

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 2.00PM AT COUNTY HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christine Goldstraw OBE – Independent Member (Chair)
Councillor David Ellis – Gedling Borough Council (Vice Chair)

Executive Mayor Andy Abrahams – Mansfield District Council – **Apologies**
Councillor Scott Carlton – Nottinghamshire County Council
Lesley Dalby – Independent Member
Councillor Kevin Greaves – Bassetlaw District Council - **Absent**
Suma Harding – Independent Member
Councillor Rob Inglis – Rushcliffe Borough Council
Councillor Mike Introna – Nottinghamshire County Council
Councillor Neghat Khan – Nottingham City Council
Councillor John Lee
Councillor Richard MacRae – Broxtowe Borough Council
Councillor Toby Neal (substitute for Councillor Linda Woodings)
Councillor Stuart Richardson – Mansfield District Council (substitute for Mayor Andy Abrahams)
Councillor Helen-Ann Smith – Ashfield District Council
Bob Vaughan-Newton – Independent Member
Councillor Linda Woodings – Nottingham City Council - **Apologies**

OFFICERS PRESENT

Keith Ford – Democratic Services Team	}	Nottinghamshire County Council
Manager	}	(Host Authority)
Jo Toomey - Advanced Democratic Services	}	
Officer	}	
Laura Webb – Assistant Democratic Services	}	
Officer	}	

OTHERS PRESENT

Caroline Henry - Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)

Sharon Caddell – Chief Executive of the Office of the PCC (OPCC)
Gillian Holder – Chief Financial Officer (OPCC)
Dan Howitt – Head of Strategy and Performance (OPCC)

Chief Constable Craig Guildford (Nottinghamshire Police)
Deputy Chief Constable Steve Cooper (Nottinghamshire Police)

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 June 2022 having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true and correct record and were confirmed and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Stuart Richardson replaced Mayor Andy Abrahams for this meeting only.

Councillor Toby Neal replaced Councillor Linda Woodings for this meeting only.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

4. WORK PROGRAMME

The Chairman reminded the Panel that the work programme was a live document which could be updated throughout the year.

RESOLVED 2022/024

That the contents of the report be noted.

5. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman presented the Police and Crime Panel annual report which summarised the Panel's activities over the previous municipal year (from the annual meeting in June 2021 to May 2022). The annual report also highlighted forthcoming planned areas of focus. The Chairman thanked the Panel's supporting officers, the sub-group of members and the communications team who were involved in putting the report together. It was noted that the Annual Report would be used as a communications tool targeted at the public and other elected members to promote the Panel's role and raise awareness of its activities.

One correction was identified on page 23. The Panel was informed that any other comments should be sent to the Panel's support officers by Friday 30 September 2022 before the report was finalised and published.

RESOLVED 2022/025

That the Police and Crime Panel Annual Report be approved subject to the change highlighted on page 23.

6. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL REPORT

The Police and Crime Commissioner presented her annual report to the Panel which detailed the activities undertaken and progress made in fulfilling her statutory duties since taking office in May 2021. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 placed a statutory duty on Police and Crime Commissioners to produce an Annual Report. The report should detail the exercise of their functions and the progress made in meeting the objectives in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

The Police and Crime Commissioner highlighted the following:

- The development and delivery of the 2021 to 2025 Make Notts Safe Plan, with over £20m of funding secured.
- The 'Safety of Women at Night' (SWAN) project in Nottingham, a joint project with Nottingham City Council and the Nottingham Business Improvement District, which had received funding
- The Divert Plus programme delivered through the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), which worked with young people on the cusp of becoming involved in criminality
- The national 'Uplift' programme which had enabled Nottinghamshire Police to recruit an additional 357 additional police officers, with the force having the strongest record with recruitment from black, Asian and minority ethnic communities
- The introduction of a rural crime plan
- Investment in tackling fraud, particularly online fraud
- The use of convening powers to form a local Criminal Justice Partnership to address issues within the Criminal Justice System
- The commissioning of a new victim care needs assessment prior to the letting of a contract and the creation of a new Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and paediatric SARC
- Advocating for a three-year funding settlement to assist in longer-term planning
- Delivery of the new custody suite in Nottingham and the joint force headquarters, which were completed on time and in budget, and wider work on the police estate
- Grants that had been awarded by the Commissioner
- The introduction of the Accountability Board with work plans and published action points to hold the Chief Constable to account.
- Changes to the staffing structure in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner including increased capacity to support commissioning and community engagement
- Walkabout Wednesdays, which the Commissioner considered successful

Following the summary of the annual report, members of the Panel asked for clarification about conflicting statistics published in the Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual report and the Police and Crime Commissioner's update report. It was confirmed that the annual report was based on the financial year of 2021/22 whereas the Police and Crime Commissioner's update report was based on activities undertaken since June 2022.

The Police and Crime Commissioner elaborated on the work of the Accountability Board and how it was addressing the recommendation made during the PEEL assessment regarding the recording of crime. Members were reassured that no victims were missed and the approximate 400 crimes per month which had not been recorded were additional behaviour crimes. It was also noted that a data integrity team was in place. The Panel asked if the reports, work programme and minutes for the accountability board could be shared with it directly. A report had been promised to the Panel at a future meeting, explaining the work being undertaken on data integrity and the progress being made.

Reference was also made to a review of Community Safety Partnership funding the Commissioner was undertaking. She explained this was due diligence to find out where funding was going, giving an example that some posts that had been funded historically no longer existed.

The Panel was provided with further detail about the investment in preventing rural crime, including use of volunteers and the accreditation of wildlife practitioners. The Commissioner also gave examples of engagement events to target rural crime, including a rural crime showcase and farmhouse/breakfast events. Panel members were given an example of a recent case, the investigation into which had been helped by installation of GPS systems on tractors and investment in automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras.

In responding to a question about a lack of good news stories in the media, the Commissioner, if allowed, would provide an update on any good news stories that she had been working to get the media to notice, including the Safe Refute camera installation in Eastwood.

RESOLVED 2022/026

That the Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual report be noted.

7. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS UPDATE REPORT

The Police and Crime Commissioner summarised her update report which covered her activities since June 2022 and highlighted the following:

- Four bids for safer streets funding had secured £3m, £750,000 for each of the following: Nottingham City (Arboretum, Radford and Park, and Bestwood), South Nottinghamshire (Trent Bridge Ward, Netherfield and Colwick and the Eastwood South area of Broxtowe) Mansfield and Ashfield (Warsop and Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood (Worksop and Castle)
- Ministry of Justice funding was secured to support victims and survivors of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), including providing independent advisors to assist victims which would aid them to stay engaged with the criminal justice process
- A bid had been submitted to support children affected by domestic abuse

- The Victims Commissioner had opened the SARC which involved survivors of sexual assault in its development
- Visits to events such as the Nottinghamshire County Show and Nottingham's Caribbean Carnival had increased community engagement
- Conversations had taken place between the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Health Secretary about the issues that Nottinghamshire Police were facing including the wait times for ambulances
- Discussions were taking place about the opportunities presented by the devolution deal for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, although it was anticipated that there would still be two separate police forces and Police and Crime Commissioners.

Following the Commissioner's update, she referred to several funding bids for her 'Make Notts Safe' scheme, the outcomes of which were due to be published imminently.

£750,000 of funding had been secured for the Eastwood area, which would form part of a press release together with additional information about the funding secured throughout the Broxtowe area.

The Police and Crime Panel and the Police and Crime Commissioner thanked the 120 volunteers from Nottinghamshire Police who had worked and provided local cover during memorial and commemorative events for Her Majesty the Queen. Those cadets who took part in proclamation events and remembrance services in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire were also praised.

Reference was made to recent engagement work which had involved the Commissioner and members of the Force, as it gave an opportunity for children to see the police as approachable.

RESOLVED 2022/027

That the Police and Crime Commissioner's update report be noted.

8. PERFORMANCE UPDATE TO JUNE 2022

Members' attention turned to the performance report, which provided information to June 2022.

Members of the Panel asked questions about neighbourhood crime statistics, noting that neighbourhood crime was 30% lower than pre-pandemic levels and the continuing to work with those most likely to be involved in criminal activity, supporting those with substance issues and delivering preventative work in schools.

Some concern was expressed by Panel members about the increase in violent offences, which followed the national trend. Examples of work being undertaken by the VRU were noted.

The Police and Crime Commissioner confirmed that she would bring a presentation about the level of confidence in Nottinghamshire Police to a future meeting, which would include the analytical work that had been undertaken.

Members of the Panel raised concerns that the levels of hate crime had increased. The Panel was informed that a new campaign called 'take aim on hate crime' was to be introduced to encourage residents to report hate crime. It was noted that to combat hate crime, Nottinghamshire Police was working with partners such as the National Holocaust Centre and Mencap to deliver presentations to schools to educate children about hate crime. The Panel asked for further information about how Nottinghamshire Police was tackling hate crime towards traveller and Ukrainian communities.

Despite the levels of hate crime, the Police and Crime Commissioner said she was pleased to note that 92% of those who had received victim care were satisfied with the service provided.

The Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner assured the Panel that recent recruitment activity by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner had made the team more reflective of communities and across protected characteristics.

The Panel requested further information regarding the Police and Crime Commissioner's approach to tackling modern slavery. The Police and Crime Commissioner stated that it was difficult to get charges through the Crown Prosecution Service. She made the Panel aware of a conference that had recently occurred and that it was modern slavery awareness week later in September. She indicated she would use this as an opportunity to encourage residents to report any concerns they had regarding modern slavery offences.

Reference was made to Nottingham City Council's decision to remove the late-night levy, the impact of its removal on implementation of recommendations from the nighttime economy needs assessment and considerations to mitigate the impact of its withdrawal.

RESOLVED 2022/028

1. That the Police and Crime Commissioner's performance update report be noted.
2. That outside the meeting, the Panel be provided with information about how Nottinghamshire Police is tackling hate crime against travelling and Ukrainian communities.

9. NOTTINGHAM CUSTODY SUITE – BENEFIT REALISATION

The Panel was informed that the report provided an overview of benefits realised from the 2021-22 Nottingham Custody suite development and included details of outstanding issues and challenges that the force was working to address.

The Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner stated that the new custody suite was fully operational and met standards required by the Home Office and the National College of Policing. The Panel was informed that some benefits had already been realised including increased safety, health, and wellbeing for staff. It was also noted that the new custody suite had been designed to support the additional needs of disabled and vulnerable detainees.

Members of the Panel were pleased to note that despite concerns raised during the planning process, local communities had accepted the development.

Members of the Panel also asked questions to clarify the status and availability of the custody suite in Newark. At a previous meeting reference was made to the facility being mothballed but available for use should it be deemed operationally necessary at a later date.

The Chief Executive concluded that a post-implementation review of the new Nottingham facility would take place shortly but was confident that benefits of the new custody suite had been realised. In addition to hard cash savings, the review would also take account of softer outcomes.

RESOLVED 2022/029

That the Nottingham custody suite benefit realisation report be noted.

The meeting was closed at 3.57pm.