



HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

PROJECT PLANNING WORKING PAPER

PANEL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

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WP/12/08

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RECOMMENDATION

That the Panel offers its views on the suggestions below, the training required for members of the Panel and other comments on member training.

Purpose of Report

For the Panel to consider training requirements for its members.

Background

- 1 The PCP is a scrutiny body to provide support to the Police and Crime Commissioner and to ensure their accountability. The Panel has specific statutory roles and in order to be able to carry the roles out effectively and efficiently it is necessary to train members on aspects of those roles.

Statutory Requirements

- 2 The Act requires the Panel to carry out the following roles:
 - Review the draft police and crime plan. This must be issued as soon as practicable after the commissioner takes office, must be in the financial year that the elections for the PCC are held and may be amended or issued at any time. The Panel must make a report or recommendation to the PCC on their plan.

- Hold a public meeting to question the PCC on their annual report, review the report and make a report or recommendations to the PCC on it. The report must cover the exercise of the PCC's functions in the financial year and the progress in that year on achieving the police and crime objectives.
- Review the proposed precept proposed by the PCC. Naturally, this will come out for consideration early in the New Year. The Panel must make a report to the PCC on the proposed precept and may include recommendations and may veto the proposed precept.
- The Panel must review proposed senior appointments by the PCC (the PCC's chief executive, their chief finance officer and any deputy PCC) and hold a confirmatory hearing in public to question the candidate proposed prior to making a report and recommendation to the PCC on whether to confirm the appointment or not.
- The Panel must review a proposed appointment of a Chief Constable by the PCC and hold a confirmatory hearing in public to question the candidate proposed prior to making a report and recommendation to the PCC on whether to confirm the appointment or not. The Panel may instead veto the proposed appointment.
- The Panel must review or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken by the PCC in connection with the discharge of his functions make a report to the PCC and appointing local authorities on that topic.
- The Panel must carry out functions in relation to complaints about the PCC.

Proposed Training to Achieve the Requirements of the Panel

- 3 It is suggested that training be conducted in late September or October on the police budgeting process and precept and the police and crime plan. The Police Authority has staff who can deliver this introductory training so members can fully understand the issues for scrutiny on these 2 key topics. Members are asked to consider whether this would be better delivered at a number of evening meetings or an all-day session. In addition sessions can be arranged to cover how a confirmatory hearing could work.