



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Held: THURSDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2020 at 2:00 pm as a virtual meeting using Zoom

P R E S E N T :

Cllr Orson (Chair)
Cllr Pantling (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Kaur Saini Cllr Loydall Cllr Mullaney
Cllr Phillimore Cllr Rae Bhatia Cllr Whelband
Cllr Rahman Cllr Taylor Ms Lalani

In Attendance:

Lord Bach – Police and Crime Commissioner
Kirk Master – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner

Also, Present:

Angela Perry – Executive Director, OPCC
Paul Hindson, Chief Executive Officer, OPCC
Paul Dawkins – Chief Finance Officer (temp), OPCC
Andrew Furlong – Advisor to Lord Bach, OPCC

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25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman led introductions and advised this was a virtual meeting as permitted under section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020 to enable meetings to take place whilst observing social distancing measures.

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor Woodman, Councillor Harper-Davies, Councillor Walters, Keith Culverwell Independent Member, and Chief Constable Simon Cole.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any pecuniary or other interest they may have in the business on the agenda. There were no such declarations.

27. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING 28TH JULY 2020

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held 28th July 2020 be confirmed as an accurate record.

28. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions submitted.

29. POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL REPORT

The Police and Crime Panel considered the Police and Crime Commissioner's draft Annual Report 2019/20, the final version of which, would include photographs and consistent format style of other OPCC publications.

Discussion of the report included the following points:

- The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) was thanked for the comprehensive report based upon themes from the Police and Crime Plan.
- The Panel notes the Annual Report referred to interventions around Domestic Abuse and the Panel were keen to understand how much violence in the public domain arose from domestic abuse and how the targeting of interventions could be applied to address that.
- The case studies were welcomed as giving additional insight into the work being done, however as the area covered (Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland) which was very diverse in its communities, land, poverty/wealth, prospects for individuals etc it was difficult to identify from the report how successfully crime was being tackled in particular areas and it was suggested that some pictorial infographics could be useful to show that.
- The Panel welcomed the increase in policing numbers and asked for the uplifting of police numbers overtime to also be reflected in the report, as it was important that the point was clear around the numbers of visible policing being agreed to since Police and Crime Commissioner came into office.
- The Panel enquired about arrangements for the Violence Reduction Network (VRN) if future funding was not secured and noted, it was anticipated the government will grant aid next year. As this was a long term project a sustainability plan was being developed despite the working assumption the VRN will continue to be funded.
- The Panel requested details about the Victim Surcharge levied at offenders and how that was applied.

Overall the Panel commended the report for being succinct and easily read and recognised the hard work being done.

RESOLVED:

1. That the PCC's Annual Report 2019-20 be approved, subject to the comments made by the Panel;
2. That the comments made by the Panel (as set out above) form a report to be submitted to the PCC for his information;
3. That the PCC be requested to provide a report regarding violence in the public domain linked to domestic abuse and interventions around that;

4. That the PCC be requested to provide a report for a future panel meeting regarding Victim Surcharge and how it is applied.

30. REGIONAL COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

The Police and Crime Panel considered a report providing information of the regional collaboration work.

Paul Hindson introduced the report and outlined the details of regional collaboration and partnership activities that the PCC engages in, the purposes of that work and the benefits that arise from it.

The Chair thanked officers for the in depth summary noting the importance of this piece of work which was also important to the success of Force work.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

31. OPCC PERFORMANCE REPORT - QUARTER 1 (1 APRIL 2020 TO 30 JUNE 2020)

The Police and Crime Panel received a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on performance of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner between 1 April 2020 and 30 June 2020.

A member thanked the Police and Crime Commissioner for attending an invitation and supporting the development of a community garden at the Wigston Police Station to commemorate and recognise people who had lost their lives in service.

The Panel noted that figures regarding the number of Facebook Reaches and Website Hits were being revisited as there was some uncertainty about their accuracy and that would be reflected in the next quarter performance report.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

32. QUARTER 1 FORCE PERFORMANCE EXCEPTION REPORT 1ST APRIL 2020 - 30TH JUNE 2020

The Police and Crime Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the performance of the Leicestershire Police for the period 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- The Panel were interested to know what the analysis showed in terms of trend and whether benchmarking was carried out across areas of LLR to determine different trends between city areas and districts.

- The Panel were informed that there was some regional comparison; last year LLR had 7.2 offences per 1000 population compared to other regions having 8.4, 9.9, 10.3 and 10.7 per 1000 population however those figures were subject to change because of under recording and final data was not yet available.
- In terms of defining violence with injury, Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm (ABH) had been chosen as a threshold offence in determining classification so taking Common Assault as an example this would usually fall into violence without injury but under reclassification Common Assault could also be reclassified as ABH. However, it was important to note there were lots of other violence with injury offences too.
- A piece of work had been done through the VRN to analyse background data across different areas, from that it could be seen that the City and Charnwood stood out so those were treated as priority areas in terms of looking to reduce crime.
- In terms of trend, patterns were not always clear, Knife Crime and Murder offences data was stable however such offences were still a constant concern.

3.45pm The Chair left the meeting and the Vice Chair assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Panel Members discussed the content and presentation of data within the report and indicated they would like to see more context to the data to help determine what they should be concerned about, what needed more focus, whether there were underlying factors causing the data results and to see how well police were responding to crime.

The Panel were advised that work had been done looking holistically at the drivers for violence including background factors and risk indicators, however this was captured in a very detailed way rather than a strategic overview.

Panel Members referred to the data provided to Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and the differences between that and the contents of this report. However, Panel Members were advised that the CSP were in a different position and were able to be more granular, whereas the remit of this Panel was to maintain a strategic focus rather than being drawn into parochial issues. It was recognised that a balance was needed to present the data in a useful way with some narrative to give context and to show what might be underlying trends.

4pm Cllr Les Phillimore left the meeting.

Panel Members were informed that awareness raising workshops could be organised to look at particular matters if required.

There was a brief discussion about the broadness of categories such as Hate Crime and the other exceptions where there was significant pattern of behaviour and it was noted that these were reviewed robustly and considered

in other forums such as the Strategic Assurance Board.

Panel Members noted that whilst data of Child Sexual Exploitation had been provided there wasn't data for Child Criminal Exploitation. It was advised this data was not yet readily available although it was looked at in terms of missing children.

There was discussion around enforcement of Covid measures, the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) and whether there was any disproportionate enforcement or bias in people being stopped. It was clarified that the issuing of FPN was not necessarily related to Stop and Search, these were separate issues that should not be conflated and the vast majority of FPN had been issued for contravening requirements or instructions of movement etc. In terms of a trend or pattern by gender/race/age there was not a local breakdown of that data although the National breakdown suggested more males between the age 18-24 had been issued FPN's and data around ethnicity was self-defined with the majority white and a high proportion of Asian background.

RESOLVED:

1. That the contents of the report be noted.
2. That consideration be given to providing additional context to the data in future reports in line with the comments above.

33. IICSA FINANCIAL IMPACT - VERBAL UPDATE

Paul Dawkins, acting Chief Finance Officer, OPCC gave a brief update on the position with IICSA.

Panel Members were reminded that a letter had been sent to the Home Office following the last meeting to request support however it was noted that the Home Office had initially declined although there remained an option for the Police and Crime Commissioner to pursue a grant.

34. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the next meeting is scheduled for 9th December 2020 at 2pm.

35. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair of the meeting thanked those present for their contributions to the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.35pm.

Minute Item 29

Leicester Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Panel

Thursday 1st October 2020

Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2019/20

At its meeting on Thursday 1st October 2020 the Police and Crime Panel considered the Police and Crime Commissioner's draft Annual Report 2019/20, the final version of which, would include photographs and consistent format style of other OPCC publications.

The panels comments in response to the report are summarised below:

The Police and Crime Commissioner was thanked for the comprehensive report based upon themes from the Police and Crime Plan.

The Panel notes the Annual Report referred to interventions around Domestic Abuse and the Panel were keen to understand how much violence in the public domain arose from domestic abuse and how the targeting of interventions could be applied to address that.

The case studies were welcomed as giving additional insight into the work being done, however as the area covered (Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland) was very diverse in its communities, land, poverty/wealth, prospects for individuals etc it was difficult to identify from the report how successfully crime was being tackled in particular areas and it was suggested that some pictorial infographics could be useful to show that.

The Panel welcomed the increase in policing numbers and asked for the uplifting of police numbers overtime to also be reflected in the report, as it was important that the point was clear around the numbers of visible policing being agreed to since Police and Crime Commissioner came into office.

The Panel enquired about arrangements for the Violence Reduction Network (VRN) if future funding was not secured and noted, it was anticipated the government will grant aid next year. As this was a long term project a sustainability plan was also being developed despite the working assumption the VRN will continue to be funded.

The Panel requested details about the Victim Surcharge levied at offenders and how that was applied.

Overall the Panel commended the report for being succinct and easily read and recognised the hard work being done.



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER
for Leicestershire**

Prevention | Partnership | Protection

Our ref: PCC/7/G/2020

Date: 5 November 2020

To: Cllr. Joe Orson, Chair, Leicestershire Police and Crime Panel
Emailed to: Anita James Anita.James2@leicester.gov.uk

Dear Joe

Thank you for the feedback on my Annual Report 2019/20 presented to the Police and Crime Panel on 1 October 2020.

I note that Panel members have requested further information on targeted interventions directed at addressing Domestic Abuse. I am more than happy to bring further information on this to the Panel and would ask that this is planned for a future agenda. We have a good news story to tell relating to work undertaken in this area and I am keen to share with the Panel the approach we are taking.

I also note that members have asked for additional information on how crime is being tackled in certain geographical areas. This is something that I would like to include in future Force performance reports to the Panel and as suggested this information could be displayed by way of an infographic. To assist my team in preparing this it would be useful if members could advise on the crime types they are particularly interested in and on how they would like the geographical areas defined i.e. LLR, local authority areas, Neighbourhood Policing Areas. Once we have received this steer my team will commence work on providing the infographic requested.

I would like to thank members for their suggestion of including the uplift of police numbers over my term of office and not just for the previous year. I will certainly include this information in my last Annual Report for the period 2020/21 which will demonstrate how this has contributed to achieving my aim of increasing visible policing.

Regarding the arrangements for the Violence Reduction Network (VRN) if future funding is not secured, I can assure members that a sustainability plan is being developed should funding cease and that further information on this will be brought to the Panel at a future meeting. With the Chairman's agreement I request for this to be included in the future agenda workplan for the Panel.





In your response I note that members requested details about the Victim Surcharge Levy. I can inform you that this Levy is administered by the Courts and does not fall under my remit. The Victim Surcharge was introduced in 2007 and is not paid directly to the criminal's victim but is pooled and distributed through the Victim and Witness General Fund. The amount to be paid is specified by law and the courts have limited discretion to reduce the amount, or to waive the surcharge. I hope this information is useful to members.

Finally, I would like to thank the Panel for their continued support for the OPCC's work and for their obvious interest and desire to see my Police and Crime Plan delivered to full effect. The comments received on the Annual Report will be particularly useful in preparation of drafting next year's annual report and for providing direction for agendas for the remainder of the year.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Willy Bach". A long, thin blue line extends from the end of the signature downwards and to the left.

Lord Willy Bach
Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner