

## **POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 JULY 2024**

**Present:** Cllrs Mike Short (Chair), Patrick Canavan, Alasdair Keddie, Peter Sidaway, Tony Trent, Louise Bown, Simon Gibson, Louie O'Leary and Carl Woode

**Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):**

Simon Bullock (Chief Executive, OPCC), Marc Eyre (Service Manager for Assurance), George Dare (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Chris Harrod (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Adam Harrod (OPCC Director of Operations), David Sidwick (Police and Crime Commissioner) and Julie Strange (OPCC Chief Finance Officer)

1. **Apologies and Introductions**

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Elizabeth Mytton and Cllrs David Flagg (BCP Council) and Andrew Starr (Dorset Council).

The Chairman welcomed those present and took the opportunity to thank past members for their contributions to the Panel. In addition, he expressed his gratitude to the outgoing clerk, who was leaving Dorset Council.

2. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2024 were confirmed and signed.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made at the meeting.

4. **Public Participation**

A question relating to violence against women had been received and has been included, together with the response from the Police and Crime Commissioner, as appendix 2 to these minutes.

5. **PCC Annual Report and Police and Crime Plan Update**

The Police and Crime Commissioner provided a brief update on the published plan and explained that there were currently efforts underway to give it a refresh it based on emerging issues that had become apparent during his campaign seeking re-election in May.

**Noted**

## 6. **Q4 Monitoring Report – 0:15:08 On the recording**

Prior to the presentation from the PCC, the Chair sought clarification on a couple of questions relating to the PCC being misquoted at the previous meeting when using the term “public intervention” and, following the withdrawal of support of the Police Race Action Plan by the National Black Police Association due to funding concerns, where the PCC stood in relation to funding the Plan.

The PCC gave an update on process against the Police and Crime Plan.

### **Priority One - Cut Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour – 0:21:08 on the recording**

The PCC highlighted that Anti-Social Behaviour had dropped over the last quarter and that he was focussed on road safety. Burglary was also a key focus of the PCC and he explained that additional equipment had been provided to support vulnerable victims of burglary.

Questions from the Priority Leads and Panel members. (attached at appendix 1). Panel members were given the opportunity to ask questions. The PCC responded in detail to questions in relation to Auto Speedwatch schemes, police attendance where retail crime has occurred, visible patrolling and the success of prevention of burglary packs in collaboration with estate agents. The PCC also advised that following the general election, he was keen to engage with the MPs across Dorset to ensure that it was the safest county and would continue lobbying for additional funding.

### **Priority Two – Make Policing More Visible and Connected – 0:45:50 on the recording**

The PCC highlighted the work being undertaken as part of priority two of the plan.

Questions from the Priority Leads and Panel members. (attached at appendix 1).

Panel members were given the opportunity to ask questions. The PCC responded to questions in relation to the introduction of a new platform for officers to use remotely, improvements in call handling and response times to both the 999 and 101 services, restoration of monthly NPT meetings with ward councillors and the addition of an “add media” function to the submission of intelligence feature on the website. In addition, he set out an ambition highlighting the need to change how the police operated in terms of systems and communications.

**Action:** The PCC would provide more information about the single online home at the next meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.

### **Priority Three – Fight Violent Crime and High Harm – 01:16:13 on the recording**

The PCC highlighted the work being undertaken as part of priority three of the plan.

Questions from the Priority Leads and Panel members. (attached at appendix 1).

Panel members were given the opportunity to ask questions. The PCC responded to questions in relation to the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) and the ability to attract funding for it.

#### **Priority Four – Fight Rural Crime – 01:38:47 on the recording**

The PCC highlighted the work being undertaken as part of priority four of the plan.

Panel members were given the opportunity to ask questions. The PCC responded to questions in relation to Fly-Tipping, particularly around prevention and enforcement activity.

#### **Priority Five – Put Victim and Communities First – 01:45:00 on the recording**

The PCC highlighted the work being undertaken as part of priority five of the plan.

Panel members were given the opportunity to ask questions. The PCC responded to questions in relation to the UKPAC pilot.

#### **Priority Six – Make Every Penny Count – 02:01:56 on the recording**

The PCC highlighted the work being undertaken as part of priority six of the plan.

Questions from the Priority Leads and Panel members. (attached at appendix 1).

#### **NOTED**

### **7. Drugs, Alcohol and Gambling - 2:15:12 on the recording**

The PCC introduced the report and provided the panel with a comprehensive narrative which set out the difficulties caused by addiction. The PCC was keen to highlight the inclusion of gambling, a subject that was often left untouched, and felt should receive more awareness.

NOTE: Due to a time constraint, prior to panel member questioning, the Chairman allowed re-ordered part of the agenda to ensure that the election of chair item could be resolved and to move that the meeting could continue after the three hour time limit.

Panel members were given the opportunity to ask questions – 02:55:34 on the recording.

The PCC responded to questions in relation to his campaign centred on drugs (including possession), a trial that created 'safe spaces' for opioid use which he did not support and his stance on "victim vs criminal" when considering 'county lines' situations.

**Action:** Informal training date to be planned to allow for further discussion.

**NOTED**

**8. Election of Chair / Vice Chair (Main Panel / Complaints Sub Committee)**

It was Proposed by Cllr Bown and seconded by Cllr Trent that Cllr Keddie be elected as Chair of the Police and Crime Panel.

Two nominations were received for vice-chair – Cllr Bown and Dr Elizabeth Mytton, but following a split vote, it was proposed and seconded that the position of Vice-Chair be determined at the next meeting.

**Resolved that:**

1. Cllr Alistair Keddie be elected as Chair of the Police and Crime Panel for a 1-year term.
2. The vice-chair be elected at the following meeting.

**9. Recruitment of Independent Co-opted Member**

The Service Manager for Assurance advised that there would shortly be a recruitment exercise for a new co-opted member, and it was expected that they would be in post ready for the December meeting.

**10. Complaints Update**

The Service Manager for Assurance advised that there were no live complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner.

He also advised that there was a need to appoint five members to the Police and Crime Panel Complaints Sub-Committee and that Dr Liz Mytton and Cllrs Patrick Canavan, Louis O'Leary, Peter Sidaway and Carl Woode had put themselves forward for this role, subject to the Panel's approval. This was proposed by Cllr O'Leary and seconded by Cllr Louise Bown

**Resolved that Dr Liz Mytton and Cllrs Patrick Canavan, Louis O'Leary, Peter Sidaway and Carl Woode be appointed to the Police and Crime Panel Complaints Sub-Committee.**

**11. Forward Workplan**

The forward workplan was noted.

**12. Urgent items**

There was no urgent business.

**13. Exempt Business**

There was no exempt business

**Duration of meeting:** 10.01 am – 1:18pm

**Chairman**

.....