



SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – ANNUAL MEETING

IN MEETING ROOM 11, TOWN HALL, CHURCH STREET, BARNSELEY, S70 2TA

4 JUNE 2018

PRESENT: Councillor A Khayum (Sheffield City Council) (Chair)

Councillor S Sansome (Rotherham MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: B Cutts (Rotherham MBC), R Frost (Barnsley MBC), B Johnson (Sheffield City Council), M O'Rourke (Sheffield CC), J Otten (Sheffield City Council), S Wilkinson (Doncaster MBC) and D Nevett (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: Mr A Carter and Mr S Chu

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner), M Buttery (Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner), M Clements (Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner) and F Topliss (Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

Officers: D Cutting, M McCarthy, L Noble and M McCoole (Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dyson (Barnsley MBC) and A Shirt (Barnsley MBC)

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

RESOLVED – That Members agreed:-

- i) Councillor Khayum be appointed as Chair to the Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing municipal year.
- ii) Councillor Sampson be appointed as Vice Chair to the Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing municipal year.

2 MEMBERSHIP OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 2018-19

A report of the Service Director, Legal and Governance was presented to inform of the membership of the Panel for the municipal year 2018-19.

Councillor Khayum welcomed the new Members to the meeting and introductions were made. On behalf of the Panel, he expressed his gratitude to Councillors Dunn, Griffin, Sixsmith, Hughes and Mirfin-Boukouris who had served on the Panel during the 2017-18 municipal year.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the membership of the Police and Crime Panel 2018-19.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

5 URGENT ITEMS

None.

6 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

8 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:-

8A TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

None.

8B TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

None.

9 QUESTIONS FROM POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEMBERS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

In accordance with Procedure Rule 11 (General Questions from Members of the Panel), the following questions had been submitted:-

Received from Councillor Otten

1. “Is it the policy of SYP to report victims of crime or witnesses who report these crimes to the police to the Home Office for immigration enforcement?”

2. Now that Leveson part 2 is off, what steps have you taken or will you take to satisfy yourself that any improper dealings between members of the press and officers of SYP will be properly dealt with?"

Response

D Cutting stated that he had provided Councillor Otten with a written response (by e-mail on 21st May) setting out the reasons that the questions had not been included on today's agenda. He apologised for the oversight in not processing the questions in the appropriate manner, and which had prevented all Members of the Panel from having sight of the questions. D Cutting suggested that the questions be put to the Commissioner, in order for him to provide Councillor Otten with a written response.

10 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2018

A Carter requested that the minutes be amended to indicate that he was one of a number of representatives of the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector in Sheffield, serving on the Sheffield Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership Board.

Councillor Wilkinson referred to the shared learning from Rotherham MBC in relation to taxi licensing arrangements. She reiterated her concern that licensed taxi drivers from other Districts, whose vetting processes may not be as vigorous as those undertaken within South Yorkshire, were permitted to work in South Yorkshire.

Councillor Frost highlighted that he was a member of BMBC's Licensing Panel which worked closely with its counterpart panels within South Yorkshire; rigorous policies were in place to prevent taxi drivers from working across Districts without due registration.

Councillor Cutts referred to a number of taxi licenses which had been refused for not meeting the common standard, particularly within the Rotherham area.

Councillor Khayum stated that this was a matter for the licensing departments within the relevant local authorities, and not for the Panel or the Commissioner.

RESOLVED – That subject to the above requested amendment, the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 20 April 2018 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

11 ANNUAL REPORT (POLICE AND CRIME PANEL) 2017-18

L Noble presented the Annual Report (Police and Crime Panel) 2017-18, which was the first Annual Report prepared by BMBC as host for the Panel. The report demonstrated that the Panel had made improvements in the way it carried out its role, and she thanked Members both past and present, and the OPCC for the support provided.

Members were requested to provide comments on the contents of the Annual Report to L Noble by 15 June 2018; following which design work would be undertaken in-house for inclusion on the PCP website.

L Noble sought the Panel's authorisation to print 300 copies of the Annual Report for circulation to all South Yorkshire Councillors, MPs and Town and Parish Councils. This is something that West Yorkshire PCP have trialled to raise the profile of Police and Crime Panels and it had been extremely successful.

Councillor Khayum thanked those Members that had already provided comments on the Annual Report. He agreed that printed copies of the Annual Report would help to raise the profile of the Panel. He sought the Panel's approval to allocate funding for printed copies of the Annual Report.

L Noble stated that she would inform the Panel of the total printing cost of the Annual Report, and it may be appropriate to review the effectiveness of this spend during the year (prior to the production of the 2018-19 Annual Report).

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Agreed to provide L Noble with comments on the Annual Report by 15 June 2018.
- ii) Agreed to allocate funding for printed copies of the Annual Report.

12 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY - FEEDBACK ON TRUST AND CONFIDENCE

A report of the Commissioner was presented to provide Members with an overview of the results of an independent assessment of the levels of trust and confidence in South Yorkshire Police (SYP).

An independent survey had been carried out between October and December 2017, by SMSR Ltd, an independent research organisation, to obtain the views of hard-to-reach communities in South Yorkshire; over 4,400 face-to-face surveys had been undertaken. F Topliss provided the Panel with a summary of the key headlines arising from the outcome of the survey, which had demonstrated that the communities across South Yorkshire had a high level of trust and confidence in SYP, and that residents were generally satisfied with the service received from SYP.

A 12-week engagement improvement plan had commenced across the Districts as a result of the surveys, to include PACT meetings and to improve marketing on the SYP website and social media. Over 10,000 individuals had signed up to receive the SYP community alerts, and PCSOs would undertake greater visible engagement. Each District would produce a report upon conclusion of the 12-week engagement improvement plan.

Councillor Wilkinson requested a definition of BAME, as referred to within the report, as she felt it did not adequately cover the Eastern European communities.

F Topliss agreed to provide Members with a definition.

Councillor Cutts referred to the survey comparisons which had indicated that young people were more satisfied with SYP in comparison to the elderly.

F Topliss highlighted that the survey was undertaken on the basis of trust and confidence, and not necessarily on the levels of crime.

The Commissioner stated that the survey was currently utilised to establish a baseline for the residents in South Yorkshire. A total of 5 murders had been encountered within South Yorkshire over the past 21 days, which was unprecedented; SYP had reacted very quickly to the incidents.

Councillor Otten referred to an incident that had occurred outside of South Yorkshire, involving a female of ethnic minority who had been raped. She had reported the incident to the local police, but she had then been detained on immigration grounds. He queried whether this would happen within South Yorkshire.

The Commissioner stated that each case had to be taken on its own merit and dealt with accordingly. He had no reason to suspect that SYP, who are in dialogue with a whole host of agencies, did not deal with victims of crimes in an appropriate way.

Councillor Sansome queried the measures that would be taken to increase the public's confidence in the SYP Neighbourhood Policing Teams. He requested that a report be submitted to the Panel in relation to the outcomes of neighbourhood policing initiatives.

F Topliss stated that the survey had been carried out at the point when SYP had moved into the embedding process around neighbourhood policing.

S Chu felt that it was a very positive report, which highlighted the public's trust and confidence in SYP, in comparison to the way in which SYP had been portrayed within the national media. He was encouraged to learn that black and ethnic minority approval of SYP was high in particular to 'stop and search'.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Be provided with the definition of BAME used in the survey.
- iii) Noted that a report be submitted to a future Panel meeting in relation to the outcomes of neighbourhood policing.

13 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was presented to provide Members with research material on artificial intelligence in policing.

A Carter thanked the Commissioner for the report submitted, following his request at the last Panel meeting for Members to be kept apprised of any ongoing developments on the impact of South Yorkshire, and in any other areas where artificial intelligence was being trialled. He was surprised to learn from the report that SYP currently had no plans to introduce artificial intelligence, and he suggested the need for SYP to be conscious of the new technologies being deployed globally. He considered that it was important for Members to be made aware of any issues arising via regular reports to the Panel at 6 monthly intervals.

The Commissioner stated that SYP was currently considering artificial intelligence, but that there were no firm plans for implementation; any matters of interest would be brought to the Panel's attention.

Councillor Wilkinson queried how confident the Commissioner was that SYP officers were fully conversant and competent in the use of the technology associated with artificial intelligence gathering. She highlighted the importance for officers to input data correctly when determining whether to retain an individual within the custody suite, based upon the likelihood of an individual reoffending.

The Commissioner referred to the large amount of work to be undertaken to ensure that officers were fully conversant in this area. Durham Constabulary had introduced an artificial intelligence system within their custody suite, which enabled a Custody Sergeant to swiftly make a decision as whether to retain an individual.

M Buttery suggested that it would be helpful to define within the report, to be presented to the Panel in 6 months' time, the areas that SYP was working towards, the technology being utilised for analysis and the task of replacing human judgement.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that a report on artificial intelligence (and wider technology utilised by SY Police) would be presented to the Panel in 6 months' time.

14 ATLAS COURT/CONTACT MANAGEMENT: PROGRESS UPDATE

Members noted a reported increase in the performance and morale of SYP officers at the Atlas Court call centre over the last 6 months. The Royal College of Policing staff were helping in progressing the Wellbeing Plan; all outstanding vacancies had been filled, and the SYP officers that had been drafted in to cover those vacancies within the scheme had now ceased.

The Connect System, the internal communication system, had been implemented at Atlas Court before the end of December 2017 and was embedding and operating successfully. The majority of training for Smart Contact had now been completed.

The Commissioner provided SYP call handling data to Members; it was envisaged that a replacement 101 system would be implemented shortly. Positive feedback had been reported in relation to the latest inspection on crime data and the integrity of calls listened to. The increased demands on the police service nationally continued to be a significant issue.

Councillor Sansome requested the OPCC Communications Team provide a briefing note to the local authorities to explain the delay in implementing the replacement 101 system. He offered his assistance to the OPCC on the matter.

RESOLVED – That Members noted:-

- i) The verbal update.
- ii) That the OPCC Communications Team would provide a briefing note to each of the four local authorities in relation to the delay in implementing the replacement 101 system.

15 PCC GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) was submitted to provide Members with information on the PCC's governance arrangements. In the Summer of 2016, the PCC's Chief Executive and Solicitor had initiated a review of the PCC's arrangements in respect of the governance (holding to account) of South Yorkshire Police.

Councillor Sansome expressed concern that the report did not include any narrative regarding the actions implemented on the closure and timescale of issues.

M Buttery stated that the Governance Action Plan was published with the Statement of Accounts each year and had been drafted for sign-off by the Commissioner; she would provide Members with a copy of the document.

Councillor Sansome queried the benefits that the Public Accountability Board (PAB) provided in holding the Chief Constable and SYP to account, and the potential duplication / overlap with the work of this Panel. He requested that Members be provided with a briefing note on the benefits of the PAB.

The Commissioner stated that the PAB provided an opportunity for major issues to be raised with SYP and himself in the public arena; following which a document detailing pertinent information from the meeting would be published on the SYP website.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Be provided with the draft Governance Action Plan.

- iii) Be provided with a briefing note advising of the benefits of the Public Accountability Board (PAB).

16 RULES OF PROCEDURE - SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS

A report of the Solicitor/Panel Legal Adviser was submitted to provide Members with suggested revisions to the Rules of Procedure, which were kept under review and were last updated and approved by the Panel on 29 September 2017. Members recalled the informal reflection and work planning session that had been facilitated by Frontline Consulting on 18 April 2018, which had provided helpful suggestions by building on best practice from other Panels.

Members reviewed the Rules of Procedure, and a number of additional amendments were identified at paragraph 11.

Councillor Wilkinson queried how items for inclusion onto the Panel's work programme were determined.

L Noble commented that since BMBC had taken on support for the Panel, the work programme had become a standard agenda item. Members were able to suggest items for the inclusion onto the work programme, which would be discussed with the Chair and Vice Chair at the agenda planning sessions with the PCC.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the report.
- ii) Approved the amendments to the Panel's Rules of Procedure (as detailed in paragraphs 5 – 12 of the report now submitted) with immediate effect.

Councillors Otten and Cutts voted against the decision

- iii) Agreed to amend the Panel's agenda for future meetings with immediate effect.

17 DECISION LOG (PCC)

A report was presented to provide Members with information on the decisions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) since the last Panel meeting.

A Carter had recently attended a Sheffield Safer and Sustainable Community Partnership Board meeting which had discussed the proposed community grant funding allocations. He made a plea for a slightly larger funding allocation to be made available to the third sector organisations, in particular to those organisations that provided services through the community grant scheme to support the work of the PCC and the SYP.

The Commissioner stated that over £1m of funding would be provided to the third sector organisations from the OPCC; any increase in the level of funding would impact upon the SYP budget.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.

18 FEEDBACK FROM Y&H REGIONAL NETWORK MEETING, 23 MAY 2018

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Sansome and L Noble had attended the inaugural meeting of the Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Network Meeting held on 23 May 2018, which had been facilitated by Frontline Consulting.

The meeting had provided a good opportunity to pick up on best practice, and it had identified that all Police and Crime Commissioners shared the same concerns and issues. L Noble would provide Members with the minutes of the meeting. She suggested that an Independent Member should attend the next Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Network Meeting in September 2018, together with Councillor Sansome and herself. The Network provided for a maximum of three attendees per Panel.

Members noted the update in respect of the recently established National Association of Police and Crime Panels. An inaugural meeting had been held in March 2018, with the next meeting scheduled in the Autumn as part of the National PCPs Conference in Warwick.

The work of this body would complement the National Association of Police and Crime Commissioners which was the national body that supported the Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), and other local policing bodies across England and Wales, to provide national leadership and influence change in the policing and criminal justice landscape.

Councillor Sansome said that North Yorkshire PCP, and West Yorkshire PCP had both invited the HMICFRS to attend an informal Panel meeting to elaborate on inspection reports. He felt that this could be something South Yorkshire might replicate, although there would need to be clear parameters to invite the HMICFRS.

The Y&H Network had also noted that the consistent membership of West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel was a clear benefit, and that they worked collectively on the agenda and reports before them to hold the Police and Crime Commissioner to account, without becoming involved in any side issues. This resulted in positive meetings with the Panel fulfilling its role.

Councillor Sansome suggested that links be strengthened with the Overview and Scrutiny Committees at the four local authorities to ensure there is no duplication. In addition, at the conclusion of each West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel meeting, Members held an informal de-brief in relation to what had gone well / not so well, and he asked Members to give that some consideration.

Another area of best practice from West Yorkshire PCP was the issuing of a press release after each meeting – depending on the issues discussed. This also served to raise the profile of the Panel. Councillor Sansome suggested that this Panel should give further consideration to adopting this practice.

Councillor Khayum thanked Councillor Sansome and L Noble for their attendance at the meetings.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the verbal update.
- ii) Be provided with the minutes of the inaugural meeting of the Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Network Meeting held on 23 May 2018.

19 LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE

L Noble stated that at the start of each municipal year, she would email newly appointed Members on the Panel, to arrange an Induction and to discuss any learning and development requirements to assist them in their role. Existing Members will also be given the same opportunity, and the outcomes will help to formulate the 2018-19 Learning and Development Schedule.

RESOLVED – That:-

- i) Contact would be made with the newly appointed Members on the Panel to arrange Induction and to identify any learning and development requirements.
- ii) Existing Members would also be provided with the same opportunity.

20 WORK PROGRAMME

Members considered the 2018/19 Work Programme.

L Noble informed Members of a proposal to align the work of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board with the work of the Panel to ensure the reports submitted are timely. She reiterated that Members wishing to suggest items for the work programme should do so via herself, and these would be considered by the Chair and Vice-Chair at their pre-agenda planning meetings with the PCC.

Councillor Wilkinson referred to the 'Inspire to Change' leaflet that had been provided to Members, together with the app that SYP was developing with an outside partner for victims of domestic abuse. She queried whether the Panel could review the success of both programmes after they had run for a period of 6 - 9 months, to ascertain whether there had been a reduction in the number of domestic violence cases, and to determine whether a reference to domestic violence could be included within the Police and Crime Plan.

L Noble would discuss the matter further with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the 2018/19 Work Programme.
- ii) Officers would discuss with the PCC whether a report reviewing the success of programmes aimed at reducing domestic abuse could be submitted to the Panel.

21 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Panel will be held on Monday 2 July 2018, at 1.00 pm in Room 11 at the Town Hall, Church Street, Barnsley, S70 2TA.

CHAIR