

Summary of decisions from the meeting of the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel, held in Committee Room 1 at County Hall, Chelmsford on Thursday 8 December 2022
Please note that this is not a full record of the proceedings at the meeting; the full Minutes will be published in due course.

Present:**Councillor**

David Dadds
Frankie Ricci
Keith Barber
Russ Savage
Paul Stalker
Ross Playle
Mike Garnett
Mark Heard
Ian Shead
Lynda McWilliams
Gary Collins
Jude Deakin
Aidan McGurran

Representing

Basildon Borough Council
Braintree District Council
Brentwood Borough Council
Castle Point Borough Council
Epping Forest District Council
Essex County Council
Harlow District Council
Maldon District Council
Southend-on-Sea City Council
Tendring District Council
Thurrock Council
Co-opted Member for Balanced Appointment
Co-opted Member for Balanced Appointment

Co-opted Independent Members

John Gili-Ross (Chairman)
Sheila Murphy

Also in attendance

Pippa Brent-Isherwood	Chief Executive, Office of the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC)
Sophie Campion	Senior Democratic Services Officer, Secretary to the Panel
Neil Cross	Chief Finance Officer, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
Roger Hirst	Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC)
Darren Horsman	Strategic Head of Policy and Public Engagement, OPFCC
Emma Hunter	Democratic Services Officer
Rick Hylton	Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
Janet Perry	Chief Financial Officer, OPFCC
Andy Prophet	Deputy Chief Constable
Emma Tombs	Democratic Services Manager

1 Membership, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

The report of the Membership, Apologies and Declarations was received and the membership, apologies and declarations noted.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Questions to the Chairman from members of the Public

There were none.

4 HMICFRS Inspection of the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service - Progress Report

The Panel received report EPFCP/30/22 which reviewed how the Essex County Fire and Rescue Service (ECFRS) was addressing the issues raised in its latest inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and how the PFCC is monitoring and ensuring progress against this.

Resolved:

That the Panel received and noted the report.

5 Essex Police's Policy and Performance in relation to Deployment to Incidents

The Panel received report EPFCP/31/22 which clarified for Panel members, Essex Police's policy on deployment to incidents – with a focus on high harm contact management - and how it performs against this. The report provided an overview of the force's Command and Control of Incidents Policy, an assessment of how well Essex Police responded to high harm crimes, and a summary of the ambition set for future delivery.

Resolved:

That the Panel received and noted the report.

6 Police and Crime Plan Closure 2016 to 2021 Closure Report

The Panel received report EPFCP/32/22 which provided a review of the delivery of the priorities in the 'Police and Crime Plan 2016 to 2020' and the 'Police and Crime Plan 2020 to 2021 Extension'.

Resolved:

That the Panel received and noted the report.

7 The 2023/24 Budget - Update of Progress on setting the 2023/24 Budget

The Panel received report EPFCP/33/22 which provided an update of the progress on setting the 2023/24 budgets for both Essex Police and Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, including the background issues and latest assumptions being used in drafting the 2023/24 budgets.

Resolved:

That the Panel noted the background issues, the latest assumptions, and the progress in setting the 2023/24 budgets for Essex Police and Essex County Fire and Rescue Service.

8 Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Decisions Reports

The Panel received and raised questions on report EPFCP/34/22 which provided information about financial and strategic decisions made by the PFCC.

Resolved:

That the Panel received and noted the report.

9 The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to update the Panel on any ongoing issues

The Commissioner provided the Panel with a verbal update on ongoing issues.

Resolved:

That the verbal report was noted.

10 Essex PFCC Budget Half Year Outturn Report 2022/23

The Panel received report EPFCP/35/22 which updated the Panel on the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel's outturn position for the period 1 April 2022 to 30 September 2022 as filed with the Home Office prior to the deadline of 31 October 2022. As Essex County Council was the lead authority for the Panel the return was required to be signed off by ECC's finance team once checked for accuracy. This was with respect to a grant claim to the Home Office who would only pay for reimbursement of actual expenditure incurred in year.

Resolved:

That the report was noted.

11 National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels Update

The Panel received a verbal update from the Chairman of the Panel which included an update on the Annual meeting of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels.

Resolved:

That the verbal report was noted.

12 Dates of Future Meetings

The Panel received report EPFCP/36/22 informing Members of the remaining meeting dates for 2022-23 and set out the proposed meeting dates for 2023-24.

Resolved:

That the future meeting dates were noted.

13 Forward Work Plan

The Panel received report EPFCP/37/22 setting out the planned business of the Panel.

Resolved:

That the Panel received the report, agreeing the addition of an item for consideration as discussed under the agenda item on Essex Police's Policy and Performance in relation to Deployment to Incidents; specifically performance against attendance targets to incidents graded as 3 – Priority, under the Essex Police's Command and Control of Incidents Policy and how that fits with achieving the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan.

14 Date of Next Meeting

The Panel noted that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 10:00am.

There being no urgent business, the meeting closed at 4:53pm.