

Cheshire Police and Crime Panel

Date of Meeting: 20 September 2019

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

Subject: Presentation of Scrutiny Agendas and Papers

1. Report Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines how information relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Scrutiny Boards could be presented to Panel members.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Panel determine how they wish to receive information relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Scrutiny Boards.

3. Background information

- 3.1 At the meeting on 15th June 2019 the Secretariat was asked to produce a short discussion paper for consideration on how best the Panel should approach the issue of reviewing and noting the high volume of scrutiny papers available on the Commissioner's website.
- 3.2 During 2018/19 the Commissioner held five Scrutiny Boards (including one dedicated to discussing fox hunting). It would be unusual for the supporting papers to be less than 100 pages, for example the papers for the meeting held on 27th February 2019 amounted to 120 pages and those for the June meeting 132 pages.
- 3.3 Traditionally Police and Crime Panel agendas have included copies of Scrutiny Board papers for meetings that have been held since the Panel last met. Copying high volumes of papers is both expensive and potentially wasteful, and can make agenda packs bulky. Providing a link to the relevant page on the Commissioner's website solves the issue of cost and potential waste, but does not provide a particularly easy way for papers to be read. Some papers need to be viewed in colour, which increases cost if they are printed.
- 3.4 A suggested way forward is:
- Include a copy of the agenda of Scrutiny Board meetings (normally one or two pages) with Panel papers.

- The Secretariat produce a short (one or two paragraph) summary of each item; only including the item in full in exceptional cases or if a Panel member has asked for it to be included.
- Provide a link to the papers on the Commissioner's website on the Panel's agenda.

3.5 The suggested approach is dependent on information being available on the Commissioner's website. It should be possible for any papers that are published on the Commissioner's website two weeks in advance of a Panel meeting to be summarised in the way outlined above.

3.6 The approach outlined above has been adopted by way of example for the Scrutiny Board meeting held on 5 June 2019 and is provided in Appendix 1. These papers were considered by the Panel at its last regular meeting.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications.

5. Equality implications

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

6. Contact information

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Appendix 1

Scrutiny Board 5th June 2019

<https://cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/media/199224/20190605-scrutiny-board-report-pack-website.pdf>

3. Action Plan Hunting

Due to the sensitivity of this issue a full extract is attached. ***[as this is being provided by way of example, the full extract is not attached]***

4. Cheshire Constabulary Custody: Continuous Improvement Plan

This item provides an update following HM Inspector of Prisons and HM Inspector of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services inspection held in September 2018.

5. Thematic: A Police Service connected with communities

This item summarises a range of information including:

- Community legitimacy and understanding
- A workforce representative of communities
- Visible Police Service in communities
- Engaging and responding to community needs
- Access to services
- Active citizenship
- Understandings local issues and problem solving

6. Police and Crime Plan – Performance Report

Detailed performance information is provided.

7. People and HR: Performance Report

This report provides information on:

- Workforce capacity
- Workforce capability
- Wellbeing and engagement
- Diversity and inclusion

8. Complaints

This report summaries complaints for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019.