

FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Annual Report of the Police and Crime Panel

8 September 2022

1. Purpose

To consider the proposed Annual Report of work undertaken by the Panel which is attached to this report at Appendix 2 and to request that the Panel considers the process for the future publication of the Annual Report.

2. Information and Analysis

2.1 As the Panel is aware, Derbyshire County Council was provided with a grant for 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 of up to £67,100 as the host authority in respect of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel. Payment of the Grant was subject to the standard terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement.

The Grant Agreement stipulates at paragraph 3.1 of Schedule 3 that the Key Performance Indicators to be monitored and reported on are:

- a) The number of public meetings held;
- b) Scrutiny documents and publications produced, including the Panel's annual report;
- c) Engagement with the work of the Panel by members of the public and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire Constabulary.

To demonstrate that the Panel has met the Key Performance Indicators for the year 2021 to 2022, a report of the work undertaken by the Panel for the municipal year of May 2021 to May 2022 is attached at Appendix 2.

The Panel will note that these again include the provision of an Annual Report. The production of such a report may also be considered as being best practice and contribute towards engagement with the public.

3. Alternative Options Considered

3.1 Not applicable.

4. Implications

4.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of this report.

5. Consultation

5.1 Not applicable.

6. Background Papers

6.1 None identified.

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix 1 – Implications

7.2 Appendix 2 – Annual Report for the Municipal Year 2021 to 2022

8. Recommendations

That the Panel

1. Agrees the attached Annual Report at Appendix 2 to demonstrate that the Panel has met the Key Performance Indicators as specified in the Grant Agreement for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

9. Reasons for Recommendation(s)

9.1 To ensure that the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel complies with the requirements of the Grant Agreement and ensure that performance of the Panel can be monitored.

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Appendix 1

Implications

Financial

- 1.1 The Grant Agreement requires the Recipient to put in place procedures to monitor and track spending, including committed spend, against agreed budgets and notify the Authority of any variances.

Legal

- 2.1 The functions and responsibilities of police and crime panels are set out in the Police Reform and Social responsibility Act 2011 and are to scrutinise the actions and decisions of police and crime commissioners, and provide support and challenge to the Commissioners in exercise of their functions. Panels focus their attention on key strategic actions and decisions taken by the Commissioner, including whether they have achieved the objectives set out in their Police and Crime Plan, considered the relevant priorities of their community safety partners and consulted appropriately with the public.
- 2.2 The grant is paid in exercise of the power conferred upon the Secretary of State for the Home Department under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003 to provide financial support to a local authority in England and Wales.
- 2.3 In order to receive the grant, the host authority must agree to the terms of the Grant Agreement and provide the information stipulated within the Agreement to enable the Home Office to monitor performance.

Human Resources

- 3.1 None directly arising out of this report.

Information Technology

- 4.1 None directly arising out of this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 None directly arising out of this report.

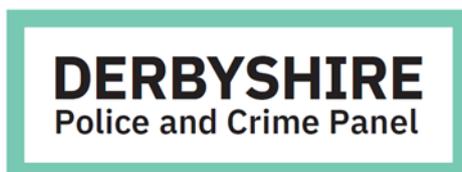
Corporate objectives and priorities for change

6.1 None directly arising out of this report.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

7.1 None directly arising out of this report.

Appendix 2



ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021 to 2022

Background

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire (“the PCC”) has responsibility for securing an efficient and effective police force for the area. This includes setting objectives, considering budget allocation and holding the Chief Constable to account.

The function of the Police and Crime Panel (“the Panel”) is to scrutinise the actions and decisions of the PCC and provide support and challenge to the PCC in the exercise of their functions.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented challenges to policing and in turn the role of the PCC and the Panel. The Panel has adapted to these changes quickly and effectively to ensure its responsibilities are met through this period of uncertainty.

Membership

The membership of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel is made up of elected members from each of the Councils in the Police Force area of Derbyshire, including Derby City. Each authority nominates a member to sit on the Panel. Panels are also able to co-opt additional councillor members to ensure that the political balance of the whole area is reflected and must appoint at least 2 independent members. The Panel

must ensure that the membership has appropriate skills, knowledge and experience in order to properly exercise the functions of the Panel.

The Panel elects the Chair and Vice-Chair at the Annual General Meeting. The membership of the Panel for 2021-22 was:

Ms Vicky Newbury - Chair (Independent Member)

Cllr Ged Potter - Vice-Chair, Derby City Council (Conservative)

Cllr Carol Hart - Derbyshire County Council (Conservative)

Cllr Sean Carter – Amber Valley Borough Council (Conservative)

Cllr Mary Dooley – Bolsover District Council (Labour)

Cllr Peter Innes – Chesterfield Borough Council (Labour)

Cllr Garry Purdy, then Cllr Jason Atkin (from November 21) – Derbyshire Dales District Council (Conservative)

Cllr Val Clare – Erewash Borough Council (Conservative)

Cllr Alan Barrow – High Peak Borough Council (Labour)

Cllr William Armitage – North East Derbyshire District Council (Conservative)

Cllr Gordon Rhind – South Derbyshire District Council (Labour)

Dr Stephen Handsley – (Independent Member)

The host authority for the panel is Derbyshire County Council. Meetings are held in public at County Hall, Matlock. In person meetings were able to resume after 7 May 2021 when Covid-19 restrictions on public meetings ceased.

Schedule of Meetings

The Panel met formally 4 times during the 2021-2022 municipal year in September and November 2021, and January and March 2022.

The Police and Crime Commissioner elections scheduled for May 2020 took place a year later in May 2021 and Derbyshire elected a new Commissioner, Angelique Foster.

Work Undertaken

The required functions of the Panel are:

- To consider the Commissioner's proposed police precept
- To monitor delivery of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan
- To review and scrutinise action and decisions taken by the Commissioner
- To handle PCC conduct complaints

At the meetings during the 2021-22 municipal year these functions were carried out as follows:

Monitor, Review and Scrutinise

1. September Meeting

At the September meeting the Panel heard information about complaints received against the Police and Crime Commissioner received over the previous year. The Panel was also pleased to welcome Angelique Foster to her first meeting as the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner who explained the work she had been doing since taking office.

2. November Meeting

The Panel considered, asked questions, and made comments on the Police and Crime Plan for 2021-2025. The Panel also received a general update on the work of the PCC

3. January Meeting

At this meeting, the main business was to hear from the PCC about the proposal for the precept for 2022/23. The Panel welcomed the Chief Constable to the meeting to outline her operational business case for increasing the precept.

The Panel also heard details from the PCC about her ongoing restructure of her office staff and the interim arrangements that had been put in place.

4. March meeting

The Panel welcomed Vicky Newbury and Stephen Handsley back to the Panel as re-appointed Independent Members for a period of 4 years. The meeting also received the PCC's annual report with Members noting that the report covered the period prior the current PCC's election. The Panel received a comprehensive update from the Commissioner about her priorities and recent activity

Precept

At its January meeting, the Panel considered the proposal by the Commissioner to increase the precept in February 2022. The Panel considered a report which included financial information detailing cost pressures and intended investments that would result from the increase. The Panel also had the opportunity to hear from Rachel Swann, the Chief Constable, who provided a detailed overview into how the precept increases would be spent. The Panel also heard from Andrew Dale (Chief Finance Officer – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) and Simon Allsop (Chief Finance Officer – Derbyshire Constabulary). The Commissioner was questioned in detail by Panel members regarding the proposed increase and questions were also asked of the Chief Constable and Finance officers. The Panel resolved to approve the proposed precept for 2022-23 without qualification or comment.

Complaints

The Panel is responsible for dealing with complaints made about the Commissioner's conduct. Any complaints alleging criminal conduct by the Commissioner must be recorded and referred to the Independent Office for Police Conduct. Any other complaints are handled by the Panel, through informal resolution. The Panel received 1 complaint during the municipal year 2021-22. A separate report will be presented to the Panel detailing the complaints considered and further detail of the complaints process can be found at <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/community/community-safety/derbyshire-police-and-crime-panel/derbyshire-police-and-crime-panel.aspx>.

National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels

Cllr Ged Potter continues to serve on the Executive Committee of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels.

Grant Funding

The host authority receives a grant of up to £67,100 to maintain the Police and Crime Panel. This grant is used to cover administrative costs, training and member expenses.