

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1 APRIL 2019 AT
2.00pm AT COUNTY HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT

(A denotes absent)

Chairman - Christine Goldstraw OBE - Independent Member
Vice-Chairman - Councillor Debbie Mason - Rushcliffe Borough Council **A**

Executive Mayor Kate Allsop – Mansfield District Council
Rizwan Araf – Independent Member **A**
Councillor Michael Edwards (substitute for Councillor Neal) – Nottingham City Council
Councillor David Ellis – Gedling Borough Council
Councillor Keith Girling – Newark and Sherwood District Council
Councillor Kevin Greaves – Bassetlaw District Council
Suma Harding – Independent Member
Councillor Tony Harper – Broxtowe Borough Council
Councillor Francis Purdue-Horan – Nottinghamshire County Council
Bob Vaughan-Newton – Independent Member
Councillor Linda Woodings – Nottingham City Council
Councillor Jason Zadrozny – Ashfield District Council

OFFICERS PRESENT

Pete Barker - Democratic Services Officer - Nottinghamshire County Council
(Host authority)

OTHERS PRESENT

Paddy Tipping - Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
Craig Guildford - Chief Constable
Katherine Cant - Nottinghamshire Victim CARE
Kevin Dennis - Chief Executive, Office of PCC (OPCC)
Mark Kimberley - Finance, Nottinghamshire Police
Charlotte Radford - Chief Finance Officer, OPCC

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2019

The minutes of the last meeting held on 7 February 2019, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and were confirmed, subject to the following amendments, and were signed by the Chair:-

Item 6, Precept and Budget Reports 2019/20

- Page 5, Second Paragraph: the reference should be to Band D properties and not Band B properties.
- Page 6, Fourth Bullet Point: the Chief Constable had been informed that some partners had reduced the amount of resources devoted to intelligence but acknowledged that Nottingham City Council was not one of those partners that had cut funding in this area.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Debbie Mason.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair, Christine Goldstraw OBE, declared a private interest in Item 7, Blue Light Collaboration, as she is a Trustee of the Djanogly Learning Trust, which did not preclude her from speaking or voting on that item.

The independent members present, Christine Goldstraw OBE, Suma Harding and Bob Vaughan-Newton, each declared a pecuniary interest in Item 8, Independent Co Opted Member Recruitment. The independent members undertook to leave the meeting prior to the report being discussed. The Panel agreed that Executive Mayor, Kate Allsop, would chair the meeting for this item.

4. WORK PROGRAMME

Mr Barker introduced the report, informing the Panel that it was the usual regular report with any amendments having been agreed following discussions with the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

Serious Violence Strategy Engagement Event

The Chair, Councillor David Ellis and Suma Harding attended the Serious Violence Strategy Engagement Event held at the East Midlands Conference Centre on 28th February 2019 and fed back their experiences of the day to the Panel.

The Chair informed the Panel that she thought it had been an excellent event and that it had been particularly interesting to hear the views of the Sixth Form pupils from Gedling who had also attended the event. The Chair informed the Panel that the pupils' fear of knives was palpable; that the pupils rarely went out in the evening, especially to the city centre, as a result; that the teachers had no time to talk to the pupils about the problem; that the pupils were willing to stay behind an extra hour at school to learn more about

what they could do; and that the pupils did not seem aware of the police's presence on social media.

Suma Harding agreed that it had been a good event and informed the Panel that the film made by the Ben Kinsella Trust had been shown and was very powerful and stated that it would be beneficial if the film were to be shown at a future Panel meeting.

Councillor David Ellis agreed with colleagues about the quality of the event and informed the Panel that a wide range of perspectives had been covered, including the public health approach to knife crime. Councillor Ellis informed the Panel that he now had a better understanding of this approach as a result.

In response the Commissioner stated that the Home Office also thought that it had been a useful event and had sent a positive and complimentary letter to that effect. The Commissioner informed the Panel that from today the Ben Kinsella Trust had received funding to allow it to partner the National Justice Museum to work in schools. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the public health approach to knife crime had originated in Glasgow and that there was a lively debate going on at the moment with government about the way forward. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the government had recently made £100m of funding available, £70m of which was for 'surge' capacity, ie overtime, and £30m towards setting up violence reduction hubs. The Commissioner informed the Panel that he was of the opinion that investment should be directed towards long term goals. The Commissioner stated that the 'Fearless' initiative wanted to work with the young around social media and informed the Panel that officers were in every school where allowed and that it was up to academies to grant the Force access. In response to comments regarding the pupils' lack of awareness of the police presence on social media, the Commissioner stated that the decision to work in schools was only made in the summer so that work on this initiative is still evolving and informed the Panel that the knife crime pamphlet had now been completed and confirmed that the Force was working with 'Life Skills Education.' The Commissioner informed the Panel that meetings with Third Sector organisations were due to take place to look at the potential of working in primary schools. The Commissioner stated that progress was being made and though knife crime had peaked there was no complacency, with the tendency of national events to feed into local consciousness.

The Chief Constable added that the commitment was there to work in schools and help pupils and that he had received positive feedback about the officers working in that area. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that not many Forces had invested in working in schools but that this approach was now being recommended. The Chief Constable acknowledged that there was a gap in provision to primary schools. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that the Force had not been invited to today's Serious Violence Summit at the Home Office, unlike the large metropolitan forces, and that this could be viewed as a positive in the short term. The Chief Constable referred to the internal report regarding the work of the Force in schools and undertook to circulate the report to Panel members.

In response to comments from the Panel the Commissioner stated that 'stop and search' had to be intelligence-led and informed the Panel that 61% of those stopped in Nottinghamshire were found to be carrying a knife. The Commissioner stated that in Nottinghamshire 25% of stabbings were carried out by young people excluded from school and that 30% of knife crime victims were excluded pupils, informing the Panel that he had been in discussions with government about alternative provision locally.

East Midlands Police and Crime Panel Regional Network

The Chair informed the Panel that she had attended the morning session of the network, held on 27th March in Melton Mowbray, and topics covered included Fire Authorities, BAME recruitment and the Scottish model regarding knife crime.

Commissioner's Update Report - Research Project

The Chair introduced this item and informed the Panel that the report contained a recommendation seeking approval to engage Frontline Consulting to set up a research project involving all stakeholders in order to establish a way forward regarding the content and format of the information presented in the Commissioner's Update Report. The Commissioner expressed his support for the proposal. The Panel agreed that the project should commence following the local elections in May 2019 and before the elections for Police and Crime Commissioners in May 2020.

RESOLVED 2019/005

- 1) That feedback from colleagues following attendance at the Serious Violence Strategy Engagement Event and the East Midlands Police and Crime Panel Regional Network be noted.**
- 2) That subject to costs, the engagement of Frontline Consulting to set up a research project, following the local elections in May 2019, involving all stakeholders to establish a way forward regarding the content and format of the information presented in the Commissioner's Update Report be approved.**
- 3) That the Panel subscribes to the Regional PCP network for 2019/20 at a cost of £500.**

5. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT – TO JANUARY 2019

The Commissioner introduced the report and stated that the HMICRFS's 2018 integrated PEEL report was due to be published in April 2019. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the draft report was with the Chief Constable and that he was confident the report would show that the Force was moving in the right direction.

The Commissioner stated that he was disappointed in the HMICRFS's report following a joint inspection of police custody by the HMICRFS and HMI Prisons, but informed the Panel that extra resources had now been put into this area with significant improvements having been made. The Commissioner reminded the Panel that a site for the new custody suite had been acquired and that it was hoped the new suite would be available in approximately 2 years' time.

The Commissioner stated that a HMICFRS report on fraud was due to be published soon and that it made interesting reading, raising such issues of where resources should be deployed – locally, cross force working or nationally?

The Commissioner drew the Panel's attention to paragraph 5.3 of his report and stated that there had been a real increase in some types of crime, though the incidence of burglary had spiked and the figures were reducing. The Commissioner confirmed that serious sexual violence crimes continued to rise, though this may be a consequence of women being more confident in reporting such crimes.

The Commissioner informed the Panel that the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) had finished, with publication of its findings expected in July 2019.

The Commissioner referred to paragraph 5.4 of his report and informed the Panel that there were no surprises in the accompanying table with a slight overspend of 0.5% of the budget being forecast, expenditure on the Multi-Force Shared Service (MFSS) accounting for the bulk of this overspend, though the report contained details of other contributory factors.

The Commissioner spoke of a research project that he had commissioned aimed at 'understanding police demand' and informed the Panel that a useful debate was now taking place around balancing demand and resources.

The Commissioner referred to the section in the report regarding fraud and informed the Panel that the reporting of such crimes was increasing. The Commissioner also referred to the update on Estates that was contained in the report and stated that while no details of individual sales were given, details of total sales were included. The Commissioner emphasised the importance of the revenue savings that resulted from the disposal of properties.

Following the Commissioner's introduction the following points were clarified:-

- In terms of protecting people from harm, the Commissioner stated that two recent reports had examined domestic violence (DV), including one by the HMICFRS which the Commissioner stated was interesting and which he agreed to circulate. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the issue had also been examined in the PEEL report, though this was a more wide-ranging report covering various other topics, it did show progress in the DV area. The Commissioner stated that there were shortcomings in the Force previously but that an action framework was now in place. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the Chief Constable takes the lead on DV and though it was a difficult area progress was being made. The Chief Constable stated that a 'Threat, Harm and Risk' approach had been adopted towards DV, with the work of the MASH receiving positive responses from victims, a more consistent approach is being applied, responses to incidents are now quicker, appointments are now being made at the victim's convenience and electronic means of communication are in place. The Chief Constable further stated that information sharing with partners had also improved, though many partners were operating under severe financial pressure.
- The Commissioner responded to a query regarding the increase in on-line offending by stating that there was an issue of where to deploy resources – on the street or on-line, and although there was no consensus as yet, there was a clear need for some resources to be on-line given that offenders could be operating nationally or internationally. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the City of London force was taking the lead in the area of on-line fraud with the launch of the 'Action Fraud' initiative but that the National Crime Agency was of the opinion that

more work was needed in this area. The Commissioner stated that he believed that work was needed around prevention with all partners needing to invest so that people could protect themselves, an approach that the Commissioner stated would pay dividends in the long run.

- The Chief Constable explained the difference between Grade 1 incidents and Grade 2 incidents, with the former being as a result of '999' calls and responded to in 15-20 minutes and the latter that require a swift response and are responded to in around an hour. The Chief Constable stated that the Force responded to approximately half of all incidents whereas the figure for other forces was only 25%. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that abandonment rates for '999' calls were now in single figures as a percentage of all calls with the figure for the previous week being 5%. In terms of '101' calls the Chief Constable stated that the number of people using the service had only declined slightly and though there is now more scope to report incidents on-line, people still want to use the phone and acquire a crime number via this method. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that the force was able to divert '101' calls to front line staff at peak times. The Commissioner informed the Panel that there was a national debate happening around the recommissioning of the '101' service with the option of rolling out the initiative to the other emergency services, which would help the Police who do receive calls that should have gone to other services. The Commissioner agreed to circulate the CREST report into preventing demand once it had been completed, informing the Panel that the methodology involved measuring how long a call took and comparing this to the resources available.
- In terms of the overspend caused by the participation of the force in the Multi-Force Shared Service (MFSS), the Commissioner stated that much hard work had been undertaken and that initially the project had cost money but with the technology now on the 'cloud' it should be possible for progress to be made.
- The Chair stated that at the recent regional network meeting of Panels, the Chair of the Leicestershire Panel informed those present that a copy of an HMICFRS report had been given to the media before it had been given to the force. The Commissioner replied that usually he was able to see various iterations of reports before publication, though only had access to press releases at midnight on the day of the reports' publication.

RESOLVED 2019/006

That the contents of the report be noted.

6. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN (2018-21) – THEME 2 – HELPING AND SUPPORTING VICTIMS

Katherine Cant from Nottinghamshire Victim CARE delivered a presentation on the organisation's service and a summary of that presentation is set out below:

- The service began in January 2017 for victims of crime in Nottinghamshire.
- 16,000 referrals had now been received from a variety of sources, not solely from the Police.

- An increase in referrals is expected as the website is due to go live in April / May which will contain information on the support available.
- Victims of domestic violence or sexual violence are not supported.
- Support available includes advocacy, community visits and target hardening, though advice is the most offered form of support.
- Outcomes have been positive, with Victim Self-Assessment being introduced in April 2018 and improvements being recorded in successive quarters since.
- Community Points is a new service which aims to open up the support available to those who would normally be hidden, for example, those who don't trust the police or those who live in remote rural areas.
- There is a good spread of the Points through the County
- Restorative Justice (RJ) has proved to be a challenge and colleagues and partners in Hertfordshire and Lincolnshire have confirmed the difficulty in encouraging take-up.
- RJ is offered to all victims but it can be difficult engaging victims soon after an incident and when the offender may not have been apprehended. More success has been achieved by offering support after a longer time period has elapsed.
- Work has been undertaken with the Police during their training.
- Work has been undertaken to develop an app around myth busting regarding RJ.

Following Ms Cant's presentation the following points were clarified:-

- Ms Cant confirmed that she would like to expand the programme with Communication Points in all public buildings and a staff member present to provide help. Ms Cant informed the Panel that there are no barriers to other organisations contacting them with a view to hosting a Communication Point and that a liaison officer was available to discuss the possibilities. Ms Cant emphasised the importance of the nature of the organisation involved as it was crucial that clients were able to trust that organisation.
- In terms of the geographical spread around the County, Ms Cant stated that the work undertaken was proportionate to the number of crimes committed in a particular area, with few referrals in the Rushcliffe area for example. Ms Cant informed the Panel that social media was used to promote the services available and that this was an effective way of reaching isolated individuals.
- Ms Cant confirmed that victims of ASB were supported with much advocacy and liaising with partners taking place.

- Ms Cant informed the Panel that the figure of 925 for target hardening referred to individual items of equipment issued, for example personal alarms.
- In terms of the 497 RJ referrals, Ms Cant confirmed that half of the cases were classified as 'pending' as cases were kept open until the offender was apprehended.
- Regarding home visits, Ms Cant informed the Panel that victims were contacted within 48 hours, with priority victims contacted in 24 hours, and visits taking place at a time to suit the victims.
- The Commissioner agreed to circulate Ms Cant's contact details to members of the Panel along with details of the services available.
- The Commissioner explained that the underspend on PCSOs was due to an anticipated overspend identified in the autumn which led to a re-phasing of one of the planned cohorts.

RESOLVED 2019/007

That the contents of the report be noted.

7. BLUE LIGHT COLLABORATION

The Commissioner introduced the report and informed the Panel that he was keen for his role to be clearly defined at the outset rather than it develop over time. The Commissioner confirmed he was not technically a member of the fire authority as the relevant legislation was yet to be passed.

The Commissioner informed the Panel of the good working relationship that existed with the Fire Service, with staff from both services working well alongside each other on various projects including the new HQ, shared fuel depots and prevention initiatives.

The Commissioner referred to the joint drone project, with the drone now in use and spoke of its potentially enormous capabilities, especially in the areas of rural crime and missing people. The Chief Constable stated that the age profile of those missing was mixed with open areas and river banks involved where the drone was especially effective. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the Force had one operational drone at present, compared to the Lincolnshire Force which had 6, but that the effectiveness of the drone would be monitored before deciding whether to purchase more devices.

RESOLVED 2019/008

That the contents of the report be noted.

8. INDEPENDENT CO OPTED MEMBER RECRUITMENT

The Independent Members of the Panel present, Christine Goldstraw, Suma Harding and Bob Vaughan-Newton, left the meeting at this point and did not return. Executive Mayor Allsop assumed the Chair.

Executive Mayor Allsop clarified that the new terms of office would run from 1st June 2019 and not 3rd June 2019 as stated in the report.

RESOLVED 2019/009

- 1. That the terms of office of the existing Independent Co-Opted Members (Rizwan Araf, Christine Goldstraw, Suma Harding and Bob Vaughan-Newton) cease on 31st May 2019.**
- 2. That the terms of office of the new Independent Co-Opted Member (Lesley Darby) and the reappointed Independent Co-Opted Members (Christine Goldstraw, Suma Harding and Bob Vaughan-Newton) run from 1st June 2019 to 31 May 2021.**
- 3. That a report be brought to a future meeting of the Panel in 2020 to enable consideration of any reappointments / recruitment at that stage.**

The meeting closed at 3.38pm

CHAIRMAN