

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 28 September 2023  
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**

Anthony Hedley  
Mary Cunningham  
Jay Laplain (Substitute)  
Russ Savage  
Donna Eley  
Ian Grundy (Substitute)  
Mike Garnett  
Simon Burwood  
Lisa Newport  
James Courtenay  
Gina Placey  
Maggie Sutton  
Aidan McGurran

**Representing**

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

**Co-opted Independent Members**

John Gili-Ross (Chairman)

**Also in attendance**

Gemma Bint	Democratic Services Officer
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
Jane Gardner	Deputy Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner
Roger Hirst	Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC)
Darren Horsman	Strategic Head of Policy and Public Engagement, OPFCC
Rick Hylton	Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
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 20 July 2023 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 Balanced Appointment Objective Report**

The Panel received report EPFCP/22/23 which provided an update on the proposed nominees received from the Essex Labour Group and Essex Conservative Group for the balanced appointment co-options to the Panel.

#### **Resolved:**

- That the co-opted members of the panel to achieve the balanced appointment objective were with immediate effect Councillor Aidan McGurran (Labour) and Councillor Frankie Ricci (Conservative)
- That the co-options remain in place until co-options for the 2024-25 year are made.
- To note that Cllr Jude Deakin had ceased to be a member of the Panel.

### **5 Essex County Fire and Rescue Service Annual Report and Statement of Assurance 2022-23**

The Panel received report EPFCP/23/23 which provided the Panel with the draft Essex County Fire and Rescue Service Annual Report and Statement of Assurance 2022-2023.

The Panel had a statutory duty to review and provide feedback on the draft Statement of Assurance.

#### **Resolved:**

That members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel noted the draft Essex County Fire and Rescue Service Annual Report and Statement of Assurance 2022-2023 and provided feedback to the Commissioner.

### **6 Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Annual Report 2022-23**

The Panel received report EPFCP/24/23 which provided the Panel with the PFCC's draft Annual Report for 2022-2023.

The Panel had a statutory duty under section 28(4) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to review and provide feedback to the Commissioner on the Annual Report.

#### **Resolved:**

That members of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel noted the draft Annual Report for 2022-2023 and provided feedback to the Commissioner.

**7 2024/25 Budget**

The Panel received report EPFCP/25/23 which out the background issues, the current assumptions, and the challenges in setting the 2024/25 budgets for both Essex Police and Essex Fire and Rescue Service.

**Resolved:**

That the Panel noted the background issues, the current assumptions, and challenges, in setting the 2024/25 budgets for Essex Police and Essex Fire and Rescue Service

**8 Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's Decisions Reports**

The Panel received report EPFCP/26/23 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 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 recent meetings and future workstreams, the AGM to be held in November and meetings with the Home Office and Local Government Association.

**Resolved:**

That the verbal report was noted.

**11 Forward Work Plan**

The Panel received report EPFCP/27/23 setting out the planned business of the Panel.

**Resolved:**

That the Panel received and noted the Forward Work Plan, agreeing the addition of an item to look at the Commissioner's wider role relating to criminal justice.

## **12 Dates of Future Meetings**

The Panel received report EPFCP/28/22 informing Members of the remaining meeting dates for 2023-24 and set out the proposed meeting dates for 2024-25.

### **Resolved:**

That the future meeting dates were noted.

## **13 Date of Next Meeting**

The Panel noted that the next meeting would take place on Thursday 7 December 2023.

There being no urgent business, the meeting closed at 3:46pm.