POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
30th July, 2014

Present:-

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council:-
No member present

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council:-
No member present

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council:-
Councillor T. Sharman
Councillor C. Vines

Sheffield City Council
Councillor R. Davison
Councillor H. Harpham
Councillor T. Hussain
Councillor R. Munn

Co-opted Member
Mr. A. J. Carter
Mr. K. Walayat

Three members of the public were in attendance

Apologies for absence were received:-
Councillor M. Dyson (Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council)
Councillor R. Sixsmith (Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council)
Councillor R. Jones (Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council)
Councillor J. Sheppard (Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

J1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Resolved:- That Councillor Harry Harpham be appointed Chairman for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

(Councillor Harry Harpham in the Chair)

J2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Resolved:- That Councillor Sharman be appointed Vice-Chairman for the 2014/15 Municipal Year.

J3. NEW MEMBERS

The Chairman welcomed Councillors Roy Munn (Sheffield City Council) and Caven Vines (Rotherham Borough Council) to their first meeting of the Panel.

J4. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Before asking his question, the member of the public requested that he be allowed to record the question section of the meeting. The views of the Panel members were sought and agreement reached that the questions could be recorded.

(1) A member of public asked if the Panel would invite Sheffield for Democracy to be part of the process of testing the Police and Crime Panel website?

The Chairman advised that this would be covered in more detail at Minute No. 6 with a proposal to run a discussion forum via Rotherham Council's website. A link to the website prototype was contained within the agenda papers for the meeting and any group or individual was welcome to feed back to officers their experience of it. All feedback would be captured and would inform ongoing development of the website.

(2) A member of the public asked if the Panel would ensure that the existence of the website, when it went live, was well advertised throughout the four Authority areas, not just on their own websites but through community hubs and Neighbourhood Watch organisations etc.?

The Chairman confirmed that the Panel's aim was to ensure that the website was as accessible as possible and maximise publicity for when it was launched.

(3) A member of the public asked, noting the comment at 6.4 in the report, would the Panel include webcasting as a high priority in this exploration? It worked well for the previous Police Authority meetings and continued to do so for the other remnant South Yorkshire bodies.

The Chairman advised that this was something that the Panel had considered in its early days and concluded that it needed to be better established before it could happen. Instead, it had been agreed to focus on the development of its website. Now that this was almost completed, it was something that the Panel could reconsider. It should be noted, however, that the other South Yorkshire bodies who did webcast had relatively small audiences. It should also be noted that changes to Regulations would come into effect on 6th August relating to the recording of Council meetings and the situation would be reviewed in light of this.

(4) A member of the public asked if the Panel would also explore non-media ways of improving engagement and interaction with the public?

The Chairman advised that there was no statutory obligation for PCPs to engage communities in their work; this obligation sat with the Commissioner. Again, this had been discussed in the early days and the Panel agreed that their role was limited but they should still be proactive.

It was agreed that there may be circumstances where they may wish to carry out bespoke consultation around a specific issue particularly where they may disagree with assumptions that had been made that may need testing. Therefore, future engagement exercises were likely to be around specific pieces of work in the Panel's work programme e.g. Domestic Abuse.

(5) A member of the public stated that the HMIC had confirmed that details had already been circulated to PCCs and Police and Crime Panels with regard to public consultation. In South Yorkshire, could the Panel please confirm how it would ensure the public was informed of this consultation and how the new HMIC inspections would be co-ordinated with the activities of this Police and Crime Panel?

The Chairman advised that further information would be covered under Minute No. 8. A letter had been received by the Chairman from HMIC explaining the proposed inspection process and encouraging the Panel to respond to the consultation. It was proposed to develop a response to this by the deadline. It was not, however, the role of the PCP to ensure that the public responded to this consultation. The PCP would consider this under Minute No. 8 but there was potential for the new website to be used to publicise the Panel's proposed response.

(6) A member of the public asked how the Panel intended to persuade the Commissioner to put a high priority on road safety and associated offences bearing in mind that it did not appear to be included in the Police and Crime Plan and performance table in Appendix B did not mention it?

The Chairman advised that the Panel had considered the Police and Crime Plan including its proposed priorities and had agreed them. The Panel's work programme also reflected the priorities in its own work programme and this had also been published for the year. They had concluded this based upon evidence they had gathered and been presented. It should be noted that just because something was not prioritised within the Police and Crime Plan it did not mean that the PCC and the Police Force were not addressing the issue in question.

J5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 2ND MAY, 2014

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting of the Police and Crime Panel held on 2nd May 2014.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd May, 2014, be agreed as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

J6. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with the requirements of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (2011), the Police and Crime Commissioner presented his 2013/14 annual report setting out how he had exercised his statutory

functions as well as an overview of the work undertaken by the South Yorkshire Police Authority of its statutory functions between April, 2013 and March, 2014.

The main purpose of the report was to highlight performance against the functions of a Police and Crime Commissioner as set out in the Act and to demonstrate performance against the key objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan 201317 which were:

- Reduce Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour
- Protect Vulnerable People
- Improve Visible Policing

The reporting year was another very difficult year for all public services and Policing was not immune from the further significant cuts made by Central Government. However, crime in South Yorkshire remained at its lowest level for 25 years despite the extremely challenging circumstances.

The Police and Crime Commissioner gave an update on progress of elements of the Plan relating to:-

- Role of Police and Crime Commissioner
  - Statutory functions
  - Responsibility of setting the strategic direction and commissioning delivery of Policing and Crime Services for South Yorkshire
  - Chief Constable responsible for delivering an efficient and effective police service
  - Variety of other partners/service providers responsible for delivering community safety and Criminal Justice Services

- Governance Arrangements
  - Corporate Governance Framework jointly agreed with Chief Constable based on a model developed by the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners Chief Executives
  - Framework includes Statement of Corporate Governance, Code of Corporate Governance, Scheme of Corporate Governance and separate policies and procedures for each corporation sole including working protocols
  - Good Governance Standard for Public Service adopted
  - Monthly Governance Advisory Board meetings
  - Joint Independent Audit Committee established
  - Joint Engagement Strategy and Plan
  - Involvement with the recruitment of senior officers
  - Investigation of complaints made against the Chief Constable as well as monitoring the number/type of complaints made against Police Officers and staff

- Accountability
  - Regular surgeries held
  - Plans to involve the public as much as possible in shaping future plans by the use of Twitter, Facebook and meeting people in the communities
  - Policing Protocol Order 2011 set out the framework within which the Commissioner was expected to work with the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime panel
  - Requirement to have regard to the national Strategic Policing Requirement which focussed on those areas where Government had a responsibility for ensuring sufficient capabilities in place to response to serious and cross-border criminality threats e.g. terrorism, civil emergencies and in support of the work of national agencies such as the National Crime Agency

- Strategic Planning Overview
  - Aim of focussing resources on priority areas that were important to the people of South Yorkshire and agencies that the Police and Commissioner's office worked in partnership with
  - Approach to strategic planning continued to be evidence based, investing resources in what delivered results and making informed choices
  - Rotherham's Community Safety Partnership's priorities continued to be Anti-Social Behaviour, Reduce Crime and Reduce Harm
  - 80% of the public felt safer from crime than they had 2 years ago – HMIC Survey
  - Although there had been a large reduction in Burglary and Vehicle Crime in South Yorkshire it was still 1 of the highest in the country

- Consultation and Engagement
  - Consultation Engagement and Consultation Strategy developed identifying how the Commissioner would fulfil his statutory responsibility of engaging with the public and other key stakeholders
  - Approximately 100 engagement activities undertaken and direct engagement with over 1,400 people
  - Surgeries held on a rotation basis across South Yorkshire
  - Review of South Yorkshire Police's engagement activity carried out and identified a set of minimum standards which officers and partners in Safer Neighbourhood Areas expected to adhere to when engaging with members of the public
  - Refresh of the Black and Minority Ethnic Independent Advisory Groups
  - Victim Support commissioned to deliver a Victim Survey. Of the 865 completed surveys, 53% said they would engage with Restorative Justice
  - "Your Voice Counts" surveys conducted with members of the public across the Force area to assess perception of local policing and feelings of safety. Of the 9,747 who responded to the

question regarding value for money, 46% agreed that SYP provided good value for money. The top priorities they would like the Police to focus on included drugs, anti-social behaviour and a visible presence
  - User satisfaction survey conducted with victims of burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime. Results indicated that 85% of people were fairly satisfied with the overall experience of dealing with the Police Service

- Performance against Priorities
  - Development of a Performance Framework instigated which would also measure the outcomes of other Service providers commissioned to deliver the Policing and Crime Priorities
  - Crime continued to fall in South Yorkshire- 1.1% in 2013/14 (995 less victims of crime compared with the same period last year)
  - Domestic burglary had fallen by 11.8% (970 less burglary victims) and vehicle crime by 6.0% (741 less victims)
  - Compared with peer forces, South Yorkshire had recorded an 11% reduction comparing favourably to the national and regional pictures (7.1%)
  - Anti-social behaviour had reduced by 4.0% (3,356 less reports) and 'personal' reports fell by 10.0% (3,612 less reports)
  - Whilst crime had reduced within the period, there were a number of challenges in relation to reducing crime
  - Limited success in seizing cash and assets under the Proceeds of Crime Act and would remain a key focus in 2014/15
  - Primary focus for 2013/14 had been Child Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation with significant investment in this area to help tackle CSE
  - Victim Support had been commissioned to provide dedicated support to victims of CSE to help through the difficult Court process
  - Commissioner agreed to be a member of the National Taskforce on Sexual Violence against Children and Young People to help shape national thinking and policy making
  - Recommendations implemented from the HMIC thematic inspection of the effectiveness of the Force's approach to protecting children from sexual exploitation
  - Improved visibility of Detective Officers, signage of the Police estate, increased size and availability of the Special Constabulary, increased number of Police volunteers, maintained number of PCSOs, increased visibility of vehicles and expanded use of social media
  - HMIC Value for Money profile showed SYP's frontline Police Officer ratio of 94.8%, higher than both the national and MSG average

- Securing of £1.3M grant monies from the Home Office's Innovation Fund to support the delivery of a mobile technology project across South Yorkshire and Humberside. A further joint bid submitted to support the role out of the mobile working for Police Officers

- Budget and Value for Money
  - Budget cut of £10M for 2013/14, a further £12M in 2014/15 and £13.5M in 2015/15
  - Inspite of ongoing financial pressures and unanticipated events, the Chief Constable had delivered a 0.3% underspend
  - Recent HMIC report rated SYP as "good". Of the 43 police forces in the country, 35 had been rated as "good", 5 as "excellent", and 3 "inadequate"
  - Application to the Home Office for support in funding costs associated with the Hillsborough Inquest
  - Efficiency Advisory Panel established to inform future efficiency initiatives
  - 58 successful recipients of the Proceeds of Crime Fund totalling £643,000
  - Combination of projects commissioned aimed at increasing opportunities for victims and offenders to engage in restorative approaches
  - 455 offenders had undertaken victim awareness training; 46 adult offenders and 42 victims fully engaged with the restorative process

- Partnership Working
  - Regular strategic forums to further support delivery of policing and crime services through partnership working
  - New Community Remedy would give victims of low level crime and anti-social behaviour a say in the punishment of the offender out of court; Community Trigger would give victims of persistent anti-social behaviour the right to demand action where they felt their problems had not been dealt with
  - South Yorkshire Community Foundation to deliver a small open application fund to allow the smallest of organisations to bid for funding in 2014/15
  - Strengthened collaborative working arrangements with the south Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board

- Collaboration
  - South Yorkshire was part of a regional Police Collaboration Programme in the Yorkshire and Humber region
  - South Yorkshire was also part of a National Police Air Support

- Legacy Issues
  - An announcement from the Independent Police Complaints Commission was expected imminently with regard to the policing

of the Orgreave Coking Plant in 1984
- Hillsborough Inquests currently taking place in Warrington
- 2 officers had been trained in polygraph testing for sex offenders to help protect vulnerable people and reduce the risks posed by potential offenders

- Looking Ahead
  - Roll out of the revised governance and assurance arrangements and implementation of Stage 2 Transfer plans
  - As from October, 2014, responsibility for the commissioning of services to help victims of crime and anti-social behaviour cope and recover from their experience. Intention to establish a Victims Commissioning Advisory Board and provide greater opportunities for restorative justice to be available to victims of crime
  - More work with young people in schools around domestic violence and investment in campaigns to tackle and challenge the increasing negative portrayal of women and victim blaming
  - Further work with partners to better understand the issues and challenges for community safety, criminal justice and health agencies around those with mental health problems and serious drug or alcohol dependency
  - Possible opportunities to share services, functions and the use of assets with non-police partners
  - Establishment of an Independent Ethics Panel to help build further trust and confidence in South Yorkshire
  - Need for a clear, consistent and cohesive work plan for tackling cyber crime

A discussion and question and answer session ensued and the following issues were raised and clarified by the Police and Crime Commissioner:-

- Police Officers and PCSOs were moved at the discretion of the Chief Constable as to where they needed to be deployed. However, it was acknowledged that the public liked continuity as well as the local knowledge the PCSOs built up, therefore, consideration was given PCSOs remaining in their Neighbourhood Teams as long as possible

- Restorative Justice always had to be victim-led with evidence showing that it worked in terms of giving closure to the victim and changing the perpetrator's mind about offending again. This would be rolled out across South Yorkshire over the next 6-12 months and the opportunity available to every victim. It was also a factor taken into consideration by the Courts when sentencing. An analysis would be undertaken of its effectiveness

- The Corporate Communications Department included Marketing which ran awareness raising campaigns/community safety

- Whilst the Your Voice Count satisfaction rating of 84% was disappointing in that it had been 85% in previous years and national average of 86%, in light of the challenges faced in relation to the austerity measures and staff available to deliver the service, it was felt that 84% was an achievement. However, the survey had raised issues with regard to response times of the answering of telephones which needed further improvement

- Despite a large amount of work, it was still public perception that there was a lack of Police visibility. Endeavours were being made to protect frontline staff and increased the percentage of Officers on the frontline, however, there was still less people. Attempts were being made to get as many Specials into uniform as possible and volunteers to free up Police time

- Unsuccessful recruitment to the Independent Ethics Panel. Work was to take place with Sheffield University to match fund a Police Integrity and Ethics Research Study to examine the implementation of the new Code of Ethics for policing and the introduction of the Ethics Panel. It was hoping to identify a Chairperson and then Panel members

- The relationship between the Chief Constable and the Commissioner was very professional

- Road safety was not within the Police and Crime Plan as it had not been raised as a priority in the consultation. However, in terms of making our roads safer, the Safer Roads Partnership consisted of representatives from the local authorities, SYP and the Fire and Rescue Service. The cost of the Speed Awareness course had increased, the generated revenue used by the Partnership to make roads safer.

- 80% of the Police budget was derived from Central Government Grant which a number of Police Commissioners had made representations about fair distribution. 19% of the Force's budget came from Council Tax so increased housing building would generate income accordingly

Resolved:- That the draft Police and Crime Commissioner's annual report be received and any further comments submitted to the Commissioner by 15th August, 2014.

J7. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT

Further to Minute No. J.43(3) of 2nd May, 2014, Christine Majer, Scrutiny Officer, reported on the progress made regarding development of the Panel's website.

The galaxy site had been developed and managed by Rotherham Council's On-Line Service Team with information from the existing site

used to populate the new site.

Testing of the draft website would be undertaken by representatives of the community as previously agreed. There would be a community forum for comments/issues to be logged and the website continually updated.

Monitoring of the website could provide information as to the number of users of the site and the type of information viewed which could then be used by the panel to assist in the engagement of the community in their work.

A number of Panel members had already provided their pen portraits for inclusion on the website.

It was felt that the website should be launched as soon as possible.

Resolved:- (1) That the "galaxy" website hosted by Rotherham Borough Council be noted.

(2) That the content and format for the pen portraits be approved and that all Panel members be encouraged to submit their pen portraits as a matter of urgency.

(3) That the website be launched and publicised as soon as possible.

J8. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report presented by Deborah Fellowes, Scrutiny Manager, updating the panel on a number of issues and areas of progress since the last meeting which included:-

Working Protocols
As agreed at the 2nd May meeting (Minute No. J40(a) refers), a draft was submitted for consideration (Appendix A) to enable sharing of information and work programmes between the Panel and the four Scrutiny Committees.

Memorandum of Association
As agreed at the 2nd May meeting (Minute No. J40(b) refers), a proposed refreshed Memorandum of Understanding between the Panel and the Police and Crime Commissioner was submitted for consideration (Appendix B).

Training and Induction
It was proposed that consideration be given to any training and induction requirements of the new Panel members as well as identifying areas for development for existing members. However, the budget provision was limited.

It was suggested that, as had happened in the past, the Panel spend a

day with Police Officers to gain a general insight into their daily activities. It was also felt that spending time with 1 of the new shared services would also be useful for members.

Work Programme
The updated scheduled work programme was attached at Appendix C with the main area of update was with regard to Domestic Abuse. A Task and Finish Group had been due to start work during July and report back in September, however, due to annual leave commitments, it was proposed that the final report be submitted in December.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the draft working protocols and Memorandum of Association be approved and forwarded to the relevant Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committees and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

(3) That with regarding to training and induction, Members forward any areas of interest to Deborah Fellowes.

(4) That the progress on the work programme be noted and an extension to the timescale for the Domestic Abuse Task and Finish Group be approved.

(5) That anyone interested in joining the Task and Finish Group contact Deborah Fellowes.

J9. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Further to Minute J40(e) of 2nd May, 2014, consideration was given to proposals for the reporting of performance and financial information to enable the Panel to carry out its scrutiny function.

Officers from both RMBC and the PCC's office had met and agreed that the performance reporting format currently being developed by the PCC's office for their Governance and Assurance Board would be a useful starting point and reduce the need to duplicate effort/workload.

The performance reporting information was provided on an exception basis with a Red, Amber, Green rating system used. In terms of Finance reporting, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner would be developing a pro forma which would also deal with risk analysis. This was a key area for the Panel to focus upon, reassuring themselves that the Commissioner had a robust mechanism in place for management and mitigation of key areas of risk.

The office of the PCC would be providing the reports on a monthly basis.

Discussion ensued on the report. It was suggested that the financial report did not require a lot of detail but should include a breakdown of

capital and revenue and budget against spend.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That future performance management reports be submitted to the Panel on a quarterly basis.

J10. UPDATE ON THE HANDLING OF COMPLAINTS

In accordance with Minute No. J44 of 2nd May, 2014, a Sub-Committee had been convened on 7th July to consider the informal resolution of 2 complaints.

With regard to the first complaint, the Sub-committee reached the following conclusions in relation to the individual complaints:-

Complaint No. 1

1. That the Commissioner did not correctly consider the complaints
   Based on the evidence provided, the Sub-Committee concluded that the Commissioner had consider the complaint appropriately.

2. That the Commission had contacted Members of Parliament but should not have done so
   The Sub-Committee concluded that the response of the Commissioner to this complaint was appropriate.

3. That the Commissioner contacted the South Yorkshire Professional Standards Department asking them what they thought of the complaint
   The Sub-Committee concluded that there was insufficient evidence that the Commissioner had contacted the Department.

Complaint No. 2

The complainant was concerned about the manner in which the Commissioner had considered the complaint and particularly that the Commissioner had delayed in responding and failed to inform the complainant of the possibility of challenged decisions by way of Judicial Review

The Sub-Committee was satisfied that the Commissioner had not delayed in either providing any information or taking decisions in order to prevent the complainant lodging a claim for Judicial Review.

The Complaints Procedure provided that the outcome of informal resolution could be published if it was considered to be in the public interest. The Panel was asked to consider whether any publication, in addition to that contained in the report submitted, was required.

The Monitoring Officer also reported that there were 2 outstanding complaints and, whilst separate, had certain common factors. The

Monitoring Officer had met with the complainants to advise them of the nature of the information required for 1 of the complaints to proceed. The remaining complaint was supported by its complete information.

Once the full information was received the matter would be referred back to the Panel. However, should the information be received prior to the next scheduled panel meeting, a Sub-Committee may be necessary to consider the complaints.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the Sub-Committee's outcomes be publicised on the Panel's website.

(3) That, if required, a Sub-Committee be convened to consider the complaints referred to above.

J11. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 2 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act (as amended March, 2006) (information likely to reveal the identity of an individual).

J12. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL SUB-COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7TH JULY, 2014

The minutes of a Sub-Committee held on 7th July, 2014, to hear 2 complaints that had been made against the Police and Crime Commissioner were noted.