

# Cheshire Police and Crime Panel

## Agenda

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**Date:** Friday, 9th May, 2025

**Time:** 10.00 am

**Venue:** Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Earle Street, Crewe  
CW1 2BJ

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and in the report.

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies**

Members are reminded that, in accordance with governance procedure rule at Part 3 paragraph 2.6, Panel Members, or their constituent authority, may nominate substitute members of the Panel in the event that the appointed representative(s) is/are unable to attend the meeting. Advance notice of substitution should be given to the host authority wherever possible. Members are encouraged wherever possible to secure the attendance of a substitute if they are unable to be present.

2. **Code of Conduct - Declaration of Interests. Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when the item is reached.

3. **Public Participation**

To receive questions from members of the public. A total period of 15 minutes will be allocated for members of the public to speak at Panel meetings. Each member of the public shall be limited to a period of up to 5 minutes speaking. At the Chair's discretion the period made available for questions and statements may be extended.

In order that an appropriate answer to the questions can be given, the deadline for indicating a wish to speak or for submission of questions is 3 clear working days

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**Contact:** Martin Smith, Registration and Civic Services Manager  
**Tel:** 01270 686012  
**E-Mail:** martin.r.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk

before a meeting of the Panel. The Chair has the discretion to waive the 3-day rule for issues deemed to be urgent.

In response to questions or statements the Panel may choose to agree to either provide an agreed verbal response, that will be minuted or to provide a written reply to a questioners chosen address.

Those wishing to ask a question or make a statement should register by email to: [martin.r.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:martin.r.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk) or send the question or statement by post to:

Cheshire Police and Crime Panel  
Democratic Services and Governance  
c/o Municipal Buildings  
Earle Street  
Crewe  
CW1 2BJ

A list of those speaking or asking questions at a meeting of the Panel will be drawn up by the Panel's Secretariat in order of receipt. Copies of questions and statements will be circulated to all Panel members in advance of the meeting and will be made available to the public attending the meeting. Copies will also be available on the Police and Crime Panel's page of the Cheshire East Council website.

Nobody may submit more than one question or make more than one statement at the same meeting, but a supplementary question, related to the subject raised in the question /statement, will be permitted for clarification at the discretion of the Chair.

Those speaking or asking questions will not be permitted to address any issue that is the subject of a current or proposed complaint by them against the Police and Crime Commissioner. They are also advised that reference to an issue that could become the subject of a future complaint by them could prejudice the Panel's consideration of that complaint.

The Panel will not accept a question or statement if:

There is insufficient detail to enable a proper response to be provided.

It is not about a matter for which the Police and Crime Panel has responsibility.

It is potentially defamatory, frivolous or offensive against named individuals.

It is substantially the same question which has been put at a meeting of the Police and Crime Panel in the last six months.

It requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information.

#### 4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 5 - 12)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2025.

5. **Chair's Announcements**

6. **Dates and Timings of Panel Meetings 2025/26** (Pages 13 - 14)

To agree the programme of meetings for the 2025/26 civic year

7. **Questions Submitted in Advance to the Commissioner** (Pages 15 - 16)

**10.30 am THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE  
FOR THE FOLLOWING PART OF THE MEETING**

8. **Welcome to the Commissioner and Commissioner's introduction**

9. **Overview and Scrutiny of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

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**CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL****Minutes of a meeting of the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel**  
held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at Ellesmere Port Library**PRESENT**

Councillors:

Cheshire East: Councillors Steve Edgar and Judy Snowball

Cheshire West & Chester: Councillors Mike Jones and Keith Millar

Halton: Councillors Martha Lloyd Jones and Norman Plumpton  
Walsh

Warrington: Councillor Kuldeep Dhillon

Independent Co-optees: Mrs Gemma Shepherd – Etchells and Miss Yasmin  
Somani

Officers: Mr Brian Reed and Mr Martin Smith, Cheshire East Council

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rob Hignett, Rob Moreton and Sam Naylor.

**2. CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. RELEVANT  
AUTHORITIES (DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS) REGULATIONS  
2012**

Cllr Judy Snowball (Cheshire East Council) indicated that she was a Director of a voluntary organisation who were seeking funding from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public wished to speak at the meeting.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS****RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024 be approved.

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**5. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair had no announcements to make.

**6. MEMBERSHIP OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

The Chair outlined the process followed by the five member Recruitment Panel that had been established following the resignation of Mr Evan Morris MBE from the Panel. She noted that four excellent candidates had been interviewed for the vacant position and that the Recruitment Panel were recommending that Prof. Barry Godfrey be appointed to the Panel.

**RESOLVED**

- (i) That Professor Barry Godfrey be appointed to the Panel with his term of office running from 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2029.
- (ii) That the Panel's Secretariat bring a report to the Annual Meeting in June 2025 to make recommendations clarifying the position of co-opted Panel members should they not serve a full term, with the Panel's Procedure Rules being amended accordingly.

**7. PANEL'S WORK PROGRAMME**

The Panel's work programme for the remainder of the municipal year was reviewed. It was noted that a draft programme of meetings for the 2025/26 municipal year would be brought to the next meeting.

**8. QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE TO THE COMMISSIONER**

Three questions had been submitted in advance to the Commissioner, these had been included with the Panel's papers for the meeting.

**9. WELCOME TO THE COMMISSIONER AND INTRODUCTION BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

The Chair welcomed the Commissioner and his Team to the meeting.

The Commissioner briefed the Panel on a range of issues.

**10. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PROPOSED PRECEPT FOR 2025/26**

The Commissioner described the consultation exercise that he had undertaken on his proposed precept for 2025/26 before outlining his proposals. He took detailed questions from Panel members on a range of issues related to the proposed precept.

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**RESOLVED**

That the Commissioner's proposed precept for 2025/26 be supported, with the recommendation that the Panel receive quarterly performance reports.

*The letter sent by the Chair of the Panel to the Commissioner in relation to the precept is attached to these minutes for reference.*

**11. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S DRAFT POLICE AND CRIME PLAN**

The Chair thanked the Commissioner for the informal briefings that he had provided to the Panel on the development of his proposed Police and Crime Plan. The Commissioner outlined the process that had been adopted to develop the draft plan and the rationale behind his proposals. The Commissioner took questions from Panel members on a range of issues relevant to the draft Police and Crime Plan.

**RESOLVED**

That the Commissioner's draft Police and Crime Plan be supported.

*The letter sent by the Chair of the Panel to the Commissioner in relation to the Police and Crime Plan is attached to these minutes for reference.*

**12. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

Panel members asked the Commissioner a number of questions, including the three that had been submitted in advance of the meeting. Details of all questions asked of the Commissioner and his responses can be found on the Police and Crime Panel page of the Cheshire East Council website.

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Mr Dan Price,  
Police and Crime Commissioner for  
Cheshire

Cheshire East Council  
Delamere House  
Delamere Street  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 2JZ

[judy.snowball@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:judy.snowball@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Commissioner,

**PRECEPT 2025 / 26**

I am writing as the Panel's Chair to confirm formally that the Police and Crime Panel, at its meeting in Ellesmere Port this morning voted to support your proposed precept for 2025/26 with the recommendation that the Panel receive quarterly performance reports.

The informal briefing provided on Friday of last week was extremely helpful and the Panel are very grateful to you and your team for organising the meeting.

Yours sincerely.

*Judy Snowball*

**Councillor Judy Snowball**  
**Chair of the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel**

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Mr Dan Price,  
Police and Crime Commissioner for  
Cheshire

Cheshire East Council  
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[judy.snowball@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:judy.snowball@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Commissioner,

**DRAFT POLICE AND CRIME PLAN**

I am writing as the Panel's Chair to confirm formally that the Police and Crime Panel, at its meeting in Ellesmere Port this morning voted to support your draft Police and Crime Plan.

The informal briefings that you have provided on the development of the Plan have been extremely helpful. The Panel look forward to working with you as you implement your Plan.

Yours sincerely.

*Judy Snowball*

**Councillor Judy Snowball  
Chair of the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel**

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# Cheshire Police and Crime Panel

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**Date of Meeting: 09 May 2025**

**Report of: Brian Reed, Head of Democratic Services, Cheshire East Council**

**Subject: Dates and timings of Panel Meetings**

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## **1. Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report requests that the Panel consider the dates and timings of future meetings.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to:

- (i) Consider a programme of meetings for the municipal year 2025 - 26.
- (ii) Confirm that unless there are issues of room availability, or operational reasons meaning an alternative venue would be more appropriate, the Panel will hold its meetings at Ellesmere Port Library.

## **3. Programme and timing of Meetings**

- 3.1 Since its creation the Panel has followed a consistent pattern of regular, programmed meetings, with additional meetings being added to the diary when necessary. Following the practice of recent years of Panel meetings normally being held on a Friday, a day when the four Cheshire Councils have few public meetings, a suggested programme of meetings (with all meetings commencing at 10.00am) for the forthcoming municipal year is:

20<sup>th</sup> June 2025 (AGM)

12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

21<sup>st</sup> November 2025

6<sup>th</sup> February 2026

20<sup>th</sup> February 2026 (reserve date, should meeting be necessary)

10<sup>th</sup> April 2026. (This date will need to be kept under review, should Mayoral elections take place in May 2026).

- 3.2 The meeting room at Ellesmere Port Library is the only location where Panel meetings can be live video webcast, something which in the past, Panel members have requested.
- 3.3 The suggested programme of meetings is broadly similar to that adopted by the Panel in previous years.
- 3.4 A meeting on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026 would fit in with the statutory timetable for the consideration of the Police precept. A meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026 would only be necessary should the Panel veto the Commissioner's proposed precept at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **4. Equality Implication**

- 4.1 There are no equality implications.

#### **5. Financial Considerations**

- 5.1 There are no financial implications.

#### **6. Contact Information**

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

**Name: Martin Smith**

**Designation: Registration and Civic Services Manager**

**Local Authority: Cheshire East Council**

**Tel. No:07596 064905**

**Email: martin.r.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk**



## **Cheshire Police and Crime Panel**

### **Questions to the Police and Crime Commissioner, May 2025**

- (1) Nationally the Police Federation have raised profound concerns regarding the wellbeing of Officers, with 69 percent of Officers reporting high levels of fatigue and 28.9 percent saying that they had extremely high levels of fatigue. It is recognised that these are national figures and that the position in Cheshire may be different, but could the Commissioner outline the steps he is taking to ensure that the Chief Constable has the policies in place to mitigate such levels of fatigue, and the stress faced by Offices undertaking their day to day duties?
- (2) Commissioner, at the last meeting the Panel approved your precept, with the recommendation that the Panel receive quarterly performance reports. I recognise that we are only in the first quarter of the financial year, but could you give the Panel some indication of what data will be included in these regular reports?
- (3) Commissioner, the Citizen's Assemblies are welcome, can I ask whether they will prompt changes to this year's crime and policing plan, or are intended to shape next year's plan?
- (4) What attempts have been made to access views of hard-to-reach communities outside of the Citizen's assemblies?

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