

Cheshire Police and Crime Panel

Complaints Sub-committee

Date of meeting: 4 September 2020

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

Subject: Terms of Reference for a new Complaints Management Sub – Committee and revised procedure for the management of complaints made against the Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Report Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines the proposed terms of reference for a new Complaints Management Sub-Committee together with a revised procedure for managing complaints made against the Police and Crime Commissioner.

2. Recommendation

2.1 Recommended that:

- (i) The Sub – Committee recommend the Terms of Reference for a new Complaints Management Sub - Committee to the Police and Crime Panel, in accordance with Appendix I
- (ii) The Sub – Committee recommend a revised procedure for the managing of complaints made against the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Police and Crime Panel, in accordance with Appendix II.

3. Background

- 3.1 Since the last meeting of Sub - Committee informal discussions have been held with the Chair of the Complaints Sub - Committee and the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Panel to better understand the changes that Panel members wish to see to the way in which complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner are managed.
- 3.2 Across the country Police and Crime Panels manage complaints against Police and Crime Commissioners in a number of ways. Some Panels have adopted the system that has operated in Cheshire since 2012 with the host authority's Monitoring Officer undertaking the initial work on complaints. Other

Panels have delegated this work to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Monitoring Officer. A third model is for the Panel to create a Sub – Committee which leads on such issues on behalf of the Panel.

3.3 Appendix I to this report sets out proposed Terms of Reference for a new Complaints Management Sub Committee. Appendix II outlines a possible new complaints procedure. There are a number of issues which this Sub – Committee may wish to consider in its discussions; these include:

- The number of members who should sit on the proposed new Sub-Committee;
- The political proportionality of the Sub – Committee's membership (Panel members are reminded that a report on the issue of proportionality will be considered at the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel);
- Membership of independent co-opted Panel members on the Sub - Committee;
- The political affiliation of the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Sub – Committee;
- The role of the wider Police and Crime Panel in the management of complaints; and
- The suggested time scales for the management of complaints.

3. Equality Implications

3.1 There are no equality implications.

4. Financial Considerations

4.1 There are no financial implications to report to the Sub Committee in considering to this matter.

5. Contact Information

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