr R G Hannam, Broxbourne Borough Council (Chairman)
- Cllr N Harden, Dacorum Borough Council
- Cllr R Henry, (substitute), Stevenage Borough Council
- Mr I Laidlaw-Dickson, Co-opted Member
- Cty Cllr P Ruffles, Hertfordshire County Council
- Cllr R Seabourne, Three Rivers District Council
- Mayor D Thornhill, Watford Borough Council
- Dr M Verlot, Co-opted Member

Also Present:

- Mr D Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
- Dr R Frosh, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
- Mr A White, PCC Chief Executive
- Mr J Bugg, Commissioner's Office
- Ms D Currie, Commissioner's Office
- Mr M J Walker, Broxbourne Borough Council
- Mr S Billington, Broxbourne Borough Council

One member of the public was present.

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

AGREED that Cllr Hannam, Broxbourne Borough Council, be appointed Chairman.

The Chairman thanked the Panel for his appointment and welcomed to the meeting the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd.

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2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

AGREED that Cllr Alexander, East Herts District Council, be appointed Vice Chairman.

3 INTRODUCTION TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner addressed the Panel and outlined his intentions for the role. He indicated:

- the intention to freeze the Police precept for the forthcoming 2013/14 financial year;
- the proposal to implement the Police and Crime Plan for 2013/14 broadly in line with the 2012/13 plan and that he expected there to be more significant changes in 2014/15; and
- that he would consider the financial and business appraisals for outsourcing back office policing functions before any decision was taken to change the service provider.

The Commissioner confirmed his commitment to the importance of neighbourhood policing, strengthening work with partners and improving services and support to victims of low level crime. He indicated that he welcomed the Panel's role which he saw as that of a critical friend.

The Commissioner indicated his intention to meet on a quarterly basis with district leaders and to meet monthly with portfolio holders and that he would be represented on district community safety partnerships by a member of his senior team (AW, DL, JB).

In response to questions from panel members:

- The Commissioner indicated that he had met with the respective Commissioners for Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire to discuss aspects of collaboration and that where there was mutual interest, collaboration would continue.
- The Commissioner indicated that as the role developed he would consider the most appropriate means for publishing decisions that had been taken.
- The Commissioner indicated his support for the contribution of PCSOs to neighbourhood policing and that the commitment to funding PCSOs would be considered on a year to year basis, but that he was not intending to reduce funding in 2013/14.
- The Commissioner indicated that policing budgets accorded to a four year financial plan, but that precept levels beyond 2013/14 could not be predicted pending the outcome of future comprehensive spending reviews.
- The Commissioner indicated that he did not intend the Chief Constable to attend meetings of the Panel as its function was to hold the Commissioner to account

and that he intended to continue on this basis unless there was the need for the Chief Constable to attend for a specific operational purpose.

4 REVIEW OF PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

It was reported that under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the PCC may appoint a Deputy PCC and delegate their functions to that deputy. Such an appointment was a senior appointment within the terms of the Act which required it to be subject to review by the Panel.

The PCC has notified the Panel of a proposal to appoint Dr Rachel Frosh as his deputy and the Panel considered a written statement from the PCC in accordance with the requirements with the Act outlining the criteria used to assess the suitability of the candidate for appointment, why the candidate satisfied that criteria and the terms and conditions on which the candidate was to be appointed.

The prospective candidate addressed the Panel and answered members' questions.

Members indicated that it was not considered necessary to hold a separate meeting to consider the proposed appointment of a Deputy PCC.

AGREED that following the review of the proposed appointment of Dr Rachel Frosh as the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, her appointment by the Commissioner be supported.

5 MINUTES

AGREED that the minutes of the shadow meeting of the Panel held on 25 October 2012 be approved.

Further to Minute 6 (Appointment of Independent Co-opted Members) it was noted that the Home Secretary had confirmed the Panel's appointment of the independent co-opted members.

6 ADOPTION OF TERMS AND REFERENCE AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

Further to Minute 5 of the previous meeting, the Chief Executive of the PCC reported that he would be happy to accept the Panel's request to provide an annual report to the Panel on complaints and conduct matters.

AGREED that:

- (a) subject to a number of typographical corrections, the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure at Appendices 1 and 2 respectively for the Panel as set out in the circulated report be approved and a review be undertaken in twelve months' time;
- (b) the Panel delegates its functions with regard to complaints and conduct matters apart from those under paragraph 21.7 of the rules of procedure to the Chief

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Executive of the PCC unless they consider they are unable to deal with them because of a conflict of interest;

- (c) the Chief Executive of the PCC be requested to provide a report to the Panel at least annually on complaints and conduct matters; and
- (d) where the Chief Executive of the PCC is unable to act, the Panel delegates its complaints functions apart from those under paragraph 21.7 of the rules of procedure to the monitoring officer of the host authority.

7 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

There were no public questions or petitions submitted for the meeting.

8 FUTURE WORKING WITH THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Following consideration by the Shadow Panel at its October 2012 meeting, the draft protocol between the Panel and the PCC had been forwarded to the Commissioner to comment with a view to adopting it for future working arrangements. The Commissioner indicated that he accepted the protocol and was happy to sign this in conjunction with the Chairman of the Panel in accordance with the protocol.

AGREED that the protocol for joint working between the Panel and the Commissioner as set out in the circulated report, be approved subject to typographical corrections.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 24 January 2013 - Hertsmere Borough Council, Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood.

MJW/SF
11/12/12

Points of Contact

Any questions or queries regarding the panel and its administration should be referred to the host authority officers indicated below:

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