

# Cheshire Police and Crime Panel

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**Date of meeting: 23 September 2016**

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

**Subject/Title: Panel Financial Outturn 2015/2016 and proposed Grant allocation 2016/2017**

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## **1. Report Summary**

- 1.1 To respond to the panel members request made at the 17 June 2016 meeting in relation to the financial outturn for expenditure incurred in support of the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel during 2015/ 2016; and
- 1.2 To receive and endorse the Panel's budget for 2016/17 municipal year.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Panel is recommended to:
  - (i) note the Panel's financial outturn for the 2015/2016 financial year;
  - (ii) endorse the panels grant allocation for 2016/17 municipal year; and
  - (iii) agree that financial updates be provided to the panel as appropriate.

## **1. Background and Finance Implications**

- 3.1 Panel members will recall that an outturn report was provided at the Annual Meeting held on the 17 June 2016.
- 3.2 The Panel has requested a further and follow-up report to be brought before this meeting.
- 3.3 The Home Office provide 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.
- 3.4 For 2015-2016, the grant funding continued to be paid in arrears and was required to be claimed on a half yearly basis. The total amount that could be claimed for the whole year was £65,260 and this comprised the following:-  
£53,300 – administration costs  
  
£11,960 (based on up to £920 per member for expenses. £920 is the maximum figure that is available for members to claim against for expenses incurred in playing their role on the Panel.)
- 3.5 This report reiterates the information provided to the Panel at its meeting held on the 17 June 2016 and therefore clarifies the end of year position.

- 3.6 As previously stated the grant for 2015/16 was claimed by the former host authority predominantly against staff and core team time engaged with supporting the Panel arrangements.
- 3.7 The former Host Authority formally submitted claims against expenditure in support of the Panel for the two half years in 2015/ 2016. The grant claim for the first half year was £22,697. In the second half year, the expenditure amounted to £30,515. In combination with the claim for the first half year, this amounted to £53,212 for the whole year. The grant claim details, which were presented to the meeting held on 17 June are repeated in the table below:

| <b><u>Finance Information</u></b>   | <b>2015/16<br/>£</b>       |
|---|----------------------------|
| 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   | £1,538                     |
|   | <hr/> <b>£53,212</b>       |
| Member Expenses   | £478                       |
|   | <hr/> <b>£53,690</b> <hr/> |

- 3.8 Members should also note that the Host Authority (Warrington) had continued to absorb the resourcing and support of the Police and Crime Panel during 2015/ 2016, through the existing officer structures.

#### **4. 2016/ 17 Funding**

- 4.1 The new host Authority will again be in a position to bid against a maximum grant total of £65,260 for the 2016/ 2017 municipal year.
- 4.2 The proposed outline budget for the 2016/17 municipal year is attached at Appendix 1 as a mechanism to allocate appropriate resources to support the Panel. The 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.
- 4.3 The work programme and activity of the Panel should be contained within existing budgets. Any variation will be reported to the Panel for consideration.

#### **5. External Assurance**

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 The host authority's (Cheshire East Council) Section 151 Officer and his nominated Finance Manager act 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.

## **6. Risk Assessment**

- 6.1 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.

## **7. Equality Implications**

- 7.1 There would appear to be no direct equality implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

## **8. Conclusion**

8.1 In accordance with the wishes of Panel Members, this report sets out details of the Panel's financial outturn for 2015/2016 together with the projected 2016/17 outturn.

8.2 Expenditure will continue to be monitored to support the claims for grant funding required by the Home Office. The Panel will continue to be provided with updates as appropriate.

## **Contact Information**

Contact details for this report are as follows:-

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