Cheshire Police and Crime Panel

CHESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – 17 JUNE 2016

INFORMAL MEETINGS

Report of: Brian Reed, Head of Governance and Democratic Services

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1.   Background and Purpose

1.1   To seek the Panel's views on continuing the practice of holding regular informal meetings with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable, and other Police staff.

2.   Current Arrangements

2.1   During recent years, the Panel has supplemented its formal meeting arrangements with regular informal meetings with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable and other Police staff.

2.2   The purpose of the informal meetings has been to have frank, off-the-record discussions with the Commissioner and Chief Constable about various issues, including some grounding in ongoing operational issues.

2.3   Panel members have previously indicated that they find such meetings particularly useful in gathering information so that they can more effectively carry out their role of scrutinising the Commissioner.

2.4   The Panel is invited to consider whether it wishes to continue holding informal meetings with the new Police and Crime Commissioner, David Keane.

3.   Equality and Diversity/Equality Impact Assessment

3.1   When undertaking their scrutiny role, the panel should be mindful of the impacts on all of the protected equality characteristics (age, disability, gender, race, religion, sexuality, marital status, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, etc.). The Panel may wish to factor this in when considering which partners they engage with and how.

4.   Financial Considerations

4.1   There are no financial implications to report to the Panel in the considering this matter. Any recruitment processes will be contained within existing budgets.

5.   Recommendations

5.1   That the Panel confirms whether it wants to continue to request informal meetings with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable and other Police staff.