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# Cheshire Police and Crime Panel Agenda

Date: Friday, 2nd February, 2018

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Wyvern House, The Drumber, Winsford, CW7 1AH

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 at the foot of each 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 2.7, 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.

**Contact**: Julie North, Democratic Services Manager

**Tel:** 01270 686460

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#### 3. **Public Participation**

To receive questions from members of the public in accordance with governance procedure rule 14. 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.

Members of the public may speak on any matter relating to the work of the Panel. During public speaking time, members of the public may ask questions of the Panel and the Chairman, in responding to the question, may answer the question, may decline to do so, may agree to reply at a later date or may refer the question to an appropriate person or body.

Questions will be asked and answered without discussion. In order for officers to undertake any background research, members of the public who wish to ask a question at a Panel meeting should submit the question at least a day before the meeting.

Members of the public are able to put questions direct to Cheshire's Police and Crime Panel via social media platform Twitter.

The Cheshire Police and Crime Panels' Twitter account @CheshirePCP

4. **Minutes of Previous meeting** (Pages 3 - 10)

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2018.

5. **Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Precept for 2018/19** (Pages 11 - 16)

To review the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Precept for 2018/19.

6. **Location of Panel Meetings** (Pages 17 - 18)

To consider the location of future meetings, and review the policy on webcasting.

# 11.00am THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE FOLLOWING PART OF THE MEETING

- 7. Overview and Scrutiny of the Police and Crime Commissioner Questions for the Police and Crime Commissioner
- 8. Work Programme (Pages 19 20)

To consider the Work Programme.

# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

#### CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Cheshire Police and Crime Panel** held on Wednesday, 10th January, 2018 at Wyvern House, The Drumber, Winsford, CW7 1AH

#### **PRESENT**

Councillors:

Cheshire East Councillors H Murray (Chairman), M Warren

(Substitute) and P Findlow

Cheshire West & Chester Councillors A Dawson and M Delaney

Warrington Councillor B Maher and Cllr J Davidson(Substitute)

Halton Councillors N Plumpton Walsh and D Thompson

Independent Co-optees: Mr R Fousert and Mr Evan Morris

Officers: Mr B Reed and Mr M Smith

#### 103 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs S Hardwick, Councillor A King, Councillor R Bisset and Councillor S Edgar.

# 104 CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS. RELEVANT AUTHORITIES (DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS) REGULATIONS 2012

Councillor Mick Warren informed the Panel that he was a retired Police Officer and that his son was a serving Officer in the Cheshire Constabulary.

#### 105 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak or ask questions of the Panel.

#### 106 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on Friday 22 September, reconvened on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December were approved as a correct record, with two minor amendments to the minutes of the reconvened meeting.

The Vice Chair updated the Panel on the creation of an Association of Police and Crime Panels.

The Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December were approved as a correct record, with an amendment to paragraph 10, indicating that Councillor King had referred to women being in Styal Prison out of choice, for their own protection, as no place of sanctuary was available.

The Chairman noted that the subgroup to review complaints would be set up when the Monitoring Officer's representative indicated that sufficient progress had been made with the complaints that were in the process of being reviewed. The Panel requested an update at a future meeting.

Councillor Findlow asked if a response had been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner in relation to the written request submitted following the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December seeking clarification over the process in relation to the suspension of the Chief Constable. The Secretariat indicated that no reply had been received.

The Vice Chairman noted that two issues that he had raised with the Commissioner at the last meeting had yet to be discussed at an informal meeting. These related to the Commissioner's relationship with the Panel and his membership of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners. These issues would be added to the agenda of a future informal meeting.

The Vice Chairman asked if a reply had been received in writing to the question asked at the meeting by Councillor Edgar in relation to the additional hand held IT equipment being used by Police Officers. The Secretariat indicated that no such reply had been received.

#### 107 **SCRUTINY ITEMS**

The Panel received the reports.

Concern was expressed at the time it had taken for notes of scrutiny meetings to be reported to the Panel.

# 108 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER - QUESTIONS FOR THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner was welcomed to the meeting; he was accompanied by two staff from his office, Gareth Burrows and Matthew Walton.

By way of introduction the Commissioner noted that the next meeting of the Panel would focus on the Police Precept for the 2018/19 financial year. He informed the Panel that over recent weeks much of his time had been spent on this and related issues. Councillor Findlow asked the Commissioner why there had been a delay in responding in writing to a number of issues raised at the previous meeting. The Commissioner responded by saying that replies would be provided by the end of the week and would be sent together. Referring to the issue of the suspension of the Chief Constable he noted that he was awaiting final legal advice. The Chairman requested that responses to questions should be sent when available, rather than being sent as a composite reply. The Chairman also noted that in relation to the Chief Constable the Panel were looking for information on the process being followed, not details of any specific allegations.

Councillor Andrew Dawson asked the Commissioner for clarity over where the process relating to the suspension of a Chief Constable had reached. The Commissioner replied that the process being followed was in accordance with the Police Conduct Regulations 2012 and that a written briefing would be provided to the Panel by the end of the week.

Councillor Dawson noted that the Panel could move into Part 2 of the Agenda, with the press and public being excluded and the webcast suspended in order to receive a more detailed update from the Commissioner. Councillor Thompson indicated that this would serve no purpose if the Commissioner would not be in a position to provide more information. The Commissioner indicated that this would be the position, as he had to protect the integrity of the case, in line with the QCs advice that he had received. The Chairman asked the Commissioner for the nature of the advice he had received, the Commissioner reiterated that a briefing note would be provided by the end of the week.

Councillor Dawson noted that it had been reported by Policing Insight magazine that the offices of 25 Police and Crime Commissioners had received an award for the standards that they had met in relation to transparency and openness, but that his office had not been one of them. He asked why this was the case and when the Cheshire Office might receive such an award. The Commissioner responded saying that he understood the award had been administered by a commercial organisation and that he would have been criticised if he had spent public money achieving such recognition.

Councillor Dawson referred to a further article in Policing Insight magazine published in July 2017 which discussed the Commissioner's relationship with the Police and Crime Panel, together with his approach to openness and transparency. He also asked the Commissioner what training he had received since his election in relation to his powers and the requirement to be open and transparent. The Commissioner indicated that he had received induction training and that he was confident that his Office fully met the appropriate standards.

Councillor Warren indicated that at the previous meeting the Commissioner had spoken passionately about speed enforcement. He asked when the Commissioner had first challenged the Police on this

issue and also what progress had been made with Police training, specifically in relation to the training of PCSOs.

The Commissioner responded by saying that the issue had been raised with the Chief Constable and more recently with the Acting Chief Constable on a number of occasions. The issue of speeding would be a key priority from April 2018. In addition he noted that a well attended Conference had been held on this issue, with local authorities being well represented. The outcome of the Conference had been that communities saw speed enforcement as having a high priority. The Commissioner indicated that he had encouraged the Chief Constable to grant PCSOs powers to enforce speeding legislation. Good progress had been made with training PCSOs in the use of hand-held speed guns. In time all PCSOs would be trained; to date half had been trained. He indicated that he wished in future to measure how much time PCSOs spent on road safety issues in each community across Cheshire each week. Councillor Warren expressed concern at the lack of equipment, using the Macclesfield Local Policing Unit as an example, where only two hand held units were available for 25 Wards.

The Chairman sought clarification over the definition of "community"; the Commissioner indicated that this would be clarified shortly, in line with the budget announcement. The Chairman indicated that the timing of this announcement was unhelpful as spending decisions had already been made by Town and Parish Councils on the basis that one PCSO would be allocated to each electoral Ward, irrespective of size. The Commissioner responded that no formal decision could be made until the precept had been set; but that planning was on the basis that one PCSO would be allocated per Ward.

Councillor Thompson noted that elsewhere in the country it was not uncommon for Chief Constables to attend meetings of Police and Crime Panels. In addition he noted that senior Police Officers had in the past met with Cheshire Panel members informally to discuss issues of mutual concern. He expressed concern that the Acting Chief Constable had declined an invitation to meet with the Panel (with the Commissioner in attendance) and asked if the Commissioner had a view on this. The Commissioner indicated that the Chief Constable and more recently Acting Chief Constable attended public meetings and were scrutinised in public by him. The Vice Chairman noted that whilst Panel members could and did attend the Commissioner's scrutiny meetings they were not able to ask questions. The situation would be different if the acting Chief Constable attended a meeting of the Panel.

The Commissioner informed the Panel that he would seek advice on the attendance of the acting Chief Constable at Panel meetings. Both the Chairman and Councillor Thompson reiterated that they did not wish to scrutinise the Acting Chief Constable; but that there would be occasions where her attendance at meetings could bring clarity to an issue.

Councillor Davidson asked the Commissioner if Claire's Law was applied in Cheshire and if it was how successful was it. The Commissioner noted the recent media interest in this provision which allowed individuals to be informed if they were at potential risk from a partner. Whilst created in sad circumstances, he indicated that the initiative was very successful and operated in both a proactive and reactive way ("right to know" and "right to ask"). The number of right to ask applications across Cheshire had been 101; the number of disclosures made was 32. There had been 87 "right to know" requests, with 58 disclosures. He had asked the Police for further information and indicated that he would he be happy to report back to the Panel on this at either a private briefing or public meeting. Disclosures involved more than just the Police, with for example local authorities being involved.

Councillor Thompson asked for the progress that the Police were making with being granted "White Ribbon" status. He noted the excellent progress that had been made in this area by Local Authorities across Cheshire. The Chairman noted that this subject had been covered at the previous meetings (when Councillor Thompson had been absent due to illness) and referred him to the minute of the meeting.

Councillor Dawson referred the Commissioner to the performance data that had been circulated with the supporting papers for the meeting. Referring to data on Police response times he asked the Commissioner if he had challenged the Acting Chief Constable on the relatively poor response times in parts of Cheshire. The Commissioner noted that more detailed data was now provided, to enable him to pursue his aim of equality of service delivery. The provision of more detailed data allowed him to challenge the Police leadership team. Further more detailed work was being undertaken so that the situation of response times could be better understood.

The Chairman welcomed the focus on the issue of response times, recognising that this was a challenging issue. He also noted the 6.3 percent reduction in "Grade One" emergencies, wondering if this was because more people were calling 101. He asked the Commissioner if the 101 service was fit for purpose in the Cheshire Constabulary. The Commissioner responded by saying that he thought that the service was under-resourced nationally and that it was under pressure in Cheshire. He also noted that whilst calls to 999 were free of charge, callers did need to pay to call 101. The Chairman asked if it would be helpful if people could be persuaded to use 101 more in Cheshire. The Commissioner responded by highlighting the resource issues facing the Constabulary, noting that operationally decisions were made as to how to use support staff. Such decisions could have an impact on the resources available to respond to 101 calls. He noted that his policy of allocating a PCSO to each community would make it easier to members of the public to make, non urgent contact with the Constabulary.

Councillor Dawson requested more detailed information on Category 1 and 2 response times by Local Policing Units. He had concerns that the provision of such data would demonstrate significant differences across Cheshire. The Commissioner indicated that he would be happy to ask the Constabulary for this data, which he agreed would be helpful to both him and the Panel.

Mr Evan Morris congratulated the Commissioner and partner agencies, including local authorities and the Fire and Rescue Service on the reduction (18.7 percent) in the number of people killed or seriously injured on Cheshire roads. However, he did raise concerns over an increase in unsolved crimes in a number of areas including child sexual abuse and domestic violence with injury. The chairman noted that such increases in unsolved crimes were against a background of a fall in 999 calls.

The Commissioner noted that there had been a very significant increase in reported crime in some areas, including for example historical child sexual abuse, an area which would not impact on 999 calls. Such increases had to be viewed against the context of reduced resources. The Commissioner welcomed a debate in these areas and welcomed the Panel's input. Mr Evan Morris referred to the recent HMIC report and action plan and thought that further work was needed as he did not feel that the increase in unsolved crime was due to an increase in previously unreported crime.

The Vice Chairman told the Commissioner that he liked the priority scorecard approach to presenting data. He commented on the data relating to the time Police Officers and PCSOs spent outside Police Stations, noting that they were at variance to the Police and Crime Plan. He also asked the Commissioner for his view on the relevance of relating the numbers of black and minority ethnic staff employed by the Constabulary to the issue of the service being fit for the future, which in his view should relate more to equipment and other resources. The Commissioner disagreed, saying that in his view the Constabulary should look and feel like the communities that it polices. However, he did indicate that considerably more things were taken into account than were outlined on the scorecard, which was in effect a summary and was still being developed. Further work on the way the data is presented was being undertaken.

The Chairman noted that levels of public satisfaction remained high, with few changes over time. He asked the Commissioner if such data was of any use to the Constabulary. He also asked for the Commissioner's view on the relevance of the indicator showing the amount of time Officers spent outside Police Stations.

The Commissioner indicated that he continually challenged the Police on their performance. He felt that it was important for Officers to be visible, but gave notice that that when each community had its own PCSO a revised indicator would be developed, showing how much time they spent in their community. He saw the provision of a local base where PCSOs

could clock on and off as being important. This was being trailed in the Chester LPU.

Councillor Dawson noted the increase of 12.4 percent in missing and absent children asking what the Commissioner what he doing about this. The Commissioner indicated that he saw this as an important issue and reminded the Panel that he had referred to the Herbert Principle at a previous meeting. The Principle was used as a way of finding missing people with dementia and related conditions. Work was ongoing with the Police in this area to see if it could be applied to missing children.

The Vice Chairman asked the Commissioner to comment on progress with work within the Constabulary to respond to the serious issues of data accuracy and integrity that had been identified. In particular he asked if the Constabulary would meet the timescales set by the Commissioner and the HMIC.

The Commissioner indicated that he had been concerned that the Police had been slow to respond and had rigorously challenged the Chief Constable on this. Some delays had been due to problems in sourcing training and lack of resources. He was now more content that timescale would be met and was now on the right track.

#### 109 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Panel would be at 10.00am on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at Wyvern House, The Drumber, Winsford.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 3.40 pm

Councillor H Murray (Chairman)

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# Cheshire Police and Crime Panel

Date of Meeting: 02 February 2018

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

Subject: Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Precept for 2018/19

#### 1. Report Summary

1.1 This report outlines the process for reviewing the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Precept for 2018/19.

#### 2. Recommendation

2.1 For the Panel to review the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed Precept for 2018/19.

#### 3. Precept 2018/19

- 3.1 The arrangements for determining the Police Precept are set out in Section 26 and Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and Part 2 of the Police and Crime Panels (Precepts and Chief Constable Appointments) Regulations 2012.
- 3.2 Having considered the Precept, the Panel must either:
  - Support the Precept without qualification or comment;
  - Support the Precept and make recommendations to the Police and Crime Commissioner; or
  - Veto the proposed Precept (by the required majority of at least two thirds of the persons who are members of the Panel at the time the decision is made).
- 3.3 If the Panel vetoes the proposed Precept, the report that is made to the Commissioner must include a clear statement that the Panel has vetoed the proposed Precept, with the Panel's reasons. The Regulations require that the Panel will receive a response from the Commissioner to the report and associated recommendations.

- 3.5 A Police Precept is issued annually by the Commissioner under Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. The process and timescales are detailed in the Police and Crime Panels (Precepts and Chief Constable Appointments) Regulations 2012. The Precept forms part of the Council Tax bills issued by the constituent authorities within the Police Force area. The Commissioner may not issue a Precept for a financial year until the end of the scrutiny process by the Police and Crime Panel is reached. This is when:
  - In a case where no veto is imposed, when the Police and Crime Commissioner gives the Police and Crime Panel a response to the Panel's report;
  - In a case where a veto has been imposed, when the end of the veto process is reached;
  - In any case when the Panel neither reviews the proposed Precept nor make a report by 8 February; and
  - In a case when a veto has been imposed but the Panel has failed to review and make a second report on the revised Precept by 22<sup>nd</sup> February.
- 3.5 The Police and Crime Commissioner must notify the relevant Police and Crime Panel of the Precept which the Commissioner is proposing to issue for the following financial year by 1st March.
- 3.6 A representative of the Commissioner's Office made a presentation on budgetary issues to Panel members at an informal meeting of the Panel on 10<sup>th</sup> January. The information presented at that meeting set out the context within which the Precept is to be set.
- 3.7 The Commissioner is due to consider a report on the 2018/19 Revenue Budget and Council Tax Precept at his Management Board meeting scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018. Following that meeting it is envisaged that the Commissioner will notify the Panel formally of this proposed Precept (please see paragraph 3.20 below).
- 3.8 Following receipt of the formal notice from the Commissioner, the Police and Crime Panel must review the proposed Precept and make a report to the Commissioner on the proposed precept by 8<sup>th</sup> February. The report may include recommendations, including recommendations as to the Precept that should be issued for the financial year.
- 3.9 The Police and Crime Panel may, having reviewed the proposed Precept, veto the Precept. If the Panel vetoes the proposed Precept, the report made to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed it, and why.
- 3.10 If the Police and Crime Panel does not veto the proposed Precept, the Police and Crime Commissioner must:

- Have regard to the report made by the Panel, including any recommendations in the report;
- Give the Panel a response to the report (and any recommendations) and
- Publish the response.
- 3.11 The Police and Crime Commissioner may:
  - Issue the proposed Precept for the financial year; or
  - Issue a different Precept, but only if it would be in accordance with a recommendation made in the report.
- 3.12 It is for the Police and Crime Panel to determine the manner in which a response or recommendations is to be published. It is recommended that for the county of Cheshire publication of a response should be on the Commissioner's website as soon as reasonably practicable after the response has been issued and in any event by no later than five working days thereafter.
- 3.13 If the Police and Crime Panel vetoes the proposed Precept the Commissioner must not issue the proposed Precept for the financial year, The Commissioner must by 15<sup>th</sup> February:
  - Have regard to the report which must bemade by the Panel (including any recommendations);
  - Give the Panel a response to the report (and any recommendations) which includes notification of the precept that he now proposes to issue; and
  - Publish the response.
- 3.14 Where the Panel's report indicates that the Panel vetoes the proposed Precept because it is, in its view, too high, the revised Precept proposed shall be lower than the original proposed Precept. Where the Panel's report indicates that the Panel vetoes the proposed Precept because it is too low, the revised Precept proposed shall be higher than the original proposed precept.
- 3.15 Members of the Panel are requested to note that the use of the veto procedure will necessitate a further meeting and that this would need to be arranged at short notice, and in any event must be held no later than 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Regulations state that on receiving a response containing notification of a revised precept the Panel shall by 22<sup>nd</sup> February:
  - Review the revised precept, and
  - Make a report to the Police and Crime Commissioner on the revised Precept, known as "the second report".

- 3.16 The second report may:
  - Indicate whether the Panel accepts or rejects the revised Precept (but rejection does not prevent the Commissioner from issuing the revised Precept as the Precept for the financial year), and
  - Make recommendations, including recommendations as to the Precept that should be issued for the financial year.
- 3.17 On receiving the Panel's second report the Commissioner shall by 1<sup>st</sup> March of the relevant financial year:
  - Have regard to the second report, including any recommendations in the report;
  - Give the Panel a response to the second report (and any such recommendations) and;
  - Publish the response.
- 3.18 The Commissioner may then:
  - Issue the revised Precept as the Precept for the Financial year;
  - Issue a different precept as the Precept for, but this shall not be higher than
    the revised Precept if the veto was imposed on the grounds of the Precept
    being too high and should be lower than the revised Precept if the veto was
    I imposed on the grounds of the precept being too low, unless it would be in
    accordance with the recommendations made by the Panel in the second
    report
- 3.19 An extract from the relevant Home Office guidance document is attached as Appendix I
- 3.20 At the time of writing details of the Commissioner's proposed Precept were not available, once they are available they will be immediately forwarded to Panel Members. In addition they will also be posted on the Police and Crime Panel section of the Cheshire East Council website.
- 3.21 In considering its decision the Panel may wish to have regard to the priorities included within the Police and Crime Plan and the information provided on the proposed Budget. The Panel is reminded that its statutory duty relates to scrutiny of the Precept alone, not the detail of the revenue budget.

#### 4. Summary and conclusion

4.1 The Panel must review and make a report and or recommendations in connection with the Commissioners proposed Precept.

#### 5. Equality Implications

5.1 There are no specific equality implications related to this report.

#### 6. Financial Considerations

6.1 There are no financial implications for the Panel in considering these matters, except insofar as an additional meeting would need to be arranged if the Precept is vetoed. Any such arrangements could be contained within the Panel's existing budget.

#### 7. Contact Information

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

Name: Brian Reed

**Designation: Head of Governance and Democratic Services** 

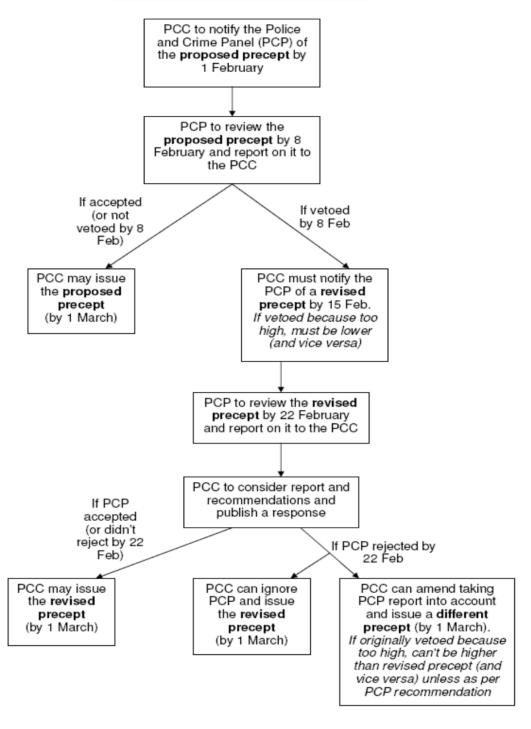
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#### Appendix I

#### PCC PRECEPT APPROVAL (Final Regulations)



# **Cheshire Police and Crime Panel**

Date of Meeting: 02 February 2018

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

**East Council** 

**Subject: Location of Panel Meetings** 

#### 1. Report Summary

1.1 This report requests that the Panel consider the location of future meetings, and review its policy on webcasting.

#### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to:
  - (i) Revert to holding its meetings at Wyvern House, Winsford, with the Secretariat being tasked with developing a draft programme of meetings for the period June 2018 to April 2019, which will be brought to the next meeting of the Panel for Approval.
  - (ii) Revert to live webcasting of all of its meetings.

#### 3. Location of meetings

- 3.1 In November 2016 the Panel resolved:
  - (i) That the venues for future meetings of the Panel be rotated around Cheshire, with meetings being recorded and then made available via a webcast after the meeting, unless the meeting is held at Wyvern House, in which case the meeting be live streamed.
  - (ii) That the meeting of the Panel where the budget is set take place at Wyvern House, to ensure that it is live streamed.
- 3.2 In February 2017 the Panel agreed the location of meetings up to April 2018 and over recent months, meetings have been held in Warrington, Widnes and Macclesfield, the next meeting of the Panel will take place in Ellesmere Port. Confirmation Hearings, which by their nature cannot be planned far in advance, have been held in Crewe and Winsford.

- 3.3 In choosing to rotate the location of meetings Panel members were hoping to increase the number of members of the public attending meetings. However, attendance at meetings has not increased.
- 3.4 When making decisions in November 2016 and February 2017 the Panel were aware that live video webcasting was not possible at locations away from Wyvern House. Meetings have been video webcast (with the exception of one where there were technical problems), with the meeting being available to view shortly after its conclusion. The lack of a live webcast has made it more difficult for members of the public to submit questions; especially ones of direct relevance to the debate taking place at the meeting. Over the year, the cost of webcasting has been slightly higher than it would have been had all meetings been held at Wyvern House.

#### 4. Summary and conclusion

- 4.1 The Panel now needs to agree the location of future programmed meetings and if a decision is taken to hold all meetings at Wyvern House to amend its policy on webcasting.
- 4.2 Wyvern House is centrally located within Cheshire and has proved to be popular location for meeting. Live webcasting is available at a cost of approximately £1,400 per year.

#### 5. Equality Implications

5.1 There are no specific equality implications related to this report. However, live webcasting of meetings does help facilitate participation from those who are, for whatever reason, unable to attend a meeting.

#### 6. Financial Considerations

6.1 The overall cost of supporting a programme of meetings is slightly more expensive when they are held across Cheshire; this is due to room hire costs and the additional costs of webcasting.

#### 7. Contact Information

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

Name: Brian Reed

**Designation: Head of Governance and Democratic Services** 

**Local Authority: Cheshire East Council** 

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Email: brian.reed@cheshireeast.gov.uk

### **Cheshire Police and Crime Panel – Work Programme 2018**









7 March 2018	Informal Meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner (Topic TBC)
20 April 2018	Items:  Ouestions for the Police and Crime Commissioner;  Scrutiny Items – Management and Scrutiny Board notes;  Work Programme

