

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 JUNE 2018 AT 2.00PM AT COUNTY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

(A denotes absent)

Christine Goldstraw OBE – Independent Member (re-elected as Chairman at this meeting)

Councillor Debbie Mason – Rushcliffe Borough Council (re-elected as Vice-Chairman at this meeting)

Executive Mayor Kate Allsop – Mansfield District Council **A**

Rizwan Araf – Independent Member

Councillor Bill Drewett (substitute for Mayor Allsop) – Mansfield District Council

Councillor David Ellis – Gedling Borough Council

Councillor Keith Girling – Newark and Sherwood District Council

Councillor Kevin Greaves – Bassetlaw District Council **A**

Suma Harding – Independent Member

Councillor Tony Harper – Broxtowe Borough Council

Councillor Toby Neal – Nottingham City 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

Sarah Ashton - Democratic Services Officer	}	Nottinghamshire County Council
Pete Barker - Democratic Services Officer	}	(Host Authority)
Sue Bearman - Senior Solicitor	}	

OTHERS PRESENT

Paddy Tipping - Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)

Craig Guildford – Chief Constable, Notts Police

Kevin Dennis - Chief Executive, OPCC

Charlotte Radford - Chief Finance Officer, OPCC

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED 2018/011

That Christine Goldstraw OBE be appointed Chairman of the Panel for the 2018/19 municipal year.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED 2018/012

That Councillor Debbie Mason be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the 2018/19 municipal year.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Zadrozny to his first meeting of the Panel.

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON 23 APRIL 2018

Members asked the Commissioner about progress regarding the replacement Bridewell. The Commissioner informed the Panel that a site had been identified, discussions were taking place with the owner about the price and he hoped the matter would soon be resolved.

Members asked about progress regarding the Force Management Statement and the Commissioner informed the Panel that the final version of the Statement would be brought to the meeting of the Panel in October.

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 April 2018, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true and correct record, and were confirmed and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Bill Drewett replaced Mayor Kate Allsop for this meeting only.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

6. REVIEW OF THE BALANCED APPOINTMENT OBJECTIVE

It was agreed that this item should be withdrawn from this meeting's agenda and brought back to the next meeting with the following issues clarified:

- the voting rights of Independent Members,
- whether the vote need to be unanimous,
- the proportionality calculations.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

Members queried whether their concerns regarding the draft Police and Crime Plan had been taken into consideration. The Chair informed the Panel that she would check to see whether the Commissioner's response had been circulated to Panel members.

Members requested that information on domestic violence and reoffending rates be brought to a future meeting of the Panel.

RESOLVED 2018/013

- 1) That the work programme be updated in line with Members' suggestions.**
- 2) That the finalised dates of the meetings of the Police and Crime Panel for 2018-19 be noted.**
- 3) That any Members wishing to attend the national Police and Crime Panel Conference on 12 November 2018 contact Pete Barker or Keith Ford.**
- 4) That the update information on the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels be noted.**
- 5) That an induction session be arranged for new and existing Panel Members who have yet to undertake such training.**

8. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT – TO MARCH 2018

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the update report and highlighted the following key issues:-

- The Commissioner informed the Panel that the recorded crime figures for Nottinghamshire were up by 18.5%, and although no national comparator figures were available yet it is a national problem. The Commissioner informed the Panel that there were issues around the standards of crime recording, that the HMIC had visited Nottinghamshire and that the meeting had gone well.
- The Commissioner informed the Panel that the Force is continuing to recruit officers with the target being to employ 2,000 officers by April 2019. The Commissioner confirmed that no other Force is increasing its officer numbers as much and that some Forces are actually losing officers. In terms of the Force reflecting its community, the Commissioner stated that while the population as a whole comprised 11% of those from the BAME community, the figure for officers in the Force was 4%. The Commissioner explained that a variety of measures were in place designed to tackle this issue including the introduction of an apprenticeship route into the Force, which the Nottinghamshire Force had been the first to introduce.
- In terms of the budget, the Commissioner stated that a £2.4m underspend was being forecast, which represents just 1% of the overall budget.
- Concerning the problem of knife crime, the Commissioner stated that this was a national issue where incidents had increased by 22% compared to 11% in Nottinghamshire. The report sets out the measures being undertaken and the Commissioner informed the Panel that the 3 recent incidents were not connected, involved people who knew each other and that arrests had been made in 2 of the cases. The third case was more problematical as those involved have not been willing to provide the information required.

In response to issues raised by Members, the following points were clarified:-

- In terms of the references and names of the areas referred to in the Plan, the Commissioner confirmed that these were the Neighbourhood Patrol Areas as defined by the Force
- The Panel raised the issue of unanswered calls and the Commissioner replied that a major piece of work was currently being undertaken. The Commissioner stated that the Force is meeting the targets for 999 calls, the number of which was slightly down, but that there were no national benchmarks in place for 101 calls which made comparisons difficult. The Chief Constable confirmed that 999 calls were a priority. In terms of 101 calls, the Chief Constable reminded the Panel that this number was for non-emergencies and confirmed that the answer rate was improving. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that he had invested in the control room where the recruitment level was now 105%.
- The Chief Constable confirmed he would meet Panel members to discuss specific local issues as required.
- Several members of the Panel had attended the recent conference on knife crime and informed fellow members that it had been very useful.
- Regarding a recent TV programme where body worn cameras used by the Notts Force were featured, members commented that the officers involved came across very well. The Commissioner confirmed the TV series as a whole had turned out well though it was being aired on an obscure channel. The Chief Constable said that he thought the TV programme was useful in that it showed the wider mission of the police where the proportion of the workload spent on crime is only 17-20% with the remainder of the time spent helping vulnerable people.
- In reply to questions regarding the Performance Framework, the Commissioner replied that he had seen the new format and stated that there was a need to ensure the balance between detail and clarity was correct. The Commissioner confirmed a copy of the Framework would be circulated to members. In terms of other figures the Commissioner confirmed that ASB figures are published quarterly, there had been 148 incidents of hate crime in the last 12 months and work was ongoing with various partners regarding CSE. The Commissioner agreed to forward on figures regarding DV and other crimes after the meeting.
- The Panel referred to the Early Guilty Plea rates in the Magistrates' Court and the Crown Court and the superior performance of the former. In reply to a question about the problem of those charged not pleading guilty until CCTV evidence had been disclosed by the Police, the Commissioner stated that many conversations had taken place regarding the subject of disclosure. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that the problem of CCTV disclosure was a perennial one, that the information did need to be converted into a viewable medium but that any delay was often used as a convenient excuse by some. The Chief Constable also explained that as there was a Senior Crown Court in Nottingham, major cases from other Forces are heard there which affects the Early Guilty Plea figures. The Chief Constable stated that in this case the Force was restricted by the availability of resources beyond its control. In terms of the Magistrates' Court performance, the

Chief Constable informed the Panel that this had improved to now being one of the best in the East Midlands.

- In reply to a query about Crime Registrars the Chief Constable confirmed that every Force was required to have one and while some Forces delegate the duties to a senior officer the Notts Force has a full-time post to allow it to concentrate on ethical crime reporting.
- In response to a question on the new HMIC inspection regime, the Chief Exec of the OPCC informed the Panel that the new title was now 'Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services' (HMICFRS) with the new process having been piloted in 3 areas and peer led.
- The Panel welcomed the fact that the Force continued to recruit officers and asked the Commissioner what was being done to retain staff. The Commissioner replied that a great deal of work was undertaken on morale with exit interviews being conducted with all leavers but that the financial situation has meant it has been difficult to confirm people in post. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that it was the Force's aim to be the local employer of choice, that all employees can transition into other work areas with training available and that the Force does have a welfare programme providing a support mechanism for staff and officers. The Chief Constable also informed the Panel that the Force had signed up to MIND's Blue Light Programme which provides mental health support for emergency services staff.
- The Panel thanked the Commissioner for the case study on knife crime and in answer to questions the Commissioner stated that technically there was no such crime as a knife crime as the definitions used were generic but emphasised that no-one was denying that knife crime was increasing. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that some crimes have been conflated when being recorded but that the Force does use a specific word search to get round this problem which other Forces do not.
- In reply to questions about how the success of projects designed to reduce knife crime is measured, the Commissioner stated that the grants for such projects were made on 1 April and that it was a possibility that the successful applicants had not yet received their funding. The Commissioner informed the Panel that as part of the process those applying for grants have to state what they are trying to achieve and spoke of the work being done by Marcellus Baz and the Russell Youth Club stating that the Force must get down into the community if the culture is to be changed. The Chief Constable informed the Panel that though knife crime did occur between adults there was a need to focus on the young with resources being put into schools liaison, for example, the results of which would not be immediately clear.

RESOLVED 2018/014

That the contents of the report and the response to issues raised by Members be noted.

9. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE COLLABORATION UPDATE

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the update report and highlighted the following key issues:-

- The Nottinghamshire Force is involved in nearly all of the collaborations in the East Midlands.
- Discussions on Tri-Force Collaboration had taken place but were now on hold as a result of the appointments of new Commissioners and Chief Constables.
- The review of EMOpPS was published last year with surprising results and, though an operational matter, the Chief Constable had discussed with the Commissioner the decision to withdraw the Notts Force from the arrangement, with others working towards continuing their involvement in the service.
- Progress on Blue Light Collaboration has been slow initially but the Commissioner had attended a positive meeting recently and information on estates is imminent.

In response to issues raised by Members, the following points were clarified:-

- The Panel stating that its understanding was that collaborations were designed to save money and asked the Commissioner what costs were associated with withdrawing from any collaboration arrangements currently in place. In reply the Commissioner stated that in the case of EMOpPS the budgets had never been pooled and the Force was just taking back what it had put in. The commissioner stated that his report contained the business case with the rationale for the decisions taken and which also detailed the savings made. The Commissioner informed the Panel that the armed response vehicles for example, spent the majority of their time in Lincolnshire when there was a need for them elsewhere, including Nottinghamshire. The Chief Constable confirmed that the deployment of the firearms team had been contentious with assets only being used periodically and stated that the Force would continue to work with partners and have access to specialist services.
- The Panel asked the Commissioner about vulnerable people and the 'Herbert Protocol' in particular and he replied that he was not surprised that not all of the 4,000 employees in the Force were aware of the protocol, though its use was promoted.

RESOLVED 2018/015

That the contents of the report be noted.

10. Police and Crime Plan – Strategic Priority Theme 2 – Helping and Supporting Victims

The Police and Crime Commissioner introduced the report and highlighted the following key issues:-

- The new Website is now in operation

- Work is continuing with the City Council to develop the MASH
- Similarly, work is continuing with partners in the areas of supporting sexual violence victims and survivors and in developing new facilities for the adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)
- The rollout of the Victim CARE model into the community is ongoing, though the area of restorative justice has proved problematical.
- A local working group on female offenders continues to meet, though the small size of the population (only 14% of offenders are female) may explain the difficulties of progressing in this area
- Operation Equinox is appropriately resourced and a recent conviction has occurred as a result
- The IICSA inquiry begins in Notts in October and more complaints and allegations are anticipated

In response to issues raised by Members, the following points were clarified:-

- The Panel asked why the Strategic Plan only referred to deliverables and not actual achievements and the Commissioner replied that conversations were ongoing regarding quantity and quality and he was not yet confident that the form and content of the information being provided is correct.

RESOLVED 2018/016

That the contents of the report be noted.

11. COMPLAINTS UPDATE

Sue Bearman introduced the report and highlighted the following key issues:-

- Since the last report to the Panel in April 2017 two complaints have been received.
- One complaint relayed to the investigation and handling of issues dating back to the 1990s and the complainant was advised that their complaint was outside the jurisdiction of the Panel.
- The second complaint related to issues that were previously raised by the same individual in 2015 and the complainant was advised that the Panel would not be dealing with the complaint as it was identical or repetitious.
- The government has undertaken a consultation regarding complaints about police and crime commissioners and a summary of the findings is summarised in paragraph 8 of the report. Confirmation of any changes to the procedures as a result of the consultation are expected some time in 2019.

RESOLVED 2018/017

1. That the Police and Crime Panel note details of the complaints received in respect of the Police and Crime Commissioner since April 2017.
2. That a further report to be brought to Panel regarding any changes in respect of Police and Crime Panel Complaints Procedure.

The meeting closed at 3.45pm

CHAIRMAN