



**SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY**

**19 APRIL 2021**

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

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

Councillors: A Cherryholme (Barnsley MBC), J Grocutt (Sheffield City Council), P Garbutt (Sheffield City Council), J Otten (Sheffield City Council), P Short (Rotherham MBC), J Steinke (Sheffield City Council) and S Wilkinson (Doncaster MBC)

Independent Co-opted Members: Mr A Carter and Professor A James

Dr A Billings (South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner)

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

M McCarthy, J Field, L Noble, A Shirt and M McCoolle (Barnsley MBC)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C Pickering (Barnsley MBC) and G Jones (Violence Reduction Unit (VRU))

1 **WELCOME BY CHAIR**

Councillor Nevett welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.

2 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were noted as above.

3 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair, Councillor Nevett informed the Panel that, sadly, today would be the last meeting for three Members, namely, Councillor Sue Wilkinson, Councillor Jim Steinke and Mr Alan Carter, who would all shortly be leaving the Panel.

Members noted that Councillor Sue Wilkinson had been a Member of the Panel since 2017. On behalf of the Panel and Sub-Committees, the Chair thanked Councillor Wilkinson for all of her work.

Members were informed that Councillor Jim Steinke had been a Member of the Panel since 2020. On behalf of the Panel, the Chair thanked Councillor Steinke for all his contributions at both Panel meetings and at the Budget Working Group.

Members were also informed that Mr Alan Carter would have been leaving the Panel at the end of September 2021, following two Terms of Office. For personal reasons, Mr Carter would be stepping down from his position as Independent (co-opted) Member of the Panel at the end of April 2021.

The Chair said that Mr Carter had been the longest standing Member of the Panel having joined in 2013. On behalf of all Members, the Chair thanked Mr Carter for giving his support to the Panel for the last 8 years as an Independent (co-opted) Member and for sitting on the Panel's Budget Working Group and other Panel Sub-Committees. The Chair hoped that Mr Carter would enjoy viewing future webcasts of Panel meetings.

Panel Members joined the Chair in wishing Councillor Wilkinson, Councillor Steinke and Mr Carter all the very best for the future.

The Commissioner echoed the Chair's comments and thanked Councillors Wilkinson and Steinke for all the work they had undertaken.

The Commissioner added that he would very much miss Mr Carter, who had been an Independent (co-opted) Member of the Panel when he had been first elected as the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner. He thanked Mr Carter for probing him on Artificial Intelligence and for keeping him on his toes. The Commissioner also hoped that Mr Carter would view future meetings of the Panel.

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 public questions to the Police and Crime Panel.

8 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2021

In response to a query from Councillor Garbutt, K Wright said that the arrest rates for burglaries and other crimes would hopefully be presented in future Quarterly Performance reports under 'Outcomes'.

Professor James referred to the Action Log - Action 8 (14-12-20) – Stop and Search data. He asked if the OPCC would be able to provide district level Stop and Search data broken down by ethnicity and by success rates which could then be presented in future reports to the Panel.

K Wright replied that work was currently taking place to include the performance data into the Performance Framework. At the recent Performance Sub-Group meeting, Stop and Search data had been presented with regards to visibility at a District level, which was based on ethnicity and positive outcomes.

Following feedback at the Performance Sub-Group meeting, K Wright would look to incorporate the data in future Quarterly Performance reports.

Councillor Otten said that it would be helpful if Stop and Search data could present details of the powers used by the Police (for example, Section 60 or if another power had been used), together with the ethnicity of the individuals and the success rate.

K Wright acknowledged the request and agreed to undertake further analysis of the data. The use of Section 60 in South Yorkshire was very low in comparison to other Forces.

Councillor Nevett requested that Action 11 (03-02-21) – Services for Victims of Crime: Progress Update be retained on the Action Log, rather than the Action being discharged.

L Noble referred to Action 11 (20-07-20) – South Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board – Probation Reform. Members were made aware that updates were being presented to the Panel within the Commissioner's update report.

The Panel agreed that the action be marked as 'discharged' from the Panel's Action Log.

Councillor Garbutt referred to Appendix B 'Rural Crime Survey 2020'. He asked how the survey had been undertaken and if details of the questions asked could be provided to Members. Additionally, he asked why there were no figures within the results on wildlife crime. He also asked if there were any figures on how much wildlife crime is reported to the Police and how many individuals are successfully prosecuted.

F Topliss replied that the Rural Crime Survey for 2020 had been undertaken online between July and August 2020. The Survey had been promoted via the OPCC's social media channels and by the Force in liaison with Superintendent Mark James (Wildlife Crime and Neighbourhoods Lead). It was agreed that a copy of the

questions contained within the Rural Crime Survey for 2020 would be circulated to Panel Members after today's meeting.

In relation to wildlife crime, F Topliss said that she would analyse the survey questions to ascertain if a specific question had been asked on wildlife crime.

With regards to the number of wildlife crimes reported and individuals prosecuted, F Topliss said she would obtain information from Superintendent Mark James and provide answers to Panel Members after today's meeting.

Councillor Grocutt asked if details could be provided on the work South Yorkshire Police would be undertaking as a result of the concerns raised within the Rural Crime Survey.

F Topliss replied that the results of the Survey had been reported back to the Force in 2020. It was agreed that an update would be obtained from the Force and circulated to Panel Members after today's meeting.

Professor James asked if the Survey had obtained any opinions from the farming community.

F Topliss said that the OPCC did have links with the farming community and with the National Farmers' Union (NFU). Furthermore, the Rural Crime Survey had been circulated via the farming community and the NFU to provide their input.

Professor James added that the views of the farming community were important as he felt their perspectives on rural crimes had not been addressed within the report.

F Topliss replied that she would examine the Survey results to ascertain if any responses had been received from the farming community.

The Commissioner added that the farming community had not been separated out in the Survey from other residents in rural areas.

Councillor Wilkinson said that Doncaster Eastern Drainage Board had links with farmers in the Doncaster area and as such, could be contacted to help circulate future Surveys to obtain views from farmers in the Doncaster area.

The Commissioner acknowledged the suggestion.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
- ii) Agreed that Action 11 (03-02-21) – Services for Victims of Crime: Progress Update be retained on the Action Log.
- iii) Agreed that Action 11 (20-07-20) – South Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board – Probation Reform be discharged from the Action Log.

- iv) Noted that K Wright had agreed to examine the Stop and Search data to ascertain if details of the powers used, the ethnicity of the individuals and the success rates could be presented in future Quarterly Performance reports.
- v) Noted that a copy of the questions contained in the Rural Crime Survey for 2020 would be circulated to Panel Members.
- vi) Noted that F Topliss would analyse the Rural Crime Survey questions to ascertain if a specific question had been asked on wildlife crime.
- vii) Noted that F Topliss would obtain information from Superintendent Mark James on the number of wildlife crimes reported to the Force and individuals prosecuted, with an update provided to Panel Members.
- viii) Noted that F Topliss would obtain an update from the Force in relation to its implementation of the results from the Rural Crime Survey and circulate to Panel Members.
- ix) Noted that F Topliss had agreed to examine the Rural Crime Survey results to ascertain if responses had been received from the farming community.

9 **SOUTH YORKSHIRE VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT UPDATE**

The Commissioner introduced a report which provided Members with an update on the progress of the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit (SYVRU).

Members noted that South Yorkshire had been allocated further Home Office funding for the SYVRU for 2021-2022. The funding had been allocated to support the delivery of the VRU function, which the Home Office defines as being: 'to offer leadership and, working with all relevant agencies operating locally, to strategically coordinate the local response to serious violence'.

The VRU activity must support a multi-agency, public health approach to preventing and tackling violence.

Members were informed that the SYVRU was overseen by the Violence Reduction Executive Board chaired by the Commissioner.

An update on the VRU's mandatory products was presented within the report and noted by the Panel.

The report provided details of VRU interventions. It was noted that it was a Home Office requirement for at least 20% of the £1.6m funding grant to be spent on early intervention and prevention. The SYVRU was proud to report that over 50% of the grant was spent on this.

The report also provided details on the funding rounds supported by the SYVRU.

Councillor Garbutt asked if any research had been undertaken to ascertain which socio-economic sectors of society violent people came from. Furthermore, he asked if the SYVRU was addressing this.

The Commissioner replied that projects funded by the SYVRU were evaluated; some of the programmes were undertaken over a long period of time and thus, it would be some time before he could understand the effectiveness of some of the programmes.

The Commissioner said that he was also dependent upon research which had been undertaken in other parts of the country, or across the World, to understand which interventions are likely to be successful. Data was available in relation to the success of the Hospital Navigators project, which could be provided to Panel Members, if required.

M Buttery added that interventions were aimed at those assessed within the Area Profile. It was explained that, the first mandatory product which the SYVRU had to deliver on behalf of VRU partners was an Area Profile to understand problems in South Yorkshire.

Rather than gangs, guns and knife crime, the Area Profile had revealed that South Yorkshire's issues were routed to Domestic Abuse being the reason for the serious violence seen most prominently in the figures. The Response Strategy had been prepared on the basis of the Area Profile and targeted towards Perpetrator Programmes, interventions and education activities in schools to tackle the causes of crime.

In relation to performance, M Buttery added that, the SYVRU was still in its infancy and therefore, it was difficult to disaggregate which element of the joint response South Yorkshire Police had been responsible for in terms of reductions.

This year would be concentrated upon undertaking evaluation in; which Sheffield Hallam University would be engaged, together with learning from elsewhere within the country who had tried different approaches to understand which interventions were working.

Councillor Steinke commented that the work being undertaken by the SYVRU was excellent. He was of the opinion that, from a community perspective the SYVRU needed to market itself better with regards to its longer-term approach, but also demonstrate the value of the VRU's public health approach by highlighting its recent successes and individual anecdotal stories.

The Commissioner agreed that the SYVRU did need to show that it was having short term effects. The use of anecdotal stories could be very powerful. For the SYVRU to be successful during the longer term, there needed to be Government funding secured and guaranteed for the longer term.

Professor James said that he was somewhat disappointed to note that there was no specific SYVRU measures to deal with violence against women on the street, which, in his opinion should feature more explicitly.

The Commissioner said that he felt this statement was incorrect; funding had been used or via the SYVRU / OPCC on domestic abuse, and many of the victims were

women. The Force's response to domestic abuse was something which he was proud of. Furthermore, all officers were trained in recognising domestic abuse.

The Commissioner added that he would like to develop a Countywide Strategy with regard to violence against women and girls.

Professor James thanked the Commissioner and said that he would welcome the development of a Countywide Strategy.

Councillor Nevett asked how the operation of the SYVRU service would change in the next year when the country returned to normality following Covid-19.

The Commissioner commended all of the voluntary charitable bodies concerned with the work of the SYVRU, who had quickly re-thought how they delivered services remotely. Hopefully, all the projects funded by the SYVRU would return to face to face delivery, which he looked forward to.

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

10 QUARTER 3 BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

A report of the Chief Finance Officer, OPCC was presented setting out the forecast financial position based on the period 1 April 2020 to 31 December 2020. A verbal update as at 31 January 2021 was also provided.

The report provided Members with a consolidated position on the current budget and expenditure managed by the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police force and budgets managed by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Members noted that, based on current assumptions, the forecast outturn position for the revenue budget was an underspend of £1.228m as at 31 December 2020.

As at 31 December 2020, the projected year end outturn position was a £0.340m underspend on the Chief Constable's budget, net of external funding. As at 31 January 2021, the year-end outturn position was £1.56m, which was an increase on the December position. Further details were presented in the Chief Constable's budget monitoring paper, attached at Appendix A to the report.

Based on information as at 31 December 2020, the PCC and OPCC budget forecast year end position was an underspend of £527k. The main reasons for the underspend and variances from the budget were presented within the report for Members' information.

As previously reported, the PCC had approved the revised capital programme on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020. The approved programme was now standing at £14.34m in 2020/21, with the caveat that funding would be available should some ongoing approved schemes be delivered in 2020/21 ahead of anticipated completion dates.

Expenditure to 31 December 2020 amounted to £6.3m, the current projection being £15.9m, generating a projected overspend £1.8m. As at 31 January 2021, there had been expenditure of £7.5m.

Paragraph 5 of the report provided a detailed update on Covid 19 expenditure. In summary, expenditure of £2.14m had been incurred to 31 December 2020, with expenditure of £0.91m being forecast to the end of the year.

Paragraph 7 of the report set out a number of risks and uncertainties in the reported financial position in addition to Covid 19 expenditure.

In response to a question from Councillor Nevett, S Abbott provided assurances that there would not be an overspend position as at 31 March 2021. Outturn figures were currently being calculated and final figures would be presented at the June Panel meeting.

A Carter commented that the benefits to the Panel in establishing the Budget Working Group had been immense. He paid tribute to S Abbott and the OPCC / Force Finance Teams for the detailed information presented to Members at the Budget Working Group.

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

11 MONITORING DELIVERY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN - QUARTERLY REPORT (OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2020)

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was submitted to present the Quarterly Report for the period October – December 2020 (Quarter 3, 2020/21), produced from the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) Police and Partners Performance Framework.

The report 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.

K Wright provided Members with a summary of the key headlines contained in the Quarterly Police and Crime Plan Performance Report attached at Appendix A to the report.

Councillor Garbutt asked how many arrests and prosecutions there had been in relation to the different categories of crime.

K Wright said that the Force did have internal reporting to state the outcomes for each different categories of crime. In addition, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) published public data around outcomes. K Wright said that he intended to update the Performance Framework with outcomes data for a range of crimes, including burglary and all crime at a top level, which he could provide to Panel Members.



Councillor Otten queried why the Force had not concentrated their efforts on educating elderly people about Cyber Crime, who were often the most vulnerable to Cyber Scams.

K Wright replied that, during the quarter, the Force had concentrated its efforts towards educating younger people on Cyber Scams. During previous quarters, the Force would have targeted those individuals deemed vulnerable.

K Wright said that he would examine previous Quarterly reports and extract information on the Force's programme of activity to educate elderly and vulnerable people about Cyber Scams.

In addition, HMICFRS had recently undertaken a Fraud Inspection of the Force. When the final HMICFRS report was available, this would feed into the Quarterly report to the Panel.

Professor James referred to the 'Inspire to Change' – Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme. He said he was slightly disturbed to read that, when the services were put out to tender, no potential bidders had come forward, despite eleven parties showing interest. He asked why no potential bidders had come forward and was there any action the Commissioner could take to address this.

The Commissioner replied that he too shared Professor James' disappointment. However, this would be addressed and he was hopeful that there would be a much better response following the decision to go back out to tender. He hoped that the service would be back in place relatively quickly. It was noted that there was currently a gap in the service provided with individuals placed on a waiting list. Those individuals on the waiting list would be dealt with when the service was back in operation.

Councillor Garbutt asked if there had been any further meetings of the Independent Advisory Panel for Policing Protests, since December 2020.

M Buttery replied that, Panel meetings were arranged 'as and when required', rather than a frequent meeting cycle. The Force would often invite the Panel to examine current issues in relation to a forthcoming planned protest.

In addition, HMICFRS had recently produced a national report on Policing Protests. It was confirmed that South Yorkshire Police had not been inspected as part of the report.

HMICFRS had noted the use of the Commissioner's Independent Advisory Panel for Policing Protests as good practice and had urged other Force areas to consider establishing an Advisory Panel.

Assurances were provided that the Force had welcomed and embraced the Advisory Panel. Work was currently taking place to refresh the Panel's Terms of Reference. Further assurances were provided that, even though the Panel had not met this year, they were actively engaged and consulted in protest planning very recently.

Councillor Nevett referred to the 'Summary Dashboard'. He asked if an explanation could be provided in relation to the statistical significance of the percentage of vulnerable victims satisfied with initial contact with the Force and the measure in relation to the percentage of people saying that police do a good/excellent job.

K Wright replied that the statistical significance was very much dependent on the size of the cohort of the sample and the responses received to decide if this was significant or otherwise.

In relation to victim satisfaction, the results were obtained from the Force's internal Victim Satisfaction Survey, whereas the second measure in relation to treating people fairly was obtained from the Office for National Statistics Crime Survey for England and Wales.

Councillor Steinke said that the Summary Dashboard was excellent, but, due to it being a public document there needed to be a point of clarification added to the document in relation to statistical significance.

K Wright agreed to add a footnote to the Summary Dashboard to explain how the formulas are calculated.

Professor James asked if all the measures contained within the Summary Dashboard were routinely checked for statistical significance, or only some. He also asked if there was a particular rationale for which datasets were tested for statistical significance and which were not.

K Wright replied that the statistical significant datasets often related to survey type questions, where there was only a percentage of people out of the total cohort replying. Other trends were a basic trend to state whether the figures had increased or decreased.

Councillor Cherryholme referred to the 'Summary Dashboard'. She noted that there had been 13,360 Stop and Searches conducted in the 12 months to December 2019, whereas, in the 12 months to December 2020, there had been 19,859 Stop and Searches conducted. Councillor Cherryholme said this was a 30% rise during a lockdown period and queried why there had been such a big rise.

K Wright said there had been a focus across all forces to increase Stop and Searches around different operations, in particular VRU's had received funding to increase the use of Stop and Search.

Councillor Garbutt referred to Section 3 of the report entitled 'Treating People Fairly'. He suggested that an additional column be added to the table of 'Stop and Searches broken down by ethnicity' to include the number of positive outcomes.

K Wright acknowledged the request and agreed to add the number of positive outcomes in future reports.

Councillor Nevett thanked K Wright for his comprehensive report.

**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 K Wright had agreed to examine previous Quarterly reports and extract information on the Force's programme of activity to educate elderly and vulnerable people about Cyber Scams.
- iii) Noted that K Wright had agreed to include details in a future Quarterly report on the HMICFRS Fraud Inspection of South Yorkshire Police.
- iv) Noted that K Wright had agreed to add a footnote to the Summary Dashboard to explain how formulas are calculated.
- v) Noted that K Wright had agreed to add an additional column to the table of 'Stop and Searches broken down by ethnicity' to include the number of positive outcomes.

12 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE (INCLUDING DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING)

A report of the Police and Crime Commissioner was presented to provide Members with an update on key PCC and OPCC activities since the Panel's last meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021.

The report also provided Members with information on the decisions taken by the PCC since the Panel's last meeting, together with key headlines of activities undertaken during the period.

In addition to the updates provided within the report, M Buttery reported verbally that, the OPCC had commenced the recruitment process for a new Chief Constable, following the announcement that Chief Constable Stephen Watson had secured the appointment as Greater Manchester Police Force's Chief Constable with effect from 17 May 2021.

It was reported that Deputy Chief Constable Mark Roberts would also be leaving the Force on 23 April 2021 to take up the position as Chief Constable of Cheshire Constabulary.

Following interviews, current Assistant Chief Constable Lauren Poultney had been appointed as the Force's new Deputy Chief Constable and interim Chief Constable with effect from 24 April 2021.

The Chief Constable was currently considering whether the vacant Assistant Chief Constable post left by Lauren Poultney should be filled, or whether the remaining two Assistant Chief Constables could divide the portfolio between them temporarily until a new Chief Constable was appointed around July 2021, when the new Chief Constable would make a decision about the make-up of the Senior Command Team.

In relation to the Chief Constable recruitment process, the Panel was informed that the application pack had gone live on 16 April 2021.

A familiarisation event for perspective candidates would be held on 23 April 2021, hosted by the OPCC, participated in by South Yorkshire Police. A two day assessment process would be held on 20-21 May 2021.

A Panel Confirmation Hearing with the preferred candidate for the role of Chief Constable was scheduled for 11 June 2021.

Professor James asked if details of the timescales for the delivery of the IEP's work around disproportionality and inclusion could be provided. He also asked where the results of the review would be reported.

M Buttery said that she would ascertain the timescale for delivery of the work with E Redfearn and provide Members with an update after today's meeting.

It was confirmed that the results of the review would be discussed at the Independent Ethics Panel initially. The results would also be reported by exception at the Public Accountability Board.

The Commissioner agreed to provide a standalone report to a future Panel meeting.

Councillor Steinke asked for clarification around the Covid Victim Assurance work commissioned by the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB), and whether this had been undertaken nationally or locally.

M Buttery confirmed that the Covid Victim Assurance work had been commissioned locally by Commissioner who chairs the LCJB on behalf of partners to understand the victims journey in the criminal justice system during the Covid pandemic and what they had experienced.

During the work, compliance with the Victims Code of Practice had also been examined. There was recognition within the report that, shortly, the LCJB would be asked to undertake a self-assessment against the Victims Code of Practice, which would inform the new Victims Law being championed by the Victims Commissioner, Dame Vera Baird. Further updates would be provided within future reports.

Councillor Grocutt said she was of the opinion that, there remained a number of unanswered questions in relation to the update on Her Majesty's Prisons and Probation Service's new Community Accommodation Service.

Councillor Grocutt asked how the service would work to reduce reoffending and how long individuals would be accommodated for. Furthermore, she asked what links were in place with local authorities for moving individuals into other accommodation and providing the necessary support. She also asked how the public would be reassured around accommodation provided to reoffenders.

M Buttery replied that it was very early in the process to answer Councillor Grocutt's specific questions. However, this was a regional approach via the Yorkshire and Humberside partnership which the Commissioner attends along with the LCJB Business Manager. As and when the Commissioner understands what

'day one' services will look like, a specification would be developed for the commissioning of the services in each area of the force's area involved in the Yorkshire and Humber region to meet their needs.

Three local delivery units as part of the Probation Reform were in the process of appointing leads who would need to work closely with OPCC and the partnership to develop the needs of the Community Rehabilitation Company and the National Probation Service. Assurances were provided that this work was not being undertaken in isolation, partners were being involved.

The Commissioner added that these questions were being raised at the LCJB.

Councillor Nevett said that the one-year funding settlement expected for 2021/22 was something which was being experienced on a regular basis. He asked if the Commissioner could write to the Minister to express concerns about a one-year settlement.

The Commissioner replied that year-on-year funding was not the most helpful. In relation to the Police Grant Settlement, it was reported that this had been interrupted by the announcement of a Comprehensive Spending Review which did not occur. It was anticipated that a three-year Comprehensive Spending Review settlement would take place.

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 M Buttery would ascertain the timescale for delivery of the IEP's work with E Redfearn in relation to priorities surrounding disproportionality and inclusion and provide Members with an update after today's meeting.
- iii) Noted that the Commissioner had agreed to provide a standalone report to a future Panel meeting on the IEP's work in relation to priorities surrounding disproportionality and inclusion.

### 13 LEARNING AND 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.

A summary of the events which had taken place since the last meeting together with details of proposed future events were set out within the report for Members' information.

The Panel was requested to approve payment of £400 from the Home Office Grant for an annual subscription to Frontline Consulting Associates Limited to continue to access their services.

L Noble said that if there were any virtual, national or regional events that Members had received details of and felt would be helpful in their role, then the Panel's Grant could be considered to cover any costs.

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

- i) Noted the update.
- ii) Agreed to provide suggestions for future learning and development.
- iii) Approved payment of £400 from the Home Office Grant for an annual subscription to Frontline Consulting Associates Limited.

14 RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT (CO-OPTED) MEMBER

A report of the Panel's Support Officer was submitted to inform Members that, one of the Panel's two current Independent (co-opted) Members, Mr Alan Carter, had been a valued Independent Member of the Police and Crime Panel since 2013. His term of office would come to an end on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

However, for health-related reasons, Mr Carter had given notice of his intention to step down from the role at the end of April 2021.

Members were informed that, for continuity, a recruitment process would need to commence as soon as possible, and the Panel was asked to delegate responsibility to the Chair and Vice-Chair for the entire recruitment and evaluation process – including appointment of a suitable candidate – to allow the successful applicant to attend Panel as soon as possible, even in an observer capacity before the end of July 2021.

Members would be kept informed by email and a verbal update to the Panel on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021. It was hoped that, subject to a successful recruitment and interview process, the appointment could be formally ratified at the 19<sup>th</sup> July Panel meeting.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel delegate responsibility to the Evaluation and Recruitment Panel (as set out in the report at paragraph 4) for the recruitment of an Independent (co-opted) Member to replace Mr Carter.

15 WORK PROGRAMME / PAB DATES

Members considered the 2021/22 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 scrutinising the Commissioner.

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 the meetings of the Commissioner's Public Accountability Board (PAB) to increase their operational knowledge. These were currently being held virtually and Members could obtain details to 'dial in' to the meeting from L Noble or A Shirt.

Professor James noted that the Work Programme stated the Panel would receive 6-monthly update reports on Digital Policing / Use of Technology in Policing. He queried when the next report would be presented to the Panel.

In response, K Wright said that there was a slight delay in providing a report to the Panel, due to a new National Strategy which had recently been developed. Work was currently on-going and an update report would be provided to the Panel shortly.

RESOLVED – That Members of the Police and Crime Panel noted the contents of the 2021/22 Work Programme.

16 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the Annual Meeting of the Police and Crime Panel be held on Monday 7th June 2021 2021 at 1:00 pm and Members will be notified of the arrangements for this meeting nearer the time.

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Grocutt thanked Councillor Nevett for chairing Panel meetings over the last 2 years, which he had done with good grace and extremely well during the last 12 months where meetings had been held remotely, which had not been an easy task to undertake.

On behalf of the Panel, Councillor Grocutt thanked Councillor Nevett for his knowledge and for the support he had given to all Panel Members. Councillor Grocutt hoped that the Panel would continue to benefit from Councillor Nevett's skills and experience at future meetings.

Councillor Nevett thanked Councillor Grocutt for her kind words.

CHAIR