

Agenda item 9

Council Issues

1. The Essex Police Authority and the Essex Police and Crime Panel

Purpose of Report

To approve an amendment to the Constitution to enable Council to consider reports / minutes of the Essex Police and Crime Panel.

Background

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 has led to the abolition of Police Authorities and the last report of the Essex Police Authority was made to Council in November 2012. The Act provides instead for the election of a Police and Crime Commissioner responsible for holding the Chief Constable to account, setting priorities and ensuring the efficiency and effectiveness of the Force. The Act also requires local authorities in each Police Force area in England (excluding London) to establish a Police and Crime Panel to scrutinise the work of the Commissioner, exercising the function as a critical friend, in support of the Commissioner.

In order to enable Council to maintain a link with the work of the Commissioner through the activity of the Panel, it is

Recommended:

That Paragraph 16.7(xiv) of the Constitution, relating to the order of business at ordinary meetings of the Council, be amended from “to consider reports / minutes of the Essex Police and Essex Fire Authorities” to read “to consider reports / minutes of the Essex Police and Crime Panel and the Essex Fire Authority”.

For the purposes of the Agenda for today’s meeting it has been assumed that Council will approve this recommendation.

2. Date of Council Meeting February 2014

In view of the need to rearrange this meeting of the Council at short notice it is proposed that the date of the Budget meeting for February 2014 agreed by Council in October 2012 be postponed until the following week. It is therefore

Recommended:

That the date of the meeting of the Budget Council in February 2014 be postponed from Tuesday, 4 February to Tuesday, 11 February at 10 am.

3. Appointment of Senior Officer

Sally Burton has been appointed to the role of Interim Executive Director of Adult Social Care (DASS).