

Cheshire Police and Crime Panel



CESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – 17 June 2016

PANEL BUDGET

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

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 To receive and endorse the Panel's budget for 2015/16 Municipal Year.

2. Finance Context

- 2.1 The Home Office issue a ring-fenced grant to the host authority to maintain a Police and Crime Panel for the Cheshire police force area to carry out its functions and responsibilities as set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
- 2.2 The grant for 2015/16 is claimed by the host authority predominantly against staff and team time engaged with supporting the Panel arrangements.
- 2.3 The grant claim details are shown in the table below:

<u>Finance Information</u>	2015/16 £
Solicitor and Monitoring officer (including Legal, Democratic and Scrutiny Support)	£42,739
Performance & Policy	£2,472
Communications	£3,180
Finance	£1,890
Room Hire and Training	£1,393
Webcast	£1,560
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	£53,234
Member Expenses	£478
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	£53,712

- 2.4 The allocated grant for 2016/17 is split between £53,300 for administration costs and £11,960 (up to £920) for member expenses. The grant acceptance letter was sent on 26 April 2016.

3 External Assurance

- 3.1 The grant is paid to the host authority by the Home Office in exercise of the power conferred by section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.
- 3.2 Payments are made in arrears, in accordance with Schedule 2, within 21 working days of the receipt of a payment request in the prescribed form.
- 3.3 The former host authority's (Warrington Borough Council) Section 151 Officer and his nominated Finance Manager acted on behalf of the Panel to maintain and manage the grant to ensure that the funds have been consumed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

4. Risk Assessment

- 4.1 The grant is provided for the purpose of maintaining a Police and Crime Panel for the Cheshire police force area to carry out its functions and responsibilities as set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

5. Financial Considerations

- 5.1 A working budget has been devised (Appendix one) as a mechanism to allocate appropriate resources to support the Panel. The £53,300 administration costs element of the budget can be varied across different budget lines and work streams according to work programme and work streams of the Panel.
- 5.2 The work programme and activity of the Panel should be contained within existing budgets. Any variation will be reported to the Panel for consideration.

6. Equality and Diversity/Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan covers the whole community in Cheshire, Halton and Warrington. When scrutinising the various areas of the plan, the panel should be mindful of the impacts of outcomes on all of the protected equality characteristics (age, disability, gender, race, religion, sexuality, marital status, gender reassignment etc). The panel may wish to factor this in when considering the suitability of the information provided by the Commissioner.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 To receive and approve the budget.