

## **Police and Crime Panel Report for Overview & Scrutiny – September 2021**

Date of Panel: 7 July 2021

<b>Agenda item no</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	
1 & 2	<p><b>Election of Chairperson and Vice chairperson</b></p> <p>Cllr Jonny Brownsteen was elected chairperson. Cllr Steve Robinson was elected vice chairperson.</p> <p>As chair, I addressed the panel briefly to say that I understood members wanted the panel to work collaboratively rather than in a partisan way, and that I intended to chair it in line with that. This is particularly relevant now that there is a new commissioner who represents a political party, given his predecessor was an independent.</p> <p>Members from all parties welcomed this approach. The commissioner also addressed members, expressing his hopes to work together constructively.</p>	
3, 4 & 5	<p><b>Apologies, minutes and declarations of interest</b></p> <p>No declarations of interest</p>	
6	<p><b>Police &amp; Crime Panel Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>This item was taken as read.</p> <p>Cllr Brownsteen encouraged new panel members to ask questions at any stage, in particular given that some agenda items appear at each meeting, some appear once a year, and some appear on at the discretion of the chair and at panel members' request.</p>	
7	<p><b>Office of the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner Overview</b></p> <p>Ruth Greenwood, who is Head of Policy Performance and Strategy and the Deputy Chief Executive of the OPCC, gave a presentation detailing the work of the OPCC and its structure.</p>	
8	<p><b>Police &amp; Crime Commissioner Introduction and Update</b></p> <p>The commissioner updated the panel on his various manifesto commitments.</p> <p>This was an extensive introduction which covered some of the manifesto and campaign commitments made during the recent election. The commissioner spoke at length about the impact of rural crime, pet theft, and his intention to bring in more officers.</p>	

	<p>When questioned further on police recruitment, he said that there is not yet a plan for the roles that they will fill, or whether they would be voluntary positions.</p> <p>The commissioner gave a detailed description of the recruitment process for his proposed Deputy Commissioner.</p> <p>As part of the presentation, members had questions relating to the Commissioner's Fund. The commissioner explained that all existing commitments would be honoured to 2022, but that he is currently reviewing the entire policing budget in search of a 'pot of gold' which he can use to finance the recruitment of new officers.</p> <p>Members commented on numerous election priorities. It was commented that, in order for the panel to assist the commissioner in achieving his goals, there needed to be clear definitions, baseline figures and targets. For example, having clarity on which specific activities fall under the classification of antisocial behaviour, then knowing the starting figures for the previous year, is critical for measuring success in achieving the fifty per cent reduction that the commissioner has set as a priority.</p> <p>The commissioner agreed on the importance of baseline numbers, definitions and timescales, and is currently working with the constabulary to establish the details of his various goals. He was asked to come to the next panel meeting with these figures, for the panel to review.</p>	
9	<p><b>OPPC CEO Report</b></p> <p>Due to the previous items overrunning, this agenda item had limited time available. It was agreed that the new police and crime plan would be featured centrally on the agenda of the next Police &amp; Crime Panel.</p>	
10	<p><b>Panel work plan</b></p> <p>The clerk listed various topics that panel members had asked questions about during the meeting, and stated that she would work these into future agendas.</p> <p>The work plan will be forthcoming for members to review.</p> <p>There is an appetite among panel members for additional sessions, to include visits to different parts of the estate. Of particular interest is the new training facility, the Sabrina Centre.</p>	
<b><u>Appointment of a Deputy Police &amp; Crime Commissioner: Confirmation Hearing</u></b>		
1	<p>The 10am meeting closed and members remained present for a second meeting, the confirmation hearing of the new Deputy Commissioner.</p>	

	<p>The OPCC has conducted a thorough and professional recruitment process, and wanted to appoint Cllr Nicholas Evans.</p> <p>The commissioner explained his reasoning in detail, and Cllr Evans then addressed members. Members were pleased by the quality of the appointment and confident that the process was conducted faithfully, and confirmed the appointment unanimously.</p>	
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