



SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MEETING ROOM 14, TOWN HALL, CHURCH STREET, BARNSELEY, S70 2TA

2 SEPTEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Councillor D Nevett (Doncaster MBC) (Chair)

Councillor S Sansome (Rotherham MBC) (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: J Grocutt (Sheffield City Council), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), A Khayum (Sheffield City Council), K Mitchell (Barnsley MBC), J Otten (Sheffield City Council) and S Wilkinson (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: Mr A Carter and Mr S Chu

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M Buttery, M Clements, S Parkin, F Topliss and K Wright
(Office of the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

M McCarthy, G Kirk, L Noble and A Shirt
(Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from
Councillor M Dyson (Barnsley MBC)

1 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the September meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.

An extended welcome went to Garry Kirk, Service Director, Legal Services, Barnsley MBC who would be providing legal support to the Panel in the interim period and to Sally Parkin, Governance and Compliance Manager, OPCC.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

3 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair reported that this would be Steve Chu's last meeting with the Panel. He informed the Panel that Steve had been an Independent Co-opted Member of the Panel since 2015. His contributions had been extremely valuable, and would be sadly missed.

On behalf of the Panel, and representatives from the OPCC, the Chair thanked Steve for his commitment to the Panel and wished him all the very best for the future.

4 URGENT ITEMS

None.

5 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

None.

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

7 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:-

7A TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

There were no public questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

7B TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

There were no questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

8 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1ST JULY 2019

Councillor Sansome asked if information could be provided on the scope of the OPCC's scrutiny review of the 101 service, the timescales, and when the Panel would have sight of the outcomes.

The Commissioner replied that K Wright was currently working on the scope of the OPCC's scrutiny review of the 101 service. He added that South Yorkshire Police are also carrying out their own review of the 101 service and Atlas Court, and K Wright would be involved in this review.

Councillor Grocutt asked if Panel Members could be provided with the Terms of Reference for the Force's review of 101 and Atlas Court. Additionally, she asked if the review would look at staff retention, if best practice from other Forces would be examined to understand if there was a better way of carrying out call handling and if a call handling centre was the correct approach for the Force moving forward.

The Commissioner replied that, in respect of staff retention, he understood the review would be looking at staff wellbeing, career progression and levels of pays. He agreed to provide Panel Members with the Terms of Reference for the review.

M Buttery added that the Force's Contact Management Review would also look at how the public contact South Yorkshire Police.

As part of the OPCC's Delivery Plan, K Wright would be undertaking evaluation and scrutiny work around 101. It was noted that the concerns of the Panel would be included within this work.

Councillor Wilkinson asked the Commissioner if he had received any information from the Force to ascertain why staff were leaving Atlas Court. Additionally, she asked if exit interviews took place.

The Commissioner replied that some staff were young people who aspired to change careers, but this was not the whole explanation.

In relation to exit interviews, K Wright agreed to clarify with the Force if this process was in place and agreed to provide Members with further information after today's meeting.

A Carter stated that Panel Members had previously visited Atlas Court which had been invaluable. He asked if a further visit could be arranged for Panel Members.

L Noble replied that she was currently working with the OPCC on arrangements to include Panel Members on a visit to Atlas Court, and perhaps a Custody Suite, which is being arranged for new Members of the OPCC's Panels.

Councillor Sansome asked if the Force would be publicising the contact details for local PCSOs, Sergeants and Neighbourhood Policing Teams, which would avoid the public having to call 101.

The Commissioner explained that as part of the restoration of Neighbourhood Policing, he has urged elected Members to engage with their local Neighbourhood Policing Teams, PCSOs and Sergeants.

Councillor Sansome added that it would be beneficial for elected Members to add the contact details for their local PCSOs onto their advertised list of public ward surgeries.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 1st July 2019 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
- ii) That the OPCC would provide Panel Members with the Terms of Reference for the Force's Review of Contact Management / 101.
- iii) That the OPCC would provide Panel Members with confirmation or otherwise, that exit interviews are in place for staff leaving Atlas Court.

9 PCC'S ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

Members were presented with the PCC's draft Annual Report 2018/19 and reminded of the Commissioner's statutory responsibility to provide such a report.

Members were asked to provide the Commissioner with the Panel's report (or recommendations) on the Annual Report by 6 September 2019.

Councillor Sansome requested that there be an extension to the date to allow Members to provide the Commissioner with the Panel's response. He commented that the report set out measures, targets and timescales, however, it was difficult to understand if these had been achieved in comparison with the 2017/18 Annual Report.

The Commissioner replied that the report set out progress which had been made in 2018/19 in achieving the priorities and success measures set out in his Police and Crime Plan.

M Buttery added that the PCC's Dashboard listed the outcomes in both quantitative and qualitative data.

Councillor Grocutt commented that the Annual Report should reflect the value of police officers and the work which they carry out on a daily basis. She added that there was very little information contained in the report about the re-introduction of Neighbourhood Policing, which would give the public reassurance around the steps which had been taken by the Force to increase police visibility in local neighbourhoods.

The Commissioner thanked Councillor Grocutt for her comments and stated that he would consider adding further information in the Annual Report in relation to the re-introduction of Neighbourhood Policing.

Councillor Khayum asked if the timescale for producing and publishing the Annual Report could be reduced to ensure it was timely.

M Buttery explained that, due to the timings of Panel meetings and some of the performance indicator data contained within the report not being fully audited until July by the Office for National Statistics, it had been difficult to present the report to the Panel prior to today's meeting. She agreed to explore the feasibility of submitting the report to the Panel in July next year.

Councillor Khayum suggested that the Annual Report include details of the outcomes of the Community Grants allocated during 2018/19 and the impacts and benefits the grants had to the recipients.

The Commissioner acknowledged the suggestion.

RESOLVED – That the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Received and commented on the PCC's draft Annual Report; and
- ii) Agreed to provide the PCC with the Panel's report (or recommendations) on the Annual Report by 6 September 2019, as outlined above.

10 MONITORING DELIVERY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN - QUARTERLY REPORT (APRIL - JUNE 2019)

A report of the Commissioner was submitted to present the Quarterly Report for the period April-June 2019, produced from the developing Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) Police and Partners Performance Framework.

The report also aimed to provide information about how the police and partners as well as the Office of the PCC (OPCC) are working to achieve the outcomes and priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire. A copy of the Quarterly Report was presented at Appendix A to the report for Members' information.

Councillor Nevett commented that the number of Stop and Searches conducted by the Force had increased significantly in June 2019. He asked what action was taken by the Force after Stop and Searches had been carried out.

K Wright explained that the Commissioner would not wish to see Stop and Searches increasing without positive outcomes being achieved by the Force.

The Commissioner assured the Panel that the number of Stop and Searches conducted by the Force was closely monitored by the Independent Ethics Panel, to ensure that they are carried out proportionately and fairly.

Councillor Grocutt asked if information could be provided on the number of individuals who had completed the Stop and Search Survey against the number of individuals who had been subject to stop and search.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request and agreed to raise with the Force.

Councillor Sansome asked if data was available in relation to the number of complaints the Force had received regarding Stop and Search.

S Parkin confirmed that there had been no complaints received in this area.

Councillor Otten referred to the graphs in the report regarding 'Protecting Vulnerable People'. He asked if South Yorkshire Police's performance was good or bad in comparison with other Forces.

M Buttery explained that the performance measures were unique to South Yorkshire and had been selected to match the priorities in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

The Commissioner added that his Office would attempt to carry out a wider comparison in future reports if data was available from other Forces who were measuring a similar area of performance.

Councillor Sansome noted that youth re-offending had increased; however, in comparison with other areas, this was below the national average. He asked if a comparison could be provided in future reports.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request.

Councillor Grocutt referred to Section 3 of the report 'Treating People Fairly'. She asked if information could be provided on the number of Direct Entries into the Force along with details of their protected characteristics. Furthermore, she asked if Direct Entries into the Force were considered value for money.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request. He agreed to investigate and provide details outside of today's meeting.

Councillor Khayum asked how many arrests there had been in relation to Domestic Abuse which had led to prosecution.

The Commissioner suggested that he would consider presenting a report at a future Panel meeting on the rates of convictions.

M Buttery added that this area would also be examined by the Local Criminal Justice Board and data presented to Members outside of today's meeting.

Councillor Garbutt asked if future reports could include information on Wildlife Crime. He commented that he had been made aware that Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust had recently met with the Chief Constable to discuss Wildlife Crime and the difficulty of not having witnesses.

The Commissioner commented that he had also met with some of the South Yorkshire Wildlife organisations to discuss Wildlife Crime. He assured Panel Members that a South Yorkshire Strategy was in place for dealing with Wildlife Crime and that Officers had been trained in dealing with Wildlife Crime.

The Commissioner highlighted that policing Wildlife Crime was very difficult to follow-up and prosecute individuals due to the vast areas of moorlands in South Yorkshire.

Councillor Garbutt commented that, in his opinion, the Police had not always tested statements provided by individuals such as gamekeepers or landowners.

The Commissioner assured Panel Members that the Police did not take the word of one individual; they would always investigate both sides.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that the OPCC would provide information on the number of individuals who had completed the Stop and Search Survey against the number of individuals who had been subject to Stop and Search.
- iii) Noted that the OPCC would attempt to carry out a wider comparison in future reports if data was available from other Forces who were measuring a similar area of performance.

- iv) Noted that the OPCC would include a national and local comparison on youth re-offending in future reports.
- v) Noted that the OPCC would provide information on the number of Direct Entries into the Force along with details of their protected characteristics and if Direct Entries were considered value for money.
- vi) Noted that the OPCC would provide information on the number of arrests that had been made in relation to Domestic Abuse which had led to prosecution.

11 USE OF RESOURCES - QUARTER ONE BUDGET MONITORING 2019/20

The Commissioner introduced a report which provided Members of the Panel with a summary of the forecast financial position for the period 1 April 2019 to 30 June 2019. The report covered the budget managed by the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police force and budgets managed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

As at 30 June 2019, the projected year end outturn position was a £3.056m underspend on the Chief Constable's budget, and a small forecast underspend of £26k on the PCC and OPCC budget.

Members were informed that the main reasons for the quarter one forecasted variances related to pay and overtime. A summary of the forecasted underspends were set out in the report for Members' information.

Councillor Nevett noted that there were currently 22 vacancies within Atlas Court. He asked if additional training courses could be provided to allow the Force to recruit more staff in Atlas Court.

M Clements replied that the Commissioner had already put this question to the Force and that a reply was awaited.

Councillor Otten asked if a smaller capital programme would now be appropriate to enable the capital programme to be more accurate.

The Commissioner replied that he had requested a 'deep dive' into the Force's capital programme, and that a zero based capital programme and budget be produced which was deliverable in the coming year. A revised capital programme for 2019/20 would be presented at the October meeting of the Public Accountability Board for approval.

Councillor Grocutt raised concerns around Government grant funding and the requirement for grants to be spent within a set timeframe. She stated that conversations needed to take place with Government to highlight the extra pressures this creates for Forces.

Councillor Grocutt also asked how many police officers had been seconded from frontline response and Neighbourhood Policing Teams to the new unit established to deal with 'surge' enforcement. She also asked if there had been any impacts on the performance of both response and Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

Furthermore, from a health and wellbeing point, Councillor Grocutt had noted that officers and dogs in the Force's Dog Section were working overtime.

The Commissioner replied that 'surge' funding was for one year only, after this officers would return to their substantive posts. Additionally, the Commissioner had made representations to the Government through the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) around temporary funding and there being a need not to distort current policing priorities.

M Buttery added that the OPCC would raise these concerns via its membership of several national associations.

Councillor Sansome commented that the Panel was a Member of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels – he stated that discussions needed to take place with the interim Vice-Chair of the Association with regards to developing a joint position statement.

In relation to the Dog Section, the Commissioner stated that a Review of the Force's Dog Section was currently taking place. As part of the Commissioner's independent Custody Visiting Scheme, a volunteer had recently been recruited to the Police Dog Welfare Scheme to independently monitor the welfare of animals in the Force's care.

Councillor Sansome asked the Commissioner if he was concerned about the loss of local knowledge and expertise in neighbourhood teams following 40 PCSOs applying to become police officers.

The Commissioner replied that this was a matter of operational balance. New police officers would become acquainted with their neighbourhoods and have the powers to deal with local issues. The Commissioner provided the Panel with reassurances that he would continue to monitor this issue.

On a separate issue, Councillor Wilkinson formally stated that she wished to step-down as Doncaster's representative on the Panel's Budget Working Group to allow Councillor Nevett, as the Panel's new Chair, to take up her place.

The Panel agreed to Councillor Wilkinson's request.

RESOLVED – That Police and Crime Panel Members:-

- i) Scrutinised the reports and noted the forecast revenue and capital financial positions as at Quarter One (period ending 30 June 2019).
- ii) Noted that the Commissioner's Chief Executive would raise the Panel's concerns around Government grant funding via its membership of several national associations.

12 HOME OFFICE FUNDING - REDUCING VIOLENCE CRIME / VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT / SOUTH YORKSHIRE SURGE ACTIVITY / EARLY INTERVENTION FUNDING

A report was presented to provide the Panel with information on additional Home Office funding received in 2019/20, specifically the funding of South Yorkshire Police Surge Activity, Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), and an update on the Early Intervention Youth Fund.

S Chu referred to the Terms of Reference of the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Executive Board. He asked the Commissioner if he would consider providing an allowance or travel expenses for third sector representatives to attend Board meetings.

The Commissioner acknowledged the suggestion and agreed to explore further.

Councillor Garbutt referred to the Early Intervention Youth Fund Project '0114' – Sheffield. He asked if he could be provided with details of the ten schools in Sheffield where current delivery was taking place.

The Commissioner acknowledged the request and agreed to provide information following today's meeting.

Councillor Garbutt reported that he had been approached by a number of individuals to ask if the 'Knife Angel' monument could be hosted in South Yorkshire.

The Commissioner replied that discussions were currently taking place with the Force's VRU Co-ordinator to consider the likely impact, benefits, financing and where the 'Knife Angel' monument would be hosted in South Yorkshire, before a decision could be made.

RESOLVED – That Police and Crime Panel Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to explore the possibility of providing an allowance or travel expenses for third sector representatives attending South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Executive Board meetings.
- iii) Noted that the OPCC would provide information to Councillor Garbutt setting out details of the ten schools engaged in the Early Intervention Youth Fund Project '0114' – Sheffield.

13 PROCEEDS OF CRIME ACT (POCA) - SOUTH YORKSHIRE'S APPROACH

A report was presented to inform Members of the Police and Crime Commissioner's intention to make more explicit the link between the 'Proceeds of Crime' Community Grant Scheme and cash seized, forfeited and confiscated under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 to communities, as permitted by Financial Regulations.

The report informed Members that, on 23 August, after consultation with the Chief Constable, the Commissioner had approved a proposal to reinstate a 'Proceeds of Crime' community grants scheme funded from one third of the 'incentivised fund' received from the Home Office, with the remainder of Home Office funds being used by the Force for operational purposes aligned to the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan priorities for South Yorkshire. Community projects and initiatives would be directly funded by cash seized from criminals.

A Carter commended the report and welcomed the positive steps taken by the Chief Constable and Commissioner to reinstate a 'Proceeds of Crime' community grants scheme, something which he had always championed.

In response to a question from Councillor Otten, the Commissioner confirmed that, in relation to POCA monies obtained from sex workers, he had not considered the implications of this action and agreed to explore further.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.
- ii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to find out whether any POCA monies were obtained from sex workers.

14 DIGITAL POLICING: THE ETHICAL ISSUES ARISING FROM DIGITAL POLICING TERMS OF REFERENCE

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was submitted to provide Members of the Police and Crime Panel with the Terms of Reference, agreed by the Independent Ethics Panel for their review of the ethical issues arising from digital policing at their meeting held on 20 June 2019.

The Terms of Reference included an outline of the aim and background to the piece of work as well as a description of the methodology, timescales, scope, resources and outputs.

Members noted that, depending on the operational sensitivity of the results of the review, the OPCC would determine with the Commissioner what update could be provided to the Panel on the conclusion of this work.

Councillor Grocutt asked if there was any national or Home Office guidance on Digital Policing.

M Buttery replied that guidance is available via the College of Policing. The Commissioner said that there was a national Strategy. The Force would take cognisance of this, and it would feature as background material to the review.

K Wright added that, locally, Policies, Frameworks and legal aspects had been developed. He confirmed that national Frameworks were currently being developed.

RESOLVED – That Police and Crime Panel Members noted the terms of reference for information and assurance purposes.

15 PCC DECISIONS

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was presented to provide Members of the Panel with information on the decisions taken by the Commissioner since the last meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the report and commented on any matters arising.

16 LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A report was submitted to update Members on current events – national, regional and local, together with future plans in respect of learning and development for the Panel.

Members noted that the National Police, Fire and Crime Panels Conference would be held on 18th and 19th November in Warwick. Councillor Sansome, Councillor Grocutt and A Carter had expressed an interest in attending the conference.

If any other Members wished to attend the conference they were asked to notify L Noble as soon as possible to allow bookings to be made.

M Buttery informed Members that, should they wish to spend any time with the OPCC to help expand their knowledge of its functions and operations, arrangements could be made to provide Members with a learning and development session.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel:-

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Provide suggestions for future learning and development.

17 WORK PROGRAMME / PAB MEETING DATES

Members considered the 2019/20 Work Programme and were reminded that they could submit issues for the Work Programme that fall within the Panel's Statutory role in supporting and / or holding the Commissioner to account.

All issues would be given full consideration by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Commissioner at the pre-agenda planning meetings.

Additionally, Members were encouraged to attend meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge.

An amended schedule of future PAB meeting dates were circulated at the meeting for Members' information.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the 2019/20 Work Programme.

18 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Monday 2nd December 2019, 1:00 pm in Meeting Room 14, Town Hall, Church Street, Barnsley.

CHAIR