

# Essex Police and Crime Panel

<b>14:30</b>	<b>Thursday, 01 June 2017</b>	<b>Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH</b>
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## **Quorum: 5**

### **Membership**

Councillor Gavin Callaghan  
Councillor Wendy Schmitt  
Councillor Paul Barrell  
Councillor Godfrey Isaacs  
Councillor Bob Shepherd MBE  
Councillor Mike Lilley  
Councillor Gary Waller  
Councillor John Jowers  
Councillor Tony Durcan  
Councillor Penny Channer  
Councillor Mike Webb  
Councillor Ann Holland  
Councillor Carlo Guglielmi  
Councillor Joycelyn Redsell  
Councillor Jim Gordon  
John Gili-Ross  
Kay Odysseos

### **Representing**

Basildon Borough Council  
Braintree District Council  
Brentwood Borough Council  
Castle Point Borough Council  
Chelmsford City Council  
Colchester Borough Council  
Epping Forest District Council  
Essex County Council  
Harlow District Council  
Maldon District Council  
Rochford District Council  
Southend Borough Council  
Tendring District Council  
Thurrock Borough Council  
Uttlesford District Council  
Independent Member  
Independent Member

### **For information about the meeting please ask for:**

Robert Fox, Scrutiny Officer, ECC, and Secretary to the Panel

Fiona Lancaster, Committee Officer

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Essex County Council

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## **Part 1**

(During consideration of these items the meeting is likely to be open to the press and public)

		<b>Pages</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence and Notices of Substitution</b> The Secretary to the Panel to report the receipt (if any).	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes</b> To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2017.	<b>5 - 10</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules</b>	<b>11 - 30</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Members are invited to declare any interest in any item on the agenda. Members may still declare an interest in an item at any time prior to its consideration.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Questions to the Chairman from Members of the Public</b> The Chairman to respond to any questions relevant to the business of the Panel from members of the public.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Election of Chairman</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Appointment of Vice-Chairman</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Appointment of Ethics and Integrity Sub-Committee</b>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Police and Fire Collaboration - Local Business Case update</b>	<b>31 - 34</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>The Future of the Panel</b>	<b>35 - 38</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Domestic Abuse update</b>	<b>39 - 46</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>The Police and Crime Commissioner Decisions Report</b>	<b>47 - 50</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Forward Look</b>	<b>51 - 52</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>The Police and Crime Commissioner to update the Panel on On-going Issues</b>	
<b>15</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> To note that the next meeting will be held at 2.30 pm on Thursday 20 July 2017, in Committee Room 1, County Hall.	

**16**

**Urgent Business**

To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

**Exempt Items**

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, Members are asked to decide whether, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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**Urgent Exempt Business**

To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

## Minutes of the meeting of the Essex Police and Crime Panel, held in Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex on Thursday, 16 February 2017

### Present:

#### Councillor

Andrew Gordon  
Wendy Schmitt  
Godfrey Isaacs  
Ian Wright  
Gary Waller  
John Jowers  
Penny Channer  
June Lumley  
Trevor Byford  
Carlo Guglielmi  
Joycelyn Redsell  
John Gili-Ross  
Kay Odysseos

#### Representing

Basildon Borough Council  
Braintree District Council (Vice-Chairman)  
Castle Point Borough Council  
Chelmsford City Council  
Epping Forest District Council  
Essex County Council (Chairman)  
Maldon District Council  
Rochford District Council  
Southend Borough Council  
Tendring District Council  
Thurrock Borough Council  
Independent Member  
Independent Member

### Apologies for Absence

Gavin Callaghan with	Basildon Borough Council
Andrew Gordon as his substitute	
Paul Barrell	Brentwood Borough Council
Bob Shepherd with	Chelmsford City Council
Ian Wright as his substitute	
Mike Lilley	Colchester Borough Council
Tony Durcan	Harlow District Council
Mark Flewitt with	Southend Borough Council
Trevor Byford as his substitute	
Jim Gordon	Uttlesford District Council

The following Officers were in attendance throughout the meeting:

Anna Hook	Head of Commissioning Growing Essex Communities
Colin Ismay	Council and Member Support Manager, Essex County Council, and Secretary to the Panel
Fiona Lancaster	Committee Officer, Essex County Council

Roger Hirst, Essex Police and Crime Commissioner, was in attendance throughout and supported by Jane Gardner, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, Susannah Hancock, Chief Executive and Charles Garbett, Treasurer.

**1 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Carlo Guglielmi declared an interest as a member of the Essex Fire Authority.

**3 Questions to the Chairman from Members of the Public**

Councillor Michael Mackrory asked for clarification on the bid process relating to the disposal of Essex Police property, and particularly in relation to a claim that a lower bid may have been selected. The Commissioner undertook to respond to the enquiry outside of the meeting.

The Chairman responded that as Councillor Mackrory's second question related to operational matters in the Springfield area of Chelmsford, the Commissioner would feed back the concerns to the Divisional Commander who would be asked to provide a response. Councillor Mackrory was advised that concerns could be raised through the Local Community Safety Partnership.

**4 Police and Crime Panel Performance Measures**

The Panel considered report EPCP/04/17 by the Commissioner presenting the proposed set of Police and Crime Plan performance measures which would be reported to the Panel on a quarterly basis.

The following points were made during the ensuing discussion.

- The Commissioner's preference was for Essex Police not to be driven by a target culture, and instead to focus on fewer substantive measures and look at the direction of travel for areas such as the all crime trend, public confidence and victim satisfaction.
- The Panel commented that it would be difficult to scrutinise discretionary targets whilst fulfilling its role as the Commissioner's 'critical friend'. The Panel questioned how the Commissioner intended to measure success without a set of performance targets and be able to demonstrate to residents the success or otherwise of what was being achieved.
- The Panel indicated that it would be helpful to see how data sharing would be monitored.
- The Panel wished to receive additional information on the impact of dealing with mental health incidents.
- The Panel asked how improvements in police collaboration with other partners would be measured.

- The Panel questioned whether the cost of the ECM communication method was beneficial.
- The Panel sought clarification about the new public survey and asked how comparisons would be made, and how the public would be engaged. In response, the Chief Executive reported that an external company had been commissioned to carry out the survey and to report back each quarter. A copy of the survey specification was available on request.
- The Panel sought clarification on whether the hours of service provided by Special Constables were at the time and place they were needed, and which areas they were operating from. Details of how they were engaging with local watch schemes would be helpful.
- The Panel indicated that in the absence of performance measures some form of Trend Analysis was required so that failures and successes in performance could be identified. Benchmarking information against other Forces would also be useful.
- The Panel welcomed the offer from the Chief Executive to provide specific reports, for example on Special Constables and mental health incidents.

**DECIDED:**

That the content of the report be **noted**, and the proposed set of performance measures be **accepted**, subject to the points outlined during the discussion and as set out above.

**5 Essex Police Public Contact and Engagement with Local Communities**

The Panel considered two reports EPCP/05/17 (6a and 6b) setting out the work by Essex Police in relation to public contact, including work to improve the non-emergency telephone contact (101), and engagement with local communities.

Claire Heath, Head of Customer Service, and Gareth Nicholson, Head of Media, Essex Police, were in attendance to introduce the reports and answer questions.

The following points were made during the ensuing discussion on public contact.

- Callers to 101 pay 15p for the entire length of their calls, and the longest wait times to access the service were reviewed daily. Claire Heath undertook to follow up specific concerns expressed by Councillor Redsell about 101 call handling outside of the meeting.
- The Panel sought clarification on some of the jargon, models and incidents referred to in the report and suggested that this be avoided, or an explanation/glossary provided.
- That "double-keying" with the online service still existed as an interim

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measure until the website was fully integrated with Athena.

- The Live Chat pilot on the website was being tested to see if this could help residents who wished to make a complaint, to gauge the extent of its usage and to learn how reports could be extracted.
- The Panel welcomed the recent introduction of Essex Police Twitter accounts. Essex Police indicated that they had the appropriate IT security systems in place to handle new channels of engagement.
- The Panel indicated that it would like to receive updates on the joint Kent and Essex Contact Management Command Review (CMCR), and comparative/trend information compared to other Forces.

#### **DECIDED:**

That the report on Essex Police and Public Contact be **noted**.

The following points were then made during the ensuing discussion on engagement with local communities.

- The intervals between Local Community Meetings could sometimes be more than six weeks, and as a result, Essex Police were looking at other ways to develop their engagement and reach out to different audiences, including the young and elderly.
- The Panel commented on the difference between rural and urban contact, and commended the Tendring Community Safety Hub which was working well.
- The Panel acknowledged the fast pace at which online engagement had increased.
- Members indicated that a more consistent approach to social media was needed which should include a response structure. There were valuable opportunities to promote positive corporate messages through Twitter and Facebook channels.
- The Panel welcomed the 'coffee with a cop' initiative helping the police engage with the public in a friendly way.
- Police Officers were becoming more confident in using social media and sharing their successes.
- The Panel acknowledged that the Essex Police Museum engaged with young children, and that the Police Cadets were engaged in operational safety work. The Force recognised that more engagement with schools was needed and this was being pursued in conjunction with the Fire and Rescue Service.



- The Panel commented that local volunteer groups presented an opportunity to engage with hard to reach groups.
- Training sessions with local Divisional Commanders and Inspectors were planned concerning the best ways to engage in their local communities.

**DECIDED:**

That the report on Essex Police Engagement with Local Communities be **noted**.

**6 Police and Fire Collaboration - Local Business Case**

The Panel considered report EPCP/06/17 by the Commissioner setting out the Local Business Case for joint governance between the Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Essex.

The following points were made during the ensuing discussion.

- The Commissioner undertook to circulate the link to a short film, which was shown at the previous day's Essex Fire Authority meeting and was available on the Crime Commissioner's website, in relation to the 12-week public consultation on joint governance options. The Panel noted that the consultation would close on 10 May, and, subject to the feedback received, a Local Business Case would be submitted to the Secretary of State on 19 May. The Commissioner did not envisage hostility to the options.
- The Commissioner reported that the Essex Fire Authority had voted to support the formal consultation on the Local Business Case.
- The Panel expressed concern regarding the capacity and timeline set to achieve an October commencement date. In response, the Commissioner commented that both Services were in agreement on the direction of travel towards greater collaboration, and in his view he had the capacity to meet the timeline. The Panel noted that £100,000 had been set aside to cover the transition to joint governance work, and £900,000 had been budgeted for the next three years to drive the collaboration programme forward.
- The Commissioner was questioned about the directorship of the transition programme and what needed to be actioned after the commencement date.
- In response to a question regarding the concerns raised by front-line firefighters, the Commissioner commented that these related to a potential blurring of roles - they did not want to be enforcers, their terms and conditions of employment, whether there would be more station closures, and their involvement and 'voice' within the collaboration programme.
- The consultation would be publicised as widely as possible, through

libraries, councils, websites, station front counters, social media and TV news channels. The Commissioner indicated that he would like to have a good response, although acknowledged the Panel's concern that the public may not respond as the options were not controversial. The Panel noted that some areas of the country may find collaboration more difficult.

- The Commissioner undertook to provide an update on the progress with the Local Business Case at the Panel's meeting in June.

#### **DECISION:**

That the report be **noted**.

#### **7 Forward Look**

The Panel considered report EPCP/07/17 by the Secretary to the Panel concerning the planning of the Panel's business.

The Panel **agreed** to the suggestions to add Mental Health incidents, Specials and Police and Fire Collaboration to the business plan, and that the Secretary to the Panel and Susannah Hancock, Chief Executive, should prepare a Forward Look on its behalf.

Susannah Hancock indicated that she would welcome the Panel's help to scrutinise the consultation responses on the Crime Commissioner's local business case for joint governance of the Fire and Police services in Essex. It was **agreed** that the Task and Finish Group already engaged with the Local Business Case would undertake this.

The report was otherwise **agreed**.

#### **8 The Police and Crime Commissioner to update the Panel on On-going issues**

The Commissioner reminded the Panel that the Chief Constable, Stephen Kavanagh, had been short-listed as a candidate for the Metropolitan Police Commissioner role. He would update the Panel when he had further news.

#### **9 Date of Next Meeting**

The Panel **noted** that the next meeting would take place at 2.30 pm on Thursday 1 June 2017, in Committee Room 1, County Hall, and that this would be preceded by a private pre-meeting starting at 1.45 pm.

**Chairman**

## **ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. To scrutinise the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner, exercising the function as a critical friend, in support of the Commissioner.
2. To review and produce a report on the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable.
3. To hold a confirmation hearing, and produce a report or recommendations (as necessary) in respect of proposed senior appointments made by the Commissioner.
4. To scrutinise the proposed precept and make recommendations. If not satisfied with the precept the Panel can veto it, provided there is a two thirds majority in agreement. The Commissioner will then have to respond to the Panel and publish the response.
5. To review the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, and produce and publish a report or make recommendations on the Plan.
6. With regard to the Commissioner's annual report, produced in accordance with section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, to question the Commissioner at a public meeting and scrutinise the decisions made by the Commissioner. The Panel must also produce recommendations or a report which is sent to the Commissioner and published.
7. To review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.
8. To fulfil functions in relation to complaints about conduct matters, in accordance with the responsibilities accorded to the Panel by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
9. Where required (i.e. if the Commissioner resigns, is disqualified from office, is suspended or incapacitated), appoint an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner from amongst the Commissioner's staff.

The Panel will be governed by schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

# **ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

## **PANEL ARRANGEMENTS**

### **1. Operating Arrangements**

- 1.1 In line with Home Office guidance, Essex County Council shall act as the lead authority in establishing the Police and Crime Panel and provide the necessary officer support.
- 1.2 The lead authority will provide such administrative and other support as will be necessary to enable the Panel to undertake its functions. Home Office funding is expected for at least the first year. Thereafter, if no funds are provided by the Home Office, or if those funds are insufficient to cover the costs of running the Panel, the Lead Authority will defray and recover from the other members the costs of administrative support. The budget for the Panel will be agreed annually and the Panel will operate within the allocated budget.
- 1.3 In the event of the Panel being wound up, the Lead Authority will defray and recover from the other member authorities any associated costs exceeding the funding provided by the Home Office.
- 1.4 Any dedicated staff employed to support the Panel will be employed by the Lead Authority, and their terms and conditions will be that of the Lead Authority.
- 1.5 The Panel shall comprise a minimum of 15 councillors (one from each of the twelve Essex districts, one from the County Council and one from each of the two Unitaries) and two independent members.
- 1.6 Additional members may be co-opted onto the Panel, as long as the two independent members are also included, the size of the Panel does not exceed 20 and the Secretary of State approves the membership arrangements.

### **2. Membership**

- 2.1 Any Councillor on the 15 appointing Councils is eligible for membership of the Panel.
- 2.2 All members of the Panel may vote in proceedings of the Panel.
- 2.3 The appointment of elected members to the Panel shall be made by each of the appointing councils in accordance with their own procedures provided that the balanced appointment objective is met. The balanced appointment objective requires that the local authority members of the Panel should:
  - (a) represent all parts of the police force area;
  - (b) represent the political make-up of the councils taken together; and
  - (c) have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to enable the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.
- 2.4 The councils shall each appoint an elected Member to be a Member of the Panel. Additional nominations will be invited to positions for co-opted members in line with the composition agreed by the Panel to reflect better the Political balance across the Police Force area and subject to approval by the Secretary of State.

2.5 Named substitutes may also be appointed by the 15 appointing Councils and notified to the Secretary to the Panel.

2.6 In the event that a council does not appoint a Member in accordance with these requirements, the Secretary of State must appoint a member to the Panel from the defaulting council in accordance with the provisions in the Act.

### **3. Casual Vacancies**

3.1 A vacancy on the Panel arises when a member resigns from the Panel.

3.2 Each council will fill vacancies for elected members in accordance with the arrangements in their Constitution. Vacancies for independent members will be filled in accordance with the selection process outlined in section 4 below.

### **4. Independent Members**

4.1 The Police and Crime Panel shall co-opt two independent members onto the panel for a term of four years, starting in 2012.

4.2 The selection process for co-opting independent members should include a reasonable period of advertising for the positions. A closing date for the receipt of applications should be given of at least two weeks from the date the advert is first placed.

4.3 Information packs should be prepared and sent to those requesting application forms.

4.4 The applications will be considered against an agreed eligibility criteria and then an Appointments Sub-Committee will be established to consider applications and interview candidates.

4.5 Following the interviews, the Appointments Sub-Committee will make recommendations to the Panel about membership.

4.6 The Panel may decide to change either Independent Member at any point and on doing so shall give notice to the Secretary to the Panel.

4.7 Where the appointed Independent Member is an expert, the nominating body may change its nominee at any point and on doing so shall give notice to the Secretary to the Panel.

### **5. Term of Office**

5.1 A council may decide in accordance with its procedures to remove their appointed member from the Panel at any point and on doing so shall give notice in writing to the Secretary to the Panel.

5.2 An appointed member may resign from the Panel by giving notice in writing to the Secretary to the Panel and to their council.

5.3 In the event that any appointed member resigns from the Panel, or is removed by a council, the council shall immediately take steps to nominate and appoint an alternative member. Each Council should give notice in writing to the Secretary to the Panel that their member has been changed.

5.4 Members appointed to the Panel may be re-appointed for a further term provided that the balanced appointment objective is met by their reappointment. The term of office shall be for one year, with each council selecting its representative at its annual general meeting each year. There is no maximum number of terms that a member may serve.

5.5 The term of office of a member co-opted to the Panel to reflect better the Political balance across the Police Force area shall be for one year. The member may be co-opted for a further term provided that the balanced appointment objective is still met by their co-option.

## **6. Allowances**

6.1 Each council has the discretion to pay allowances to its representatives on the Panel. Any allowances payable to elected Members shall be determined and borne by the appointing councils.

6.2 The Lead Authority, on behalf of the Panel, may pay an allowance to the Independent Members and co-optees if this is agreed as part of the annual budget approved by the Panel.

6.3 The independent and co-opted members may claim allowances from the lead authority in accordance with the provisions contained within the lead authority's Members Allowances Scheme relating to "Co-opted Members of Committees Allowances" current at the time the duty was undertaken to which the claim relates.

## **7. Promotion of the Panel**

7.1 The Panel shall be promoted and supported by the Lead Authority through:

- (a) the issuing of regular press releases in consultation with the Chairman about the Panel and its work;
- (b) the inclusion of dedicated web pages on the work of the Panel, with the publication of Agendas and minutes. All reports and recommendations made, with responses from the Police and Crime Commissioner will be published.

## **8. Validity of proceedings**

8.1 The validity of the proceedings of the Panel is not affected by a vacancy in the membership or a defect in the appointment of a member.

## **9. Amendments to Terms of Reference, Panel Arrangements and Procedure Rules**

9.1 Any proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference, Panel Arrangements or the Procedure Rules of the Panel should be submitted to the Panel for its approval and may be submitted as and when required. In addition, the Panel will review and re-confirm its Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules annually.

## **ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

### **PROCEDURE RULES**

#### **1. Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

- 1.1 The Chairman will be elected during the Panel's first meeting, and then every year, and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.
- 1.2 The Vice-Chairman will be appointed during the Panel's first meeting, and then every year, and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.
- 1.3 In the event of the resignation of the Chairman or removal of the Chairman, a new Chairman will be appointed at the next meeting and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.

#### **2. Meetings**

- 2.1 There shall be a minimum of four ordinary meetings held in each municipal year to carry out the functions of the Panel. These meetings shall be open to the public except where such attendance is excluded by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. In addition, extraordinary meetings may be called from time to time, as required.
- 2.2 An extraordinary meeting may be called by the Chairman, by a group of five members of the Panel or by the Monitoring Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 2.3 In exceptional circumstances the Chairman may cancel or rearrange a meeting.

#### **3. Quorum**

- 3.1 A meeting of the Panel cannot take place unless one third of the whole number of its members is present. Under normal circumstances this would be five of the 15 council appointed members.

#### **4. Voting**

- 4.1 All members of the Panel may vote in proceedings of the Panel subject to the rules on declarations of interest.
- 4.2 One-third of the voting members present may require that the way all members cast their vote or abstained shall be recorded in the Minutes; such a request must be made before the vote is taken.

#### **5. Work Programme**

- 5.1 The Panel will be responsible for setting its own work programme taking into account the priorities defined by the Police and Crime Commissioner. In setting the work programme the Panel will also take into account the wishes of its members.
- 5.2 The work programme must include the functions set out in the Panel's terms of reference.

## **6. Agenda items**

6.1 Any member of the Panel shall be entitled to give notice to the Secretary to the Panel that he or she wishes an item relevant to the functions of the Panel to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting.

## **7. Reports from Police and Crime Panels**

7.1 Where the Panel makes a report to the Police and Crime Commissioner, it may publish the report or recommendations.

7.2 The Panel must by notice in writing require the Police and Crime Commissioner, as appropriate, within one month of the date on which he/she receives the report or recommendations:

- a) to consider the report or recommendations;
- b) to respond to the Panel indicating what (if any) action the Commissioner proposes to take;
- c) where the Panel has published the report or recommendations, publish the response;
- d) where the Panel has provided a copy of the report or recommendations to a member, provide a copy of the response to the member.

7.3 The publication of reports or recommendations is subject to the exclusion of any exempt or confidential information as defined in the rules on access to information in the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

7.4 If the Panel cannot unanimously agree on one single final report to the Police and Crime Commissioner then one separate report may be prepared and submitted for consideration along with the majority report.

## **8. Police and Crime Commissioner and Officers Giving Account**

8.1 The Panel may scrutinise and review decisions made or actions taken in connection with the Police and Crime Commissioner's role. As well as reviewing documentation, in fulfilling its scrutiny role it may require the Police and Crime Commissioner, and members of the Commissioner's staff, to attend before the Panel (at reasonable notice) to answer any questions which appear to the Panel to be necessary in order to carry out its functions.

8.2 Where the Police and Crime Commissioner, or a member of the Commissioner's staff, is required to attend the Panel under this provision the Chairman will inform them in writing giving, where practical, 15 days' notice of the meeting. The notice will state the nature of the item on which he or she is required to attend to give account and whether any papers are required for production for the Panel. Where it is necessary to produce a report, sufficient time will be given to allow preparation of that report.

8.3 Where, in exceptional circumstances, the Police and Crime Commissioner is unable to attend on the required date, then an alternative date for attendance may be arranged following consultation with the Chairman of the Panel.

8.4 If the Panel require the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend before the Panel, the Panel may (at reasonable notice) request the Chief Constable to attend before the Panel on the same occasion to answer any questions which appear to the Panel to be necessary in order for it to carry out its functions.



## **9. Attendance by Others**

9.1 The Panel may invite people other than those referred to above to address it, discuss issues of local concern and/or answer questions. It may, for example, wish to hear from residents, stakeholders, councillors who are not members of the Panel and officers in other parts of the public sector and may invite such people to attend.

## **10. Sub-Committees and Task Groups**

10.1 The Panel may from time to time establish time-limited task groups to undertake specific task-based work.

10.2 The “special functions” of the Panel may not be discharged by a sub-committee of the Panel or a task group.

10.3 In this paragraph “special functions” means the following functions conferred on the Panel by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011:

- a) Section 28(3) (scrutiny of Police and Crime Plan);
- b) Section 28 (4) (scrutiny of annual report, produced in accordance with section 12 of the Police and Social Responsibility Act, 2011);
- c) Paragraphs 10 and 11 of Schedule 1 (review of senior appointments);
- d) Schedule 5 (issuing precepts); and
- e) Part 1 of Schedule 8 (scrutiny of appointment of the Chief Constable).

10.4 The work undertaken by a sub-committee or task group will be scoped and defined beforehand, together with the timeframe within which the work is to be completed and the reporting time for the outcome of the work.

10.5 Where it is not possible to reach a consensus, attempts will be made to reflect minority views within the report but there is no provision for minority reports.

10.6 Sub-Committee and Task Group reports shall be reviewed by the Panel which will decide whether to ratify the findings and / or recommendations.

10.7 Paragraphs 8 (Police and Crime Commissioner and Officers giving account) and 9 (Attendance by Others) shall apply to Sub-Committees and Task Groups in the same way as they apply to the Panel.

## **11. Carrying out “Special Functions”**

Reports and recommendations made in relation to the functions outlined in the terms of reference will be carried out in accordance with the procedure outlined at (7).

## **12 Police and Crime Plan**

12.1 The Panel is a statutory consultee on the development of the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan and will receive a copy of the draft Plan, or a draft of any variation to it, from the Commissioner.

## 12.2 The Panel must:

- a) hold a public meeting to review the draft Police and Crime Plan (or a variation to it), and
- b) report or make recommendations on the draft Plan which the Commissioner must take into account.

## 13 Annual Report

13.1 The Commissioner must produce an Annual Report about the exercise of their functions in the financial year and progress in meeting police and crime objectives in the year. The report must be sent to the Panel for consideration.

13.2 The Panel must comment upon the Annual Report, and for that purpose must:

- a) arrange for a public meeting of the Panel to be held as soon as practicable after the Panel receives the Annual Report;
- b) require the Commissioner to attend the meeting to present the Annual Report and answer such questions about the Annual Report as the Panel think appropriate;
- c) make a report or recommendations on the Annual Report to the Commissioner.

## 14 Senior appointments

14.1 The Panel has powers to review the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. The Panel is required to hold public confirmatory hearings for these posts.

14.2 The Panel will be notified of the need for a confirmatory hearing in respect of proposed senior appointments made by the Police and Crime Commissioner. This will be held at the next available meeting of the Panel unless the appointment timescale requires an earlier hearing, in which case an extraordinary meeting will be arranged.

14.3 With regard to the appointment of the Chief Constable, the Panel is required to hold a hearing within the period of three weeks from the day on which the Panel receives notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner which will include:

- (a) the name of the candidate;
- (b) the criteria used to assess the suitability of the candidate for the appointment;
- (c) why the candidate satisfies those criteria; and
- (d) the terms and conditions on which the candidate is to be appointed.

14.4 Confirmatory hearings will be held in public, where the candidate is requested to appear for the purpose of answering questions relating to the appointment. Following this hearing, the Panel is required to review the proposed appointment and make a report to the Commissioner on the appointment.

14.5 For a confirmatory hearing for the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable, in addition to the requirement to review and report, the Panel has the requirement to make a recommendation on the appointment and the power to veto the appointment.

14.6 Having considered the appointment, the Panel will be asked either:

- a) to support the appointment without qualification or comment;
- b) to support the appointment with associated recommendations, or

- c) to veto the appointment of the Chief Constable (by the required majority of at least two thirds of the persons who are members of the Panel at the time when the decision is made).

14.7 If the Panel vetoes the appointment of the candidate, the report to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed the appointment with reasons.

## **15. Appointment of an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner**

15.1 The Panel must appoint a person to act as Police and Crime Commissioner if:

- a) no person holds the office of Police and Crime Commissioner;
- b) the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated; or
- c) the Police and Crime Commissioner is suspended.

15.2 The Panel may appoint a person as acting commissioner only if the person is a member of the Police and Crime Commissioner's staff at the time of the appointment.

15.3 In appointing a person as acting commissioner in a case where the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated, the Panel must have regard to any representations made by the Commissioner in relation to the appointment.

15.4 The appointment of an acting commissioner ceases to have effect upon the occurrence of the earliest of these events:

- a) the election of a person as Police and Crime Commissioner;
- b) the termination by the Panel, or by the acting commissioner, of the appointment of the acting commissioner;
- c) in a case where the acting commissioner is appointed because the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated, the Commissioner ceasing to be incapacitated, or
- d) in a case where the acting commissioner is appointed because the Police and Crime Commissioner is suspended, the Commissioner ceasing to be suspended.

## **16. Proposed precept**

16.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner will notify the Panel of the precept which the Commissioner is proposing to issue for the financial year. The Panel must review the proposed precept and make a report including recommendations.

16.2 Having considered the precept, the Panel will either:

- a) support the precept without qualification or comment;
- b) support the precept and make recommendations, or
- c) veto the proposed precept (by the required majority of at least two thirds of the persons who are members of the panel at the time when the decision is made).

16.3 If the Panel vetoes the proposed precept, the report to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed the proposed precept with reasons. The Panel will require a response to the report and any recommendations.

## **17 Complaints**

17.1 Non-criminal complaints in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner or other office holders can be considered by the Panel through a hearing. The Panel can examine this through a sub-committee following the procedure rules at 10 above.

17.2 A Panel may suspend the Police and Crime Commissioner if it appears to the Panel that

- a) the Commissioner has been charged in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man with an offence, and
- b) the offence is one which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years.

17.3 The suspension of the Police and Crime Commissioner ceases to have effect upon the occurrence of the earliest of these events:

- a) the charge being dropped;
- b) the Police and Crime Commissioner being acquitted of the offence;
- c) the Police and Crime Commissioner being convicted of the offence but not being disqualified under Section 66 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act by virtue of the conviction; or
- d) the termination of the suspension by the Panel.

17.4 In this section references to an offence which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years are references to:

- a) an offence which carries such a maximum term in the case of a person who has attained the age of 18 years, or
- b) an offence for which, in the case of such a person, the sentence is fixed by law as life imprisonment.

## **18. Suspension and Removal of the Chief Constable**

18.1 If the Commissioner suspends the Chief Constable from duty the Commissioner must notify the Panel of the suspension.

18.2 A Commissioner must not call upon a Chief Constable to retire until the end of the scrutiny process which will occur:

- (a) at the end of six weeks from the Panel having received notification if the Panel has not by then given the Commissioner a recommendation as to whether or not they should call for the retirement or resignation; or
- (b) the Commissioner notifies the Panel of a decision as to whether they accept the Panel's recommendations in relation to resignation or retirement.

18.3 The Commissioner must also notify the Panel in writing of their proposal to call upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign together with a copy of the reasons given to the Chief Constable and any representation from the Chief Constable in relation to that proposal.

18.4 If the Commissioner is still proposing to call upon the Chief Constable to resign, they must notify the Panel accordingly (the "further notification").

18.5 Within six weeks from the date of receiving the further notification, the Panel must make a recommendation in writing to the Commissioner as to whether or not they

should call for the retirement or resignation. Before making any recommendation, the Panel may consult the chief inspector of constabulary, and must hold a scrutiny meeting.

18.6 The scrutiny hearing which must be held by the Panel is a Panel meeting in private to which the Commissioner and Chief Constable are entitled to attend to make representations in relation to the proposal to call upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign. Appearance at the scrutiny hearing can be by attending in person, or participating by telephone or video link.

18.7 The Panel must publish the recommendation it makes by sending copies to each of the councils, and by any other means the Panel considers appropriate.

18.8 The Commissioner must consider the Panel's recommendation and may accept or reject it, notifying the Panel accordingly.

18.9 In calculating the six-week period, the post election period is ignored. The post election period begins with the day of the poll at an ordinary election of a Commissioner under section 50 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and ends with the day on which the person elected as Commissioner delivers a declaration of acceptance of office under section 70 of the 2011 Act.

## **Local resolution**

The legislation only provides for the Panel to resolve a complaint locally, and specifically rules out any 'investigation' of a complaint. Local resolution has been used as a central tenet of the Police Complaints process for a significant amount of time.

Local resolution provides a prompt, effective method of resolving a complaint, which satisfies the individual and ensures that the behaviour (either on an individual or organisational level) is not repeated. There is no prescribed method, as each case is taken on its merits. It is proven that this method - as opposed to becoming involved in the 'full' complaints process - is more likely to lead to a satisfactory resolution for all parties.

Whilst there is no set process, the Independent Police Complaints Commission suggests that local resolution could include:

- immediate resolution by providing information face-to-face or by telephone
- a letter explaining what has been done
- communication between the individual and the person the complaint was about
- a meeting with the person working on the complaint and/or the person the complaint was about (but only if this is agreed by all parties).

and that the result could be to:

- give the individual information or an explanation to clear up a misunderstanding
- learn from the complaint, accepting that something could have been handled better and explaining what has been done to stop the same thing happening again
- arrange action by a manager to change the way the person behaves
- apologise on behalf of the person the complaint was about, but only if they agree to this.
- provide training, advice or other support to the person complained about.

However, this is not a definitive list, and some of the methods (such as immediate resolution) are more suited to complaints made in person at a Police Station, as opposed to ones made against the Commissioner.

## **Serious complaints**

The definition of a serious complaint is one where an allegation is made of conduct which constitutes a criminal offence. These complaints must be referred to the IPCC. Unusually, there is no process of appeal.

## **Procedure**

The initial assessment of complaints is delegated to officers of the host council. Whilst there are reasons why it would make sense to delegate the initial assessment to the Commissioner's Chief Executive / Monitoring Officer there remains the question of the public perception of the independence of the process.

The Panel acts as a central point for the collation and recording of all complaints (including any referred to the IPCC) and as a "gateway" to the procedures for dealing with non-criminal and criminal complaints about the Commissioner or his Deputy. Complaints will be acknowledged within one week of receipt with an explanation of how the complaint will be handled.

1. In the first instance a decision needs to be taken as to whether the complaint is one for the Panel to deal with.

The Panel will not deal with a complaint if it concerns conduct matters or has a criminal element which justifies referral to the IPCC. If referred to the IPCC the complainant and other parties will be advised accordingly within three weeks of the receipt of the complaint. The IPCC will decide whether or not to investigate or to refer the matter back to the Panel to handle.

The Panel will not deal with a complaint if it relates to the delivery of operational policing matters which should be referred to the Chief Constable.

The Panel will decline to deal with a complaint on the basis that it represents a disagreement about a particular policy / decision of the Commissioner.

The Panel will take no action in relation to a complaint:

- where it relates to an employment issue
- it is more than 12 months' old
- it is already the subject of a complaint
- it is anonymous, vexatious, oppressive or an abuse of the procedures or repetitious.

The complainant will then be notified of a decision to take no action and the grounds for that decision, normally within three weeks of the receipt of the complaint.

The decision to refer a complaint to the IPCC or decline to deal with it on the grounds set out above will be delegated to the County Council's Head of Democratic Services.

## 2. Dealing with a complaint that falls within the Panel's remit

If the complaint clearly relates to non-criminal matters (e.g. allegations of rudeness, inappropriate reference to people, places, issues, or spent convictions) and is not covered by the circumstances set out above it will be dealt with by the Panel by informal resolution.

The decision not to proceed with the complaint, based on the evidence provided or having first requested a report from the OPCC, will be taken by the County Council's Head of Democratic Services. The grounds for declining to take further action would be that:

- the complaint is considered to be trivial
- the problem no longer exists
- there would be no benefit in taking it further
- the complainant has received a satisfactory response
- an apology will suffice.

If the Head of Democratic Services considers that the complaint is justified and requires further consideration she will refer it to the County Council's Monitoring Officer who is delegated to confirm the decision or on reflection decide not to proceed. This decision will normally be notified within six weeks of the receipt of the complaint.

If the complainant is unhappy with an initial assessment not to proceed they can appeal to the Monitoring Officer who will decide whether or not to refer the matter to a sub-committee of the panel for consideration.

Where a complaint is considered by the County Council's Monitoring Officer to justify further consideration the Secretary to the Panel will arrange a meeting of a sub-committee comprising the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one other member to decide on a local resolution. A complaint cannot be formally investigated, although requiring the relevant office holder to provide information or documents or summoning him to appear before the Panel does not count as investigation. Other steps designed to gather information about or corroborate the complaint such as taking statements from witnesses or seeking documents from other parties are prohibited.

Informal resolution might involve:

- providing information
- an apology
- concluding the matter through correspondence explaining the circumstances.

The complainant will be kept informed of the timescales involved.

The Sub-Committee's decisions will be reported to the Panel.

It is also considered that it is sensible to have a separate process in place for dealing with vexatious / repetitious complaints.

## **Guidance note on the management of unreasonable complainant behaviour**

### **1. Introduction**

The Essex Police and Crime Panel is committed to providing a high quality response to members of the public making complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex or his Deputy. Usually, consideration of a complaint is a straightforward process; but in a small number of cases complainants may begin to pursue a particular complaint in a manner that hinders the review of the complaint or unfairly takes officers supporting the Panel from their other duties. Similarly, complainants who have their complaints resolved may continue to pursue their complaint or request outcomes that it is not possible to deliver. The aim of this guidance is to let complainants know what is considered to be unreasonable behaviour, the options available to the Panel and the possible consequences for the individual.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and subsequent regulations set out the powers of the Panel in resolving or closing complaints made against the Commissioner or his Deputy. The legislation is clear that consideration of a complaint by the Panel should not amount to an investigation. As such, the Panel is limited in the steps it can take to review a complaint, and the recommendations it can make as a result. There may be times when a complainant may not be satisfied by the outcome. Should a complainant not be satisfied with the response to a complaint it is open for them to refer the case to the Local Government Ombudsman.

This guidance will only be invoked after careful consideration and in exceptional circumstances. Individuals may have justified complaints but may pursue them in an inappropriate way or may be intent on pursuing complaints which appear to have no



substance or which have already been investigated and determined. If so, a decision may be taken to restrict the contact that person has with the Panel or its officers.

If the Panel decides to invoke the guidance, the complainant will be notified as to why his or her behaviour is considered to fall into that category and what action is being taken.

## **2. What is meant by “unreasonable complainant behaviour”?**

The Panel has adopted the definition used by the Local Government Ombudsman.

Unreasonable complainant behaviour occurs where:

- there is repeated and obsessive pursuit of a complaint which appears to have no substance or which has been investigated and determined;
- the contact may be amicable but still place very heavy demands on officer or Member time, or may be very emotionally charged and distressing for all involved;
- there is an escalation of behaviour which is unacceptable, for example abusive, offensive or threatening.

Examples include the way or the frequency with which complainants raise their complaint or how complainants respond when they are informed of the outcome of their complaint. The Annex to this guidance lists a range of situations considered to be examples of unreasonable behaviour.

## **3. Considerations to be addressed before taking action to restrict access**

Before deciding whether the guidance should be applied, the Panel will consider and satisfy itself that:

- the complaint is being or has been reviewed properly, and any decision reached has been appropriate based on the information presented at the time;
- communications with the complainant have been adequate and within the Panel's policies;
- any decision reached has been reviewed and is found to be appropriate;
- the complainant has not provided any significant new information that justifies a further review;
- there is no other more specific path for the complainant to follow when they are complaining about a decision taken.

Some individuals that may be considered to be unreasonable complainants may be behaving this way because of a specific circumstance or difficulty. Where this is indicated the Panel will take this into account in determining the reasonableness of the complaint made.

Any restrictive actions that may be taken will be based on the circumstances and behaviour of the individual and their complaint.

## **4. Possible Actions**

Examples of actions to be taken to restrict access and contact are as follows:

- restricting telephone calls to specified days / times / duration;
- limiting the complainant to one medium of contact;
- requiring the complainant to communicate only with one named member of staff;

- restricting the amount of time the Panel and its officers will spend reviewing the complaint;
- letting the complainant know that the Panel will not reply to or acknowledge any further contact from them on the specific complaint;
- refusing to register and process further complaints about the same matter;
- severely reducing responses or not responding to a particular complaint.

## **5. Action to be taken when imposing restrictions**

The Panel will document clearly why the complainant's behaviour is causing concern and outline how the behaviour needs to change. The complainant will receive in writing an explanation of the actions that may be taken if their behaviour does not change together with a copy of the guidance. All letters will include:

- the reasons for the decision;
- the specific action being taken;
- the date the decision will be reviewed;
- the circumstances that might prompt a review of the decision in advance of that date e.g. relevant new information;
- the right of the complainant to make a referral to the Local Government Ombudsman.

A log of the decision made and the records of all contacts with the complainant will be kept. This information will be treated as confidential and only shared with those who may be affected by the decision in order for them to carry out their role at work.

Key information to be recorded includes, when a decision is taken:

- not to apply the guidance when a member of staff asks for this to be done; or
- to make an exception to the guidance once it has been applied; or
- not to respond to further correspondence unless there is evidence of any significant new information.

Any further contact from the complainant, for example on a new issue, will be treated on its merits.

All officers and members who have experienced unreasonable complainant behaviour relating to the specific complaint will be informed of the decision to impose contact restrictions.

## **6. Reviewing the decision to restrict access**

When imposing a restriction on access a specified review date will be set. Once that date has been reached restriction should be lifted and relationships returned to normal unless there are good grounds to extend the restriction to a new review date. The complainant will be informed accordingly.

## **7. Harassment and bullying**

Unreasonable complainant behaviour may amount to bullying or harassment. All members and officers have the right to be treated with respect and dignity in the workplace. Behaviour by third parties that bullies, harasses or intimidates individuals is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All reasonable steps will be taken to prevent such behaviour.

**8. Delegation of authority to invoke this guidance**

Decisions to take action in accordance with this guidance will be taken by a Sub-Committee of the Panel comprising the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one other member.

## Examples of unreasonable behaviour of complainants

The list is not exhaustive, nor does one single feature on its own necessarily imply that the person will be considered as being in this category. Unreasonable behaviour may include:

- having insufficient or no grounds for their complaint;
- making the complaint only to annoy;
- refusing to specify the grounds of a complaint despite a request to do so;
- refusing to co-operate with the complaints process whilst still wishing the complaint to be resolved;
- refusing to accept that issues are not within the remit of the complaints policy and procedure despite having been provided with information about the scope of the policy and procedure;
- refusing to accept that issues are not within the power of the Panel to review, change or influence, for example a complaint about something that is the responsibility of another organisation;
- insisting that the complaint be dealt with in ways which are incompatible with the complaints procedure or with good practice (insisting, for instance, that there must not be any written record of the complaint);
- making what appear to be groundless complaints about those handling the complaint and seeking to have them disciplined, dismissed or replaced;
- making an unreasonable number of contacts by any means;
- making persistent and unreasonable demands or expectations of staff and / or the complaints process after the unreasonableness has been explained to the complainant, for example insisting on immediate responses to numerous, frequent and / or complex letters, faxes, telephone calls or e mails;
- harassing or verbally abusing or otherwise seeking to intimidate members or officers dealing with their complaint by the use of foul or inappropriate language or by the use of offensive and racist language;
- raising subsidiary or new issues whilst a complaint is being addressed that were not part of the complaint at the start of the process;
- introducing trivial or irrelevant new information whilst the complaint is being reviewed outside of the period given for additional comments and expecting this to be taken into account and commented on;
- changing the substance or basis of the complaint without reasonable justification whilst the complaint is being addressed;
- denying statements made at an earlier stage in the complaint process;
- electronically recording conversations without the prior knowledge and consent of the other person involved;
- refusing to accept the outcome of the complaint process after its conclusion, repeatedly arguing the point, complaining about the outcome, and / or denying that an adequate response has been given;
- making the same complaint repeatedly, perhaps with minor differences, after the complaint procedure has been concluded, and insisting that the minor

differences make it a “new” complaint which should be put through the full complaints procedure from the beginning;

- complaining about or challenging an issue based on a historic and irreversible decision or incident; or
- a combination of some or all of the above.

## **Ethics and Integrity of Essex Policing Sub-Committee**

### **Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules:**

#### **Terms of Reference**

To scrutinise the Commissioner’s performance in relation to ethics and integrity and, where appropriate, provide support, in order to ensure that the highest standards of ethics and integrity of policing are maintained in Essex, both currently and in the future.

#### **Procedure Rules**

After each meeting the Sub-Committee will report back to the next available ordinary meeting of the Essex Police and Crime Panel.

The Sub-Committee has no decision-making powers but may make recommendations to the Commissioner and to the Panel and will monitor progress against such recommendations.

The Sub Committee will at all times have regard to the College of Policing Code of Ethics, the Nolan Principles and any other statutory or non-statutory code or guidance relevant to the ethics and integrity of policing. They will also consider the PCC’s own Ethics and Integrity Framework.

The Committee will meet at least twice a year and its meetings will be governed by schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Sub-Committee has no role in reviewing operational issues or individual cases but may have regard to relevant themes emerging from operational issues and how they have been dealt with.

The Sub-Committee has no involvement in complaints made against individual police officers or members of police staff but may have regard to themes emerging from such complaints and how they have been dealt with.

#### **Definitions:**

For the purposes of the work of the Sub-Committee, the following definitions shall apply:

##### **Integrity:**

The conviction that Essex Police should comply, not only with the letter but also with the spirit of the law and with Police Regulations, and that Essex Police Officers and staff behave in a way that commands public trust and confidence. This includes the moral courage to do what is right regardless of personal interest or influence.

##### **Ethics:**

- (i) The setting out of the behaviours, values and beliefs which underpin policing in Essex and which the public believe to be morally right for those upholding the law; and
- (ii) Police officers and members of police staff consistently demonstrating those behaviours, values and beliefs.

#### **Membership**

Three members of the Panel appointed at the Annual meeting.

The Commissioner and Officers giving account and the attendance by others  
The Sub-Committee may request the Commissioner to invite specific staff or officers or may invite individuals to attend meetings who it considers can contribute to any particular matter which it is to discuss.

#### Work programme

To enable forward planning and preparation for meetings, the sub-committee shall agree and keep under review a work programme of proposed areas and themes of focus. This will not prevent additional themes being added or changes made when agreed necessary by the Sub-Committee.

Essex Police and Crime Panel	<b>EPCP/08/17</b>
Date: 1 June 2017	

## **Update on the Local Business Case for Joint Governance of Police and Fire & Rescue Services in Essex**

Report by the Chief Executive of the OPCC to the Panel

Enquiries to:

Susannah Hancock, Chief Executive, 01245 291613

[susannah.hancock@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:susannah.hancock@essex.pnn.police.uk)

### **1. Purpose of report**

This paper updates the Police and Crime Panel on progress made in relation to the local business case for joint governance of Police and Fire & Rescue Services in Essex.

### **2. Recommendation**

It is recommended that Police and Crime Panel members:

1. Note the results of the PCC's public consultation in relation to joint governance of Police and Fire & Rescue Services in Essex;
2. Note the final version of Local Business Case for Joint Governance of Police and Fire & Rescue in Essex which was submitted to the Home Office on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017; and
3. Note the proposed transition activities which will need to be undertaken prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017.

### **3. Results of public consultation**

The Policing and Crime Act stipulates that the PCC must consult the top tier local authorities and the public on the Local Business Case before submission to the Home Secretary for a decision.

The Local Business assesses the options, as set out in the new Policing and Crime Act, for changes to governance of the Fire Service.

The PCC undertook a 12 week consultation with the public, top tier local authorities, police and fire & rescue staff and wider stakeholders from the 16th February to the 10th May 2017.

During this consultation period a large range of engagement activities took place to obtain the views of as many stakeholders and members of the public as possible. The highlights of the results of public consultation are as follows:

- A letter was received from Thurrock Council in support of the Joint Governance option.
- A letter was received from Southend-on-Sea Borough Council in support of the Joint Governance option.
- A letter was received from Essex County Council in support of the Joint Governance option.
- Three letters were received signed by 17 MPs of Essex in support for the joint Governance option.
- There were 1708 individual responses received from members of the public through the consultation survey.
- The consultation results show that the joint governance option scored the highest in terms of potential benefits and ease of delivery.
- The PCC engaged the services of the Consultation Institute who provided independent expertise, advice and quality assurance on the consultation process, ensuring that it was equitable, accessible and delivered to a high standard. The Institute has confirmed that the consultation is consistent with industry good practice standards.
- A sub-group of the Police and Crime Panel were involved in reviewing the OPCC's evaluation of the consultation responses to ensure that the process was fair and transparent.

Further details of the results of the consultation can be found in Appendix F of the Local Business Case.

#### **4. Local Business Case**

The Office for the PCC has reviewed all feedback gathered during the consultation phase and collated it into the final version of the Local Business case, which was submitted to the Home Secretary on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017. All members of the Police and Crime Panel have received a copy of the document which was submitted to the Home Office. The final documentation is also available to the public on the PCC's website:

<http://www.essex.pcc.police.uk/localcaseforchange>

The Home Office have advised that if they received the final Local Business Case by the 19<sup>th</sup> May, they would be able to review it and, subject to agreement by the Home Secretary, produce the necessary Statutory Instruments for a 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 commencement date.

This is subject to the outcome of the forthcoming General Election.

#### **5. Transition activity**

In advance of a decision by the Home Office, the Office for the PCC has commenced initial work in planning for the transition. This work reports into the Emergency Services Strategic Governance Board which is chaired by the PCC and includes the Chair of the Fire Authority, the Acting Chief Fire Officer and the Chief Constable. The transition planning is being undertaken in close discussion and liaison with senior officers from ECFRS and Essex Police. A Transition Working Group has been established to take this work forward.

The aim of the transition programme (assuming the Home Office approve the decision) is to ensure a smooth as possible transfer to the new PCC Fire and Rescue Authority. A detailed



project plan is currently being developed, setting out what will need to be undertaken to enable these priorities to be achieved.

Key activities identified in the project plan include:

- **Constitution** - Develop a revised EFA constitution to reflect the new legislation and statutory order.
- **Governance Structure** - Review existing board structure and identify the appropriate structure to support the PCC-style FRA in their role of effectively governing ECFRS. This will need to be fed into the new constitution.
- **Statutory Roles** - Develop the role of the Statutory Chief Officers under a revised governance model. This will need to be fed into the new constitution.
- **Scheme of Delegation** - Develop a new PCC-style FRA Scheme of Delegation to the senior officers of the ECFRS.
- **Governance Meetings** – Review the existing planned business of the FRA, and realign work to the new governance structure including setting a series of meeting dates for the new boards which will support the PCC FRA.
- **Formation of Police, Fire and Crime Panel** - Liaison with Essex County Council's Secretariat team regarding the development of the revised Terms of Reference for the new Police Crime and Fire Panel.
- **Staff Formal Consultation** – Undertake a formal consultation of all staff on their transfer to the PCC-style FRA.
- **Communication Plan** - Develop an internal communication plan for activity supporting the roll out of the new governance model.

The transition plan will continue to be developed by the OPCC, ECFRS and Essex Police, with progress reported into the Emergency Services Strategic Governance Board.

## **6. Next steps:**

The Local Business Case has now been submitted to the Home Office. The Home Office will review the case and the Home Secretary will make a decision.

The PCC will advise the Panel of the Home Secretary's decision at the earliest opportunity, once he has received confirmation of the decision.



Essex Police and Crime Panel	<b>EPCP/09/17</b>
Date: 1 June 2017	

**The Future of the Panel**

Report by the Secretary to the Panel

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Enquiries to: Robert Fox

**Purpose of report**

To consider what actions are required for reviewing the role of the Panel in holding the Commissioner to account if and when he assumes responsibility for the Fire Service.

Specifically, the Panel should consider its response to the following options:

- to review its membership and composition in the short and long-term
- to consider the knowledge, experience and developmental needs of the Panel.
- to consider if there would be any advantage in having a “buddy” system provided by members of the former EFA.
- to review its terms of reference and procedure rules to make sure they are fit for purpose.
- depending on the timescales available, to consider having a “shadow” role for the Panel in relation to Fire Service-related matters.
- To hold an additional meeting of the Panel in September to focus on the Commissioner’s new role and Fire Service-related matters.

**Background**

The Fire Authority had been keen to set up a task and finish group with members of the Police and Crime Panel to discuss the potential future role of the Panel when and if the Fire and Rescue Service comes under the governance of the Commissioner.

A copy of the note of that meeting is attached.

Following on from the meeting good contact has been established with the LGA over the role of the Panel which has increased opportunities to influence the thinking of the Home Office. Initial enquiries have resulted in the following information from the LGA. Not much in the way of new regulation is expected, although the existing regulations will need to be looked over and possibly tweaked. The panel is likely to

have broadly the same role on fire as it does in respect of the police. So they won't be expected to look at operational matters, but they will be expected to scrutinise the decisions the Commissioner makes in respect of the fire service and look at any complaints received about the Commissioner. For much of the Panel's area of responsibilities it is expected that the policing and fire elements will be wrapped up together. Although police and fire budgets will remain separate, it is not anticipated there would be separate consideration of the fire precept – it will be part of the wider discussion about the police precept. Similarly it is likely that the police and crime plan will be expanded to include fire elements rather than there being a separate plan. There will be no statutory requirement for confirmation hearings for chief fire officer appointments.

Panel Members have been provided with links to the papers for Fire Authority meetings and reminded they are able to attend.

**Action notes arising from a meeting of the Essex Emergency Services  
Collaboration Joint EFA/PCP Task and Finish Group held at Fire HQ, Kelvedon  
Park, Rivenhall on Wednesday, 1 March 2017**

**Essex Fire Authority (EFA)**

Councillors Blackwell, Guglielmi, Hedley and McEwen

**Essex Police and Crime Panel (EPCP)**

Councillors Schmidt and Shepherd and John Gili-Ross

**Apologies**

Kay Odysseos, EPCP, and Councillor Woodley, EFA

**Officers**

Adam Eckley	EFRS
Susannah Hancock	OPCC
Anna Hook	ECC
Colin Ismay	ECC

**Terms of Reference**

The Fire Authority had been keen to set up a task and finish group with members of the Police and Crime Panel to discuss the potential future role of the Panel when and if the Fire and Rescue Service comes under the governance of the Commissioner.

Discussion focussed on how the Panel might ensure it has the appropriate level of fire focus / knowledge to inform its discussions; and what resources might it need to scrutinise the Commissioner to the same extent that it does for Police matters.

**Action points arising from the discussion**

- The role of the Panel was clarified in relation to the powers of the Fire Authority that will transfer to the Commissioner.
- It was acknowledged that this discussion was taking place without advice being available from the LGA or the Home Office. Anna Hook / Colin Ismay to see if there is any guidance available from the LGA and to explore if there are any opportunities to lobby the Home Office to ensure the Panel has the necessary resources and sufficient sanctions to be able to fulfil its role in a meaningful way.
- To fulfil its role the Panel (a) relies on the good will and co-operation of the Commissioner and his Office; (b) needs good reports and information from the Commissioner; and (c) advice and support from officers of the lead authority as currently provided by Anna Hook and Colin Ismay in relation to Police matters.
- Colin Ismay will arrange for a report to the Panel for it:
  - to review its membership and composition in the short and long-term. The membership must comprise one councillor from each of the 15 local authorities in Essex and two independent members. The Panel may co-

opt further members on to the Panel provided the overall size does not exceed 20 and the Secretary of State approves the co-options. Co-optees can be used to fill experience, knowledge and skills gaps to help make the Panel more effective.

- to consider the knowledge, experience and developmental needs of the Panel.
  - to consider if there would be any advantage in having a “buddy” system provided by members of the former EFA.
  - to review its terms of reference and procedure rules to make sure they are fit for purpose.
  - Depending on the timescales available, to consider having a “shadow” role for the Panel in relation to Fire Service-related matters.
- Colin Ismay to explore with Susannah Hancock the possibility of an additional meeting of the Panel in September to focus on the Commissioner’s new role and Fire Service-related matters.
  - Colin Ismay to provide Panel Members to links to the papers for Fire Authority meetings and to remind them they are able to attend.

**AGENDA ITEM 11**

Essex Police and Crime Panel	<b>EPCP/10/17</b>
Date: Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2017	

**Update on Domestic Abuse**

Report by: Greg Myddelton (OPCC) and Supt. Tom Simons (Essex Police)

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Enquiries to: Greg Myddelton (OPCC)  
 Telephone: 01245 291644  
 Email: greg.myddelton@essex.pnn.police.uk

**1.0 Purpose of Report:**

This report provides an update to the Police and Crime Panel on key developments related to priority 3 in the Police and Crime Plan: Breaking the cycle of Domestic Abuse.

**2.0 Recommendation:**

That members note the report.

**3.0 Decisions Sought:**

None

#### 4.0 **Police and Crime Plan**

*Breaking the Cycle of Domestic Abuse* is one of the key priorities within the new Police and Crime Plan. The plan commits to working with the Domestic Abuse Strategic Board to deliver an ambitious programme of transformation as follows:

- Improve our response to domestic abuse as set out in the SET DA Joint Commissioning Strategy
- Support victims and their families affected by domestic abuse to feel safe, cope and recover through help and jointly commissioned services
- Ensure children and young people affected by domestic abuse are informed about healthy relationships and work with schools in the delivery of education and prevention programmes.
- Train and develop front line professional to recognise the signs and indicators of domestic abuse and to know how and where to go to for help
- Provide more safe ways for victims to report domestic abuse and access support
- Focus on prevention through the delivery of high impact awareness raising campaigns
- Support victims of domestic abuse who have also experienced sexual abuse, ensuring they receive the specialist help and advice the need.
- Bring more perpetrators to justice by the further roll out of body worn video cameras for frontline police officers
- Tackle offending behaviour through robust behaviour change programmes to break the cycle of domestic abuse

Performance against DA outcomes and objectives are monitored through the Domestic Abuse Strategic Board performance dashboard, which is presented to the Board each quarter and shared across the partnership.

#### **The latest Essex Police performance data shows:**

- The volume of DA crime has increased at force level by 7.2% (918 more offences) since the last financial year 2015-2016.
- Southend had the highest volume of DA crime during the year 2015-2016 with 1,642 offences. Basildon had the largest number of crimes in the year 2016-2017 with 1,688 offences.
- Brentwood has had the highest numerical increase when comparing the 307 DA crimes in 2015-2016 with the 482 DA crimes in 2016-2017 (175 more offences, 57.0% increase).
- There has been a decline in medium and high risk DA offences (from 3,726 to 2603, and 6,977 to 5,875 respectively) and an increase in standard risk DA offences (3,197 more offences). This is in part as a result of a new process of secondary risk assessment (see section 10).
- Whilst the levels of DA in Essex continue to be of significant concern, nevertheless the increase in reporting is also a positive indication that more victims are confident to come forward and report.



## 5.0 **Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership**

The Essex Domestic Abuse Partnership, encompassing partners from across Essex, Southend and Thurrock including local authorities, PCC, police, health, social care, probation and housing, and supported by a reference group of voluntary and community sector organisations, published a joint strategy for addressing domestic abuse in 2015. The aim of the strategy is to enable consistent and coordinated activity, bringing partner resources together to break the cycle of domestic abuse. The strategy focuses on five shared outcomes:

- Young people enjoy healthy relationships
- Victims (adults and children) and those at risk of experiencing domestic abuse feel and are safe
- Victims (adults and children) are able to recover and move on to live independently
- Perpetrators are prevented from causing physical and emotional harm
- Communities have a greater awareness of what an abusive relationship is, how to report it, and as a consequence feel safer

The strategy is governed by the SET Domestic Abuse Strategic Board, supported by a joint commissioning group and reference group. The partnership recently adopted a broader definition of domestic abuse, in line with the Home Office definition, to incorporate so called 'Honour' Based Abuse (HBA), forced marriage, and stalking.

The Police Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable are members of the Strategic Board and actively support the Domestic Abuse programme.

## 6.0 **Work to support Victims:**

### **Essex IDVA Service**

The PCC jointly commissions the countywide Essex Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) service with the three upper-tier authorities. This service commenced in April 2015 on a three year contract. Over the last two years, this service has ensured that all high-risk victims of domestic abuse are given the opportunity to access specialist support from an IDVA. The service provider; Safer Places, have consistently delivered on the contracted outcomes despite referral volumes being 50% more than the year before the contract commenced. In the year 2016/17, 3,500 referrals were made to the service, with 85% coming from Essex Police. A quarter of referrals were from Basildon, with Colchester and Southend providing 19% and 15% respectively. The aim of the IDVA service is to provide immediate, short-term advocacy and support to an individual to reduce their risk of harm. The table below summarises the performance of the IDVA service over the last year.

## 2016-17 IDVA service performance

Measure	National KPI	Essex IDVA service performance
Cessation of abuse	50%	66%
IDVA reported reduction in risk of further harm	50%	69%
Victim reported improved feelings of safety	50%	71%
Victim reported quality of life improvements	40%	67%

Acknowledging the positive performance of the IDVA service, the Domestic Abuse Board recently approved the decision to extend the current contract by one year up to the end of March 2019.

Additional commissioned support services are also in place for DA victims within Refuges and also in the community. This is delivered through the *Community Support* contract. ECC are the lead commissioners for this contract, with the OPCC and wider partners also engaged.

In addition, there are a number of health based pilots in place, delivering services to DA victims in hospital and GP settings. These approaches are being piloted to inform future commissioning.

## 7.0 Work to tackle perpetrators

The PCC and the Domestic Abuse Board are increasing their focus on work to tackle perpetrators of domestic abuse. In taking this forward, Essex is part of a national pilot to test out new approaches to DA offending behaviour change programmes.

The districts of Colchester and Tendring have been selected as a pilot site for a three year domestic abuse perpetrator initiative along with two other areas in Sussex and South Wales. This programme seeks to engage with high risk perpetrators of abuse to address their offending behaviour; deploying both support and disruption activity over a period of ten months. The pilot programme commenced in April 2016 and following the first year the Drive programme nationally has been able to demonstrate increases in victim safety, reductions in abusive behaviour, and improved perpetrator understanding of abuse following intervention from the Drive initiative. The Essex pilot as yet does not have sufficient quantitative data available to make such claims, but where interventions have taken place, case studies provide examples of the positive impact of interventions. Drive is part funded by the PCC, Essex County Council and Social Finance. An independent evaluation of Drive is being undertaken by the University of Bristol. This will inform the development of future programmes.

In addition, in February 2017, the PCC led a bid to the Home Office for a new pilot project to improve arrangements for working with perpetrators to prevent escalation of risk to victims. Whilst decisions on the bid (to the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategic Transformation Programme) have been delayed due to the national pre-

election period, nevertheless we expect to hear back from the Home Office after the election with a funding decision.

## **8.0 Southend, Essex and Thurrock Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs)**

The new MARAC processes for Southend, Essex and Thurrock were implemented in July 2016. Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Teams (MARATs) are now in place in Southend and Essex, whilst in Thurrock MARAC processes are part of their Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) arrangements. To manage the volume of high risk domestic abuse referrals made to the MARACs, they are held weekly in both Southend and Thurrock, and daily in Essex. This has helped to improve the timeliness and quality of the MARAT process. The MARAT team involves practitioners from police, social care, probation, health, housing and IDVAs. The teams risk assess cases and ensure safety plans are in place for the victim, alongside action to tackle the behaviour of the perpetrator.

All three areas have recently reviewed their services and a number of common themes have been identified:

- **Timeliness of Hearing Cases**  
All areas reported improvements in timeliness of referrals being heard in MARAC; by December 2016, all cases were being heard within 14 days of referral.
- **Non Police Referrals**  
Southend and Essex reported that they had increasing numbers of other partner agency referrals being made into the MARACs. All areas identified the need to continue to increase the number of partner agencies referrals.
- **Action Planning**  
It was identified that there would be benefit in widening the pool of agencies in attendance at MARAC to include mental health and adult social care.
- **Voice of Victim**  
All MARAC action plans include nominating an agency to provide feedback to a victim post meeting. All three areas have now started to implement processes to collect MARAC victim feedback to inform on the effectiveness of the MARAC safety planning processes from the victims' perspective.
- **Business Continuity and Sustainability**  
All areas noted the need to continue to engage with partners involved in the MARATs and MASH to ensure consistent engagement and resourcing of the multi-agency teams.

An end of year (end of financial year 16/17) MARAT report is currently being prepared and will be circulated to all partners.

## **9.0 Centralised Domestic Homicide Review Process**

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims' Act (2004). The statutory requirements for initiating and undertaking a DHR sit with the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in which the victim was normally resident.

Within Southend, Essex and Thurrock, the 13 local Community Safety Partnerships currently commission their own reviews independently from each other. This means that there is not always a consistent approach to DHRs and that lessons learned are not always shared and applied on a countywide basis. Producing a Domestic Homicide Review can be lengthy and complex. Whilst some CSPs have completed several reviews and will have developed a level of expertise around the processes, others have commissioned reviews infrequently or not at all; therefore review processes may vary from area to area.

Discussions with the Home Office have indicated that a new more flexible and proportionate approach can be adopted whilst still complying with legislation and Home Office guidelines. As a result it has been proposed to centralise the DHR process across Southend, Essex and Thurrock. The consultation period concluded at the end of March 2017 and all of the CSPs supported the proposal.

Centralised resources will be used to support all review processes, maintain a single set of procedures, engage independent chairs and monitor implementation of recommendations. Centralisation would not mean taking overall responsibility for DHRs away from individual CSPs – they would still hold the statutory responsibility as per Home Office guidance and would be fully involved in the process.

A more flexible approach to DHRs is proposed whereby a multi-agency group would work with CSPs to consider the available information and circumstances to decide the scale of review required – a full multi-agency review, a lighter touch multi-agency review or single agency review.

A central DHR budget would be created by top-slicing a small percentage (12%) of the PCC funding allocation to CSPs. This, alongside an additional contribution from the PCC (£35,000), will fund:

- Co-ordination of the DHR process
- Administration of the DHR panels
- Funding for independent chairs
- Lesson learning seminars; and,
- Monitoring and reporting on DHR recommendations and their implementation

The new process will be in place from July 2017.

## **10.0 Essex Police Juno Teams (Dedicated Domestic Abuse Investigators)**

Following an initial pilot in the South Local Policing Area (LPA) in 2014, dedicated Domestic Abuse Juno teams were introduced in all of the three LPAs in September 2014. This provides a more consistent level of service across domestic abuse investigations.

From March 2017, the remit of the Juno teams was reviewed, with the teams now responsible for the management and investigation of all high and medium risk domestic abuse crimes in their area.

The Juno Detective Sergeant is responsible for conducting secondary risk assessments on all high and medium risk domestic abuse crimes, ensuring that the appropriate risk grading and investigative resource is in place. This approach has seen a recent reduction in the number of high and medium risk cases. This is felt by police and partners to be a more proportionate and appropriate approach and brings Essex much more in line with its most similar forces.

## **11.0 Next steps:**

The PCC, working with Essex Police and the Domestic Abuse Strategic Board, will continue to tackle domestic abuse in order to ensure that victims receive the help and support they need, and perpetrators are brought to justice.

Further work is underway to refine the performance reports presented to the Domestic Abuse Strategic Board, so the PCC and wider partners have a clearer picture of current performance, including benchmarking against other areas, in order to identify areas where further improvements can be made.



**AGENDA ITEM 12**

Essex Police and Crime Panel	<b>EPCP/11/17</b>
Date: 1 June 2017	

**PCC Decisions Quarterly Report 2016/17 Q4 (including decisions up to and including 19 May 2017)**

Report by the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Panel

Enquiries to: Susannah Hancock (Chief Executive)

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**Purpose of report**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Police and Crime Panel with a summary of the financial and strategic decisions made by the PCC. This report contains information on decisions made in 2016/17 Q4 and also includes decisions made up to and including 19 May 2017. Detailed information on each decision is available on the OPCC website at:

<http://www.essex.pcc.police.uk/decisions-5/>

**The Panel is invited to note the content of the report.**

**Attachments:**

Appendix 1: PCC Decisions: Quarterly Report 2016/17 Q4 – January to 19 May 2017





Ref	Decision On	Date approved
17/02	Sale Approval – Former Hadleigh Police Office (Revised –previous ref PCC/103/16)	10/01/17
16/106	Youth Social Action Fund (CSF)	16/01/17
16/107	Essex Street Pastor coordinator (CSDF)	16/01/17
17/04	Mobile First – Integrated Software Procurement	20/01/17
17/06	Only Cowards Carry Weapons Awareness Ltd (knife amnesty bins)	26/01/17
17/09	Sale of former Stansted Mountfitchet Police Office (Revised; previous ref PCC/003/2017)	27/01/17
17/08	Safeguarding Adults Boards development day	31/01/17
17/07	Fire Collaboration	02/02/17
17/01	Use of IT underspends	06/02/17
17/12	Precept for 2017/18 (council tax element for policing)	14/02/17
17/13	Harlow Restorative Engagement Forum	15/02/17
17/18	Victim Needs Assessment refresh	15/02/17
16/109	Victim Support Hate Crime Co-ordinator continuation (2017-2018)	15/02/17
17/11	Tendring Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Hub Funding	15/02/17
17/17	Braintree and Uttlesford Community Safety Hub	15/02/17
17/21	Modern-day slavery (MDS) / human trafficking campaign	22/02/17
17/20	South East Essex Older People's Advocacy	22/02/17
17/15	PCC core Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) funding allocations 2017-2018	06/03/17
17/19	Housing Co-ordinator – Essex Domestic Abuse Multi- Agency Risk Assessment Team (MARAT)	06/03/17
17/22	Community Safety Development Fund (CSDF) funding allocation – round 3	07/03/17
17/23	Nurture Dogs / Denham Community Farm	07/03/17
17/24	Safe as Houses continuation	07/03/17

17/28	SGO Services	09/03/17
17/30	Street Triage continuation	13/03/17
17/29	Essex Fire and Rescue Service – Community Speedwatch (CSW) Co-ordinator	13/03/17
17/31	Sale of Former Halstead Police Station	22/03/17
17/14	PCC core Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) funding allocations 2017-2018	23/03/17
17/35	Project Athena – Deed of Variation	23/03/17
17/37	Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020	28/03/17
17/32	Treasury Management Strategy 2017/18	31/03/17
17/39	Brake Road Safety Helpline and Support Packs	04/04/17
17/44	Extension to Chief Constable contract	20/04/17
16/80	Castle Point & Rochford Community Safety Hub Funding (CSF)	02/05/17
17/49	Integrated Health and Justice Commissioning	11/05/17
17/47	Centralised Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) Fund	11/05/17
17/40	Catch22 Young Victims' Service Extension	11/05/17
17/43	Epping and Brentwood Community Safety Hub	11/05/17
17/45	Essex Police Memorial Trust Fund Grant	11/05/17
17/46	Police Property Act (PPA) – Lost and Found Monies 2016/17	11/05/17
17/48	Centre for Action on Rape and Abuse (CARA) – Sexual Abuse Funding	11/05/17

For detailed information on each decision, go to the OPCC website at: <http://www.essex.pcc.police.uk/decisions-5/>

**Please note:** \*This 2016-17 Q4 report contains PCC Decisions up to and including 19 May 2017 (ahead of submission for the PCP Meeting of 1 June 2017).

**AGENDA ITEM 13**

Essex Police and Crime Panel	<b>EPCP/12/17</b>
Date: 1 June 2017	

**Forward Look**

Report by the Secretary to the Panel

Enquiries to: Robert Fox: 033301 34585 robert.fox@essex.gov.uk

**Purpose of report and background**

To plan the business of the Panel.

The next Meeting of the Panel is scheduled for 20 July 2017.

Business proposed to be taken to the meetings is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Performance for period up to</b>	<b>Other business</b>
20 July		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estates Strategy</li> <li>• Police and Fire Collaboration</li> <li>• PCC Decisions report</li> <li>• Police Technology including Athena update and the emergency services network</li> <li>• Presentation by the Chairman of the Police Joint Audit Committee</li> </ul>
19 October		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police and Crime Plan Performance Report</li> <li>• PCC Decisions report</li> <li>• Tackling Gangs in Essex update</li> <li>• Serious Violence</li> <li>• Information sharing and co-operation</li> </ul>
7 December		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget scene setting</li> </ul>

The Panel is asked to identify any other business it would like to consider.

The following dates have been identified in 2018 for meetings going forward:

25 January, 15 February, 24 May, 19 July, 18 October and 6 December

