

## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel**

held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Committee Room, Ellesmere Port Library, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port

#### **PRESENT**

Councillors:

Cheshire East: Councillors Steve Edgar, Judy Snowball and Mick Warren

Cheshire West & Chester: Councillors Phil Marshall, Keith Millar and Sam Naylor

Halton Councillors Martha Lloyd Jones and Norman Plumpton Walsh

Warrington: Councillors Mo Hussain and Wendy Maisey OBE

Independent Co-optees: Mr Evan Morris MBE, Mrs Gemma Shepherd – Etchells and Miss Yasmin Somani

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

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

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

No issues were raised.

#### **3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

One member of the public had submitted a question which was asked on their behalf by the Chair during agenda item 11.

#### **4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

##### **RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be approved.

#### **5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PANEL**

It was reported that Councillor Mo Hussain (Warrington Council) had joined the Panel, replacing Councillor Jane Whalen. The Chair welcomed Cllr Hussain to the meeting.

#### **6. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair noted his work as Vice Chair of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels, mentioning a forthcoming meeting the Association would be holding with the Home Office, where the issue of "Support Hubs" would be discussed. He also briefed the Panel on ongoing discussions with the Department of Criminology at the University of Chester.

#### **7. PANEL'S WORK PROGRAMME 2023/24**

The work programme was noted.

#### **8. QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

The Chair explained that two questions had been formally submitted to the Commissioner in advance of the meeting and that these had been included in the published papers.

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

The Chair welcomed the Commissioner to the meeting.

The Commissioner made a short statement in relation to a complaint made against him by a member of the public. This complaint, received by the Panel in early December 2023, had been considered by the Panel's Complaints Management Sub Committee. Full details of the complaint, including the outcome, had been published on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 on the Panel's page of the Cheshire East Council website.

A number of Panel members responded to the Commissioner's statement. Mrs Gemma Shepherd – Etchells, Chair of the Complaints Management Sub

Committee thanked Sub Committee members for their work in considering the complaint and expressed her satisfaction that the process for managing complaints had worked well, with the complaint being resolved in a timely manner.

The Commissioner provided the Panel with a short update on a number of issues, including an initiative to combat retail and commercial crime.

#### **10. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PROPOSED PRECEPT FOR 2024/25**

The Commissioner outlined his proposed Precept for 2024/25, taking questions from Panel members on the details of his proposals.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Panel unanimously support the Commissioner's proposed Precept for 2024/25 without qualification or comment.

A copy of the letter sent to the Commissioner confirming the decision to support his proposed Precept for 2024/25 is attached to these minutes.

#### **11. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

Panel members asked the Commissioner a range of questions. Details of questions and the Commissioner's responses can be found on the Police and Crime Panel page of the Cheshire East Council website.