

PUBLIC

**MINUTES** of a meeting of **DERBYSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL** held on Thursday, 8 September 2022 in The Council Chamber, County Hall, Matlock.

**PRESENT**

V Newbury (in the Chair)

Councillors G Potter (Derby City Council), W Armitage (North East Derbyshire District Council), A Barrow (High Peak Borough Council), V Clare (Erewash Borough Council), C Hart (Derbyshire County Council), P Innes (Chesterfield Borough Council), G Rhind (South Derbyshire District Council), D Murphy (Derbyshire Dales District Council), M Murray (Amber Valley Borough Council), H Dhindsa (Derby City Council), R Flatley, J Frudd (Erewash Borough Council) and D Lomax (High Peak Borough Council)

Officers present: Ivan Walters (Democratic Services Officer), Alec Dubberley (Head of Democratic and Registration Services) and Andrea Bond (Business Services Manager - Democratic Services).

Also present: Angelique Foster, Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Andrew Dale, (OPCC), Joe Rhodes-Orwin, (OPCC), and Marie Romano, (OPCC )

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Dooley (Bolsover District Council) M Eyre (Derby City Council) and D Watson (Bolsover District Council) and Dr S Handsley (Independent Member)

**27/22 APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

The Panel were asked to formally co-opt Council Members to the Police and Crime Panel following the decisions taken at the meeting held in June 2022.

Following that meeting, and in accordance with the Panel's wishes, nominations were sought from the relevant councils as follows:

<b>Council</b>	<b>Co-opted member</b>
Bolsover District Council	Councillor Deborah Watson
Chesterfield Borough Council	Councillor Paul Niblock
Derby City Council	Councillor Hardyal Dhindsa (LAB) Councillor Matthew Eyre (CON)
Derbyshire County Council	Councillor Robert Flatley
Erewash Brough Council	Councillor John Frudd
High Peak Borough Council	Councillor David Lomax

It was therefore proposed that Members formally co-opt the above-named councillors, subject to the agreement of the Secretary of State, onto the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel for this municipal year.

**RESOLVED** that the Panel:

- 1) Agrees to formally co-opt the Councillors specified above as members of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel; and
- 2) Notes that the appointments are subject to formal approval by the Secretary of State.

**28/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**29/22 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022.

**30/22 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

Panel Members were asked to consider the proposed Annual Report of work undertaken by the Panel, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. To demonstrate that the Panel had 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 as an appendix to the report.

The Panel noted that these again included 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.

**RESOLVED** that the Panel:

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

**31/22 MEMBER QUESTIONS TO THE PCC**

**Question 1: from Dr Stephen Handsley**

During a previous PCP meeting, I raised the issue of the way children,

and in particular, the case of a young black 15-year-old female, had been strip searched, by female police officers from the Metropolitan Police. A recent report by The Children's Commissioner has found this was not, however, an isolated case. Indeed, more than six hundred children underwent "intrusive and traumatising" strip-searches by the Metropolitan Police over a two-year period, with black boys disproportionately targeted, figures show. Could the Commissioner provide any such figures with regard to Derbyshire Police and, if so, can we as a panel, be reassured that such incidences have never occurred, nor do they form any part of current day to day police operations?

**PCC Response:**

This question was answered at the time. I stated that this specific case had been discussed with the Chief Constable at the time it became public. I had already asked for reassurance from the force that this is not how our force conducted themselves and that the Chief Constable had reviewed their practices and reassured me, accordingly, confirming that such incidents have not occurred in Derbyshire and this practice does not form part of day-to-day operations.

Following the incident in the Metropolitan Police a review of Derbyshire's position was undertaken in relation to stop and search and in particular where these led to the strip search of a juvenile. During 2021/22 there were 5 strip searches carried out on under 18's which was 3% of all strip searches during the same time period. The reason for all of the searches was to find controlled drugs and all U18 strip searches took place in the safety of the custody suite environment. Within Criminal Justice a custody Inspector monitors and reviews all searches. Each one is reviewed to ensure appropriateness and forms part of CJ oversight directly into the Superintendent and ACC.

Derbyshire have a stringent scrutiny process around stop and search in a bid to improving legitimacy which has been recognised as good practice by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue. Internally, all stop searches on BAME individuals are scrutinised by the respective local policing Inspector who covers the area where the search took place. This review covers a number of areas including the legitimacy and legality of the search, whether any force used was proportionate and whether the grounds for search were reasonable. In addition to this, there are 30 monthly randomly selected searches scrutinised including a review of Body Worn Video (BWV) by stop and search leads, where any identified learning is fed back to searching officers and their supervisors and any trends or themes help shape training.

Externally Derbyshire have 2 separate scrutiny groups (Independent

Advisory Group and OPCC) who each sit monthly and review 10 randomly selected searches. These groups also have access to unedited BWV. In addition to this the force also run external Youth Scrutiny panels in a similar manner. Any concerns raised are escalated and feedback is provided, and necessary training delivered.

Accountability for stop and search internally is through both the Stop and Search Steering group which sits quarterly and is chaired by the ACC and the Trust and Legitimacy Board, which sits above this and is chaired by the DCC. These boards review and understand disproportionality, outcome rates and strip search outcome rates along with providing accountability for compliance against HMICFRS/IOPC recommendations and the governments Best Use of Stop and Search Scheme (BUSS). Derbyshire have also commenced a trauma-informed approach to stop and search within their stop and search training to all staff which was a recommendation from the IOPC National stop and search learning report in April 2022.

As the questioner was not present, there was no supplementary question

**Question 2: from Cllr Alan Barrow**

Last week, the PCC announced through a press release and social media that Derbyshire Police had recruited 158 more Police Officers. Can the PCC clarify what 'more' means? How many of these were to replace existing vacancies and how many were additional posts related to the 'Uplift'. Can she also inform the PCP what was the gender and ethnicity make of these recruits, please?

**PCC Response:**

Through PUP the force is increasing its total number of officers by 283 over the three-year period, the force is now in the final year of this. Any numbers where increases are spoken about relates to new additional officers and not simply vacancies for those who have retired for example. In this current year the force are recruiting 125 new officers and are recruiting somewhere between 300 and 350 in total, which includes the 125 additional officers and replacing those who are retiring / leaving. Derbyshire Constabulary is monitored nationally through the PUP Team in relation to numbers delivered, plans to deliver the Uplift and also the breakdown of officers by gender and ethnicity. Derbyshire is a leading force for the recruitment of female officers. From the start of Uplift counting to end of July 2022 the force have recruited 493 police officers, of which 237 (48%) are female officers and 18 (3.75%) have stated their ethnicity as B.A.M.E. There are significant plans in place to increase the number of black and minority applicants. The force monitors all of this

closely to look at any adverse impact in the processes and utilise positive action officers to try to improve attraction recruitment in this area.

At the end of July 2022, the proportion of female officers was 39% and the proportion of black and minority officers was 3.2%

There was no supplementary question

**Question 3: from Cllr Alan Barrow**

On the 11th August HMIC &FRS, Andy Cooke, published a report which he called the current low charge rate 'unacceptable and unsustainable'. According to his inspection report (2020-2021) some Forces tackle this well – but many others do not. He gave examples of the poor performance:

- miss opportunities to identify and catch offenders, at all stages from when a crime is first reported
- fail to give victims advice on crime-scene preservation during the initial call - in 71% of the cases examined
- lack of investigative capacity and experience, made worse by a national detective shortage
- fail to supervise investigations properly - in a third of cases

The report comes soon after the most recent Home Office figures showed just 6.3% of robbery offences and 4.1% of thefts in England and Wales resulted in charges, in the year to March. Can the PCC tell the PCP what is the performance of Derbyshire Police on these areas of concern highlighted by Andy Cooke?.

**PCC Response:**

The Force has improved the standards of investigation through the Achieving Excellence in Investigations Board and associated workstreams chaired by a Chief Superintendent lead. A performance framework is in place which is reported into to the Fighting Crime Board chaired by an ACC. This work is now being taken forward under the Investigation Standards strand of the new Serious Crime and Intelligence Directorate under the leadership of the Head of Crime, placing a greater focus on the management of offenders across all crime types and incorporating learning from other forces to improve standards further. A new crime allocation model will ensure that investigations are undertaken by suitably trained investigators depending on severity and type. Standards of investigation, alongside vulnerability continues to be a force training priority, including training call takers in crime prevention to allow them to

provide relevant advice to the public at first point of contact.

In terms of the Forces performance with regards to these areas of concern, the Achieving Excellence in Investigations Board utilise a robust quality assurance approach, which seeks to review our investigative performance against a number of key performance indicators.

Approximately 150 investigations have been reviewed against the key elements expected within a high-quality investigation. This has resulted in a gradual improvement in the forces performance over the last two years and for July the average figures can be seen below:

- Overall Quality of Investigation – 93%
- THRiVE considered – 73%
- Investigation plan in place - 73%
- Evidence led prosecution considered – 96%
- Supervisor direction – 76%
- BWV used and considered - 90%

The national Criminal Justice Scorecard shows that for the first quarter of 2022 national successful outcomes were recorded at 8%, whereas Derbyshire's is 11%. The force has worked with the CPS and charging was authorised for 705 suspects, which is in line with the average in the region. This does not include suspects charged by the police without CPS review. During this quarter the force charged more suspects of Rape than the rest of the region.

There was no supplementary question.

## **32/22 INTERIM UPDATE ON DELIVERY AGAINST POLICE AND CRIME PLAN**

The Police and Crime Commissioner attended the meeting and provided the Panel with a summary of the work she had conducted in the delivery of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-25, since the last meeting.

The paper which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting provided an overview of the key work undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner in relation to her Police and Crime Plan from 23 June until 31 August 2022.

Members thanked the PCC for her detailed summary and commended her for the good work and large number of activities she had undertaken. However it remained that following a similar discussion at the last meeting, a number of members felt that it was hard for them to reflect on how they could actually reference these against the Police and Crime

Plan, and the Chair requested again that the style of the report be adapted in the future to include details of the outcomes/feedback/performance indicators from the many areas of work undertaken to enable members to scrutinise these effectively.

The PCC commented that the OPCC was reviewing the way in which it provided this information.

**RESOLVED** that the Panel:

Note the update in relation to progress against delivery of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-25

### **33/22 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22**

Angelique Foster, Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire, presented the draft Annual Report for the period 13 May 2021 - 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and also made a number of comments and observations on the Annual Report, to which the Police and Crime Commissioner responded.

**RESOLVED** that the Panel:

(1) recommend to the Police and Crime Commissioner that the Annual Report 2021-22 be issued subject to the proposed amendments; and

(2) that the report be published via the Police & Crime Commissioner's Website, [www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk).

### **34/22 RESTRUCTURING OF THE OFFICE OF THE OPCC**

**RESOLVED** to note the decision taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner concerning the restructure of the office as detailed in Appendix A to the report.

### **35/22 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PCC**

The Police and Crime Commissioner made the following announcements:

- Performance Scrutiny Meeting to be held in October focused around the Commissioner's Rural Crime priority within her Police and Crime Plan.

- Performance Scrutiny Meeting to be held in November focused specifically around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).
- The Commissioner's Road Safety Grant will close in December.
- Decisions on the next round of Anti-Social Behaviour prevention grants will be made in October.
- A date will be arranged in October for members to attend Police HQ and receive a finance briefing.

**36/22 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

It was hoped that a Training event for all Panel Members provided by Frontline Consulting would be held on Teams with a suggested date of 27 October 2022.

**37/22 WORK PROGRAMME - DISCUSSION**

It was proposed that 3 working groups would be set up to look at Budget/Precept, Performance and the Panel, and Complaints. Each would have its own Terms of Reference.

Following the meeting Panel members would be contacted and asked to volunteer to sit on the Working Groups.

**38/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 17 NOVEMBER 2022**

The date of the next meeting was noted.

The meeting finished at 12.10 pm