

# Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Panel

## Constitution

### INDEX

PART 1 - Terms of Reference	<a href="#">page 2.</a>
PART 2 - Panel Arrangements	<a href="#">page 5.</a>
PART 3 - Rules of Procedure	<a href="#">page 10.</a>
PART 4 - Making a Complaint about the Police and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner	<a href="#">page 27.</a>
PART 5 - Role of the Police and Crime Commissioner	<a href="#">page 33.</a>
SCHEDULES	<a href="#">page 35.</a>

# PART 1

# TERMS OF REFERENCE

## 1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

---

### **Introduction**

The Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Panel will publicly scrutinise the actions and decisions of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in the context of relevant sections of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, with a view to supporting and challenging the PCC in the effective exercise of his or her functions, acting as a critical friend.

References in this document to the 'PCP' are references to the Police and Crime Panel.

### **Terms of Reference (as agreed by all relevant local authorities)**

The Police and Crime Panel will be a joint Committee of Blaby District Council, Charnwood Borough Council, Harborough District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council, Melton Borough Council, North West Leicestershire District Council, Rutland County Council and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council.

To enable it to effectively scrutinise and support the Police and Crime Commissioner in the exercise of his or her functions, the PCP will:

- Review and report/make recommendations to the PCC in respect of his/her draft Police and Crime Plan (this is a document setting out the PCC's objectives for policing and reducing crime and disorder in the area, how policing resources will be allocated and agreements for funding and reporting on the work) or any draft variation to their prevailing plan;
- Review and report/make recommendations to the PCC on his/her annual report;
- Review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the PCC in connection with the discharge of his/her functions and make reports or recommendations to the PCC with respect to the discharge of those functions;
- Review and report back to the PCC on appointments s/he proposes to make to the following posts:
  - The Commissioner's Chief Executive
  - The Commissioner's Director of Finance (Chief Finance Officer)
  - The Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
  - The Chief Constable

*(Note: for this purpose, the PCP is required to hold “confirmation hearings” in public at which the PCC’s proposed appointee will be requested to appear for the purpose of answering questions relating to the appointment. The Panel’s subsequent report to the Commissioner must include a recommendation as to whether or not the candidate should be appointed, which the PCC may choose to accept or not. In respect of the appointment of a Chief Constable, the PCP may veto the proposed appointment, provided at least 2/3 of the total PCP membership at that time vote to do so)*

- Review and report/make recommendations to the PCC on his/her proposed precept for the financial year;

*(Note: the PCP has the power to veto the proposed precept provided at least 2/3 of the total PCP membership at the time vote to do so)*

- Review and report/make recommendations to the PCC on any proposal by him/her to call on the Chief Constable (CC) to retire or resign;

*(Note: in undertaking any such review, the PCP may consult the Chief Inspector of Constabulary for a professional view and must hold a scrutiny hearing in private which both the PCC and the CC are entitled to attend for the purposes of making representations. The PCC may either accept or reject the PCP’s recommendation)*

The PCP will also have the power:

- To suspend the PCC if s/he has been charged with an offence (in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years;
- Appoint a Deputy PCC as the Acting PCC pending the outcome of a by-election in the event of a PCC vacancy occurring (through death or resignation) as per Part 5 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017.
- Appoint an acting PCC where the incumbent PCC is incapacitated, resigns or is disqualified and there is no Deputy PCC;
- Require the relevant PCC and Members of his/her staff to attend before the PCP (at reasonable notice) to answer any questions that the PCP considers necessary in order to carry out its functions;
- Require the PCC to respond in writing within a reasonable period determined by the PCP, to any report or recommendation the PCP has made to the PCC;

*(Note: Where the PCP has required the PCC to attend before it, the PCP may also request the Chief Constable to attend before it on the same occasion in order to answer any questions the Panel consider necessary in order to carry out their functions)*

# PART 2

# PANEL ARRANGEMENTS

## 2. Panel Arrangements

---

### Operating arrangements

1. Leicester City Council shall act as the host Authority in establishing and running the Police and Crime Panel, including providing the necessary administrative and financial support.
2. The Clerk to the Panel shall be appointed by the host Authority.
3. The host Authority will be responsible for reviewing the membership of the Panel in the light of the balanced appointment objective and making a recommendation to the Panel or relevant local authorities as appropriate as to the make-up and membership of the Panel.

### Membership

4. The Panel shall be made up of a minimum of 10 councillors and two Independent Members.
5. The elected membership shall consist of the Mayor of Leicester (or his nominee), one Councillor each from Leicestershire County Council, Rutland County Council, Blaby District Council, Charnwood Borough Council, Harborough District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Melton Borough Council, North West Leicestershire District Council, and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council.
6. All City Councillors, County Councillors and District or Borough Councillors are eligible to be members of the Panel.
7. Co-opted Members shall be appointed in accordance with paragraphs 9-13 below and may be appointed in accordance with paragraph 17 below.
8. The Panel is entitled, in order to achieve the balanced appointment objective, to recommend to the Secretary of State that additional Members be co-opted to the Panel. Such co-opted Members will be Elected Members of the Local Authorities, nominated in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Rules of Procedure for the Panel. Any Local Authority providing additional co-opted Members will nominate the Individual Members to act in that capacity and the Panel will accept the nomination. Schedule 1 may be amended from time to time to reflect changes in membership required to achieve the balanced appointment objective.

*[Note - The representation on the Panel above reflects statutory provisions.]*

### Appointment of Independent Members

9. The Panel shall co-opt two Independent Members on to the Panel for a term of 4 years commencing at the mid-way point in the Police and Crime Commissioner's term of office, with a view to ensuring the Panel has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to carry out its functions.
10. The selection process for co-opting Members should include a reasonable period of advertising for the positions. There should be at least two weeks between the date the advert is first placed and the closing date for receipt of applications.
11. Information packs shall be prepared and sent to those requesting application forms.
12. Applications shall be considered against an agreed eligibility criterion and then an Appointment Panel made up of three Police and Crime Panel Members will be invited to meet to consider the applications and interview candidates.
13. Following the interviews, the Appointment Panel will make recommendations to the Police and Crime Panel for appointment.
14. The following may not serve as independent co-opted Members: The Police and Crime Commissioner, a member of the Police and Crime Commissioner's staff, a civilian member of Leicestershire Police Force, an MP, an MEP or a member of any of the local authorities covered by the Force area.

[NB: Serving police officers will not be eligible to serve in accordance with their conditions of service.]

### Appointment of Elected Members

15. Members of the Panel will be appointed by each relevant Local Authority in accordance with its procedures.
16. Terms of office of Elected Members will be agreed by the local authorities at the time of appointment, having regard to the outcome of any review of membership by the host authority. Local authorities, in making the appointment must have regard to the balanced appointment requirement, as far as reasonably practicable, and seek to ensure appointees have the necessary skills, knowledge and experience.
17. The Panel may agree to co-opt additional Members drawn from the local authorities to ensure the balanced appointment requirement, as far as reasonably practicable.

### Substitutes

18. Substitutes for Elected Member representatives are permitted.
19. Each Council may appoint one or more substitute Members for each Panel Member of their Authority, who can attend a meeting of the Panel and can vote on behalf of a substantive Panel Member in their absence, with a duty placed on the substantive Panel Member to suitably brief their substitute.
20. Any substitution will apply to a particular meeting and takes effect if either the appointing Authority or the substituted Member gives notice in writing or by email to the Secretariat at least 24 hours before the meeting.

### Resignation/Removal of Members

21. Members may resign from the Panel at any time. Elected Members should inform the nominating Local Authority and the Clerk to the Panel in writing. Co-opted Members should inform the Chairman and the Clerk to the Panel in writing.
22. Elected Members may be removed by their nominating Local Authority. Reasons for the removal of a Member should be presented in writing to the Chairman of the Panel.
23. A vacancy on the Panel arises when a Member ceases to be a Member of the Panel for any reason. If a Council does not have an appointed Member on the Panel then it shall fill its vacancy as quickly as possible.
24. If a Council does not appoint a Member in accordance with these requirements the Secretariat will give notice to the Secretary of State who must appoint a Member to the Panel from the defaulting council in accordance with the provisions of the 2011 Act.
25. A substitute appointed under para 19 above may attend meetings in default of a Council appointing a substantive Member,

### Payments/Allowances

26. Payment of expenses and allowances, if applicable, for Elected Members will be a matter for the nominating Authority. A scheme of expenses and allowances for the two Independent Co-opted Members will be established by the Panel and administered by the host Authority.

### Communication and Engagement

27. A Communications and Engagement strategy for the work of the Panel, including how the work of the Board will be influenced by stakeholders and the public, including seldom heard groups, will be published following agreement by the Panel. The Strategy will make provision for:



- (a) The role of the Panel to be promoted;
- (b) Support and guidance to be given to:
  - (i) Members of the relevant Local Authorities;
  - (ii) Members of the Executives (if any) of relevant Local Authorities; and
  - (iii) Officers of relevant Local Authorities,

in relation to the functions of the Panel.

28. The Panel will operate as a forum to represent the views of stakeholders and the public to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

### Budget

29. Leicester City Council as the host Authority will receive funding from the Home Office for the purposes of establishing and maintaining the Panel and for the payment of expenses to Members. In the event that the costs so incurred exceed the funding made available by the Home Office, the host authority may ask that a contribution be made by authorities providing Members to serve on the Panel. Any such requests shall be in proportion to the extent of representation of authorities on the Panel for the period covered by the costs incurred.

# PART 3

# RULES OF PROCEDURE

### 3. RULES OF PROCEDURE

---

#### **Chairman of Panel**

1. The Chairman of the Panel will be elected in June of each year from amongst the elected Members sitting on the Panel. All panel Members including Independent Members will be entitled to vote but Independent Members will not be eligible to stand for Chairman.
2. A Vice-Chairman will be elected in June of each year from amongst the elected Members sitting on the Panel. All panel Members including Independent Members will be entitled to vote but Independent Members will not be eligible to stand for Vice Chairman.
3. In the event of the resignation or removal of the Chairman, a new Chairman will be elected at the next meeting, from amongst the elected Members sitting on the Panel in accordance with the arrangements set out in rules 1 and 2 above.
4. If both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are absent from a meeting, the Members present shall choose one of their number from amongst the elected Members to preside over the meeting, subject to Rule 5 below.
5. If the Chairman arrives at a meeting of the Panel or Vice-Chairman arrives at such a meeting from which the Chairman is absent after the time for which the meeting has been summoned, he or she shall preside over the meeting after any question under discussion on his or her arrival has been disposed of but not before then.
6. Any power or duty of the Chairman in relation to the conduct of a meeting may be exercised by the person presiding at the meeting.

#### **Quorum**

7. The quorum of the Panel shall be at least one quarter of the whole number of the Panel. Members present as substitutes shall be included in calculating whether the meeting is quorate.
8. If during any meeting of the Panel the Chairman, after counting the number of Members present declares that there is not a quorum present, the meeting shall stand adjourned. The consideration of any business not transacted shall be adjourned to a time to be fixed by the Chairman, or, if he or she does not fix a time, to the next ordinary meeting of the Panel.

### **Access to Information**

9. The Access to Information Procedure Rules laid down by the Host Authority will apply with any necessary modifications [Link to Access to Information Procedure Rules contained in Part 4B of the Leicester City Council's Constitution](#)

### **Order of Business**

10. Except as otherwise provided by Rule 13. below, the order of business at ordinary meetings of the Panel shall be:
  - (a) to choose a person to preside if the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be absent;
  - (b) to confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Panel;
  - (c) to dispose of business (if any) remaining from the last meeting;
  - (d) to consider reports as specified on the agenda;
  - (e) to consider motions in the order in which the notice has been received;
  - (f) any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent;
11. Business falling under items (a), (b) or (c) of Rule 10 shall not be displaced, but subject thereto the foregoing order of business may be varied: -
  - (a) by the Chairman at his or her discretion; or
  - (b) by a resolution passed at that meeting. A motion to vary the order of business shall be moved and seconded formally and put without discussion.

### **Minutes of the Panel**

12. At a meeting of the Panel at which minutes of a previous meeting are submitted for approval as a correct record, the Chairman shall move that those minutes be so approved.
13. No motion or discussion shall take place upon the minutes, except upon their accuracy, and any matter concerning their accuracy shall be raised by amendment.
14. If no such matter is raised, or if it is raised then as soon as it has been disposed of, the Chairman shall sign the minutes.

### **Public Question Time**

15. The Panel accepts questions from members of the public which can be put to the Police and Crime Commissioner at its meetings. The Procedure for how to put a question at these meetings is set out in Schedule 2.

### **Amendments to motions**

16. An amendment shall be relevant to the motion and shall be either: -
- (a) to refer a subject of debate to a subcommittee or the Police and Crime Commissioner for consideration or re-consideration;
  - (b) to leave out words;
  - (c) to leave out words and insert or add others;
  - (d) to insert or add words;
- but such omission, insertion or addition of words shall not only have the effect of negating a motion before the Panel.
17. Only one amendment may be moved and discussed at a time and no further amendment shall be moved until the amendment under discussion has been disposed of; provided that the Chairman may permit two or more amendments to be discussed (but not voted on) together if he or she considers that this course would facilitate the proper conduct of the Panel's business.
18. If an amendment be lost, other amendments may be moved on the original motion. If an amendment be carried, the motion as amended shall take the place of the original motion and shall become the substantive motion upon which any further amendment may be moved.

### **Alterations or withdrawal of motion or amendment**

19. A proposer of a motion may, with the concurrence of the seconder and the consent of the Panel, alter the motion if the alteration is such that it could properly be affected by an amendment of the motion. A proposer of an amendment may, with the like concurrence and consent, alter the amendment if the amendment as altered could properly have been moved in that form as an amendment. The altered motion or amendment shall if required by the Chairman be reduced into writing and handed to him or her before the consent of the Panel to the alteration is sought.
20. A proposer of a motion or of an amendment may, with the concurrence of the seconder and the consent of the Panel, withdraw the motion or amendment which he or she has proposed, and no Member shall speak upon it after the proposer has thus asked permission for its withdrawal, unless such permission shall have been refused.
21. The giving or refusal of the consent of the Panel to the alteration or withdrawal of a motion or amendment shall be signified without discussion.

### **Motions and amendments generally**

22. A Member may not propose or second a motion or amendment on which he or she is disqualified from voting.

### **Conduct of Members**

23. If any Member in the opinion of the Chairman signified to the Panel, misconducts himself or herself by persistently disregarding the ruling of the Chair, or by behaving irregularly, improperly, or offensively, or by wilfully obstructing the business of the Panel, or by tedious repetition or unbecoming language in his or her speech, the Chairman or any other Member may move "That the Member named be not further heard", and such a motion if seconded shall be put and determined without discussion.
24. If the Member named continues his or her misconduct after a motion under the last previous paragraph has been carried, the Chairman shall either: -
  - (a) move "That the Member named do leave the meeting" (in which case the motion shall be put and determined without seconding or discussion); or
  - (b) adjourn the meeting of the Panel for such period as he or she in his or her discretion shall consider expedient.

### **Motions affecting persons employed by the Police and Crime Commissioner**

25. If any question arises at a meeting of the Panel or a subcommittee as to the appointment, promotion, dismissal, salary, pension, conditions of service or the conduct of any person employed by the Police and Crime Commissioner, such question shall not be the subject of discussion until the body concerned has decided whether or not the power of exclusion of the public shall be exercised, with the exception of confirmatory hearings for the Chief Constable, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer which are required to be held in public.

### **Right of reply**

26. The proposer of a motion shall have the right of reply to the debate: -
  - (a) at the close of the debate on the motion;
  - (b) at the close of the debate on an amendment to the motion;
  - (c) before a motion to proceed to next business or that the Panel adjourn or a motion or amendment to refer the subject of debate to a subcommittee or the Police and Crime Commissioner is put;
  - (d) after the closure is carried;
27. The proposer of an amendment shall not have the right of reply to either the debate on the amendment or to the debate on a substantive motion formed by the carrying of the amendment.

### **Points of order and personal explanations**

28. A Member may speak on a point of order or in personal explanation and shall be entitled to be heard forthwith. A point of order shall relate only to an alleged breach of these rules or statutory provision and the Member shall specify the rule or statutory provision and the way in which he or she considers it has been broken. A personal explanation shall be confined to some material part of a former speech by him or her which may appear to have been misunderstood in the present debate.
29. The ruling of the Chairman on a point of order or on the admissibility of a personal explanation shall not be open to discussion.

### **Next business etc**

30. A Member who seeks to avoid a decision being taken on a matter under discussion may, at the conclusion of a speech of another Member, unless the Chairman considers that the matter has been insufficiently discussed, move "that the Panel proceed to the next business" or, if there is no other business to be transacted, "that the Panel adjourn".
31. The proposer of such a motion may speak thereon for five minutes but the seconding of the motion shall be formal and without comment and there shall be no debate on the motion.
32. After the seconding of the motion, the Chairman shall give the mover of the original motion an opportunity to speak on it for not more than five minutes and then put to the vote the motion to proceed to the next business or to adjourn the Panel.
33. If that motion is carried, the original motion shall be considered as withdrawn.

### **Adjournment of debate**

34. A Member who seeks to interrupt a debate so that it may be continued at a later hour or on another occasion may, at the conclusion of the speech of another Member, move that the debate be adjourned to that hour or occasion.
35. If the Member does not specify an hour or occasion, the motion shall be deemed to intend that the debate shall be resumed at the next ordinary meeting of the Panel.
36. The proposer of such a motion may speak thereon for five minutes but the seconding of the motion shall be formal and without comment and there shall be no debate on the motion except that the mover of the original motion may speak on it for not more than five minutes.

37. On the resumption after adjournment of an interrupted debate, the Panel shall proceed to the further consideration of the adjourned business as though the meeting had been continuous for the purposes of these Rules of Procedure.

### **Closure**

38. A Member may at the conclusion of the speech of another Member move "that the proposition under discussion be now put" (which is in these Rules referred to as "the closure").
39. The proposal and seconding of the closure motion shall be formal and without comment and there shall be no debate on it. The closure motion shall be put forthwith to the vote unless it appears to the Chairman that the proposition to which it is sought to apply the closure has not been sufficiently discussed.
40. If the closure is carried, the motion or amendment which is the subject of the interrupted debate shall be put without further discussion, subject to the mover of the original motion, first having the right of reply given by Rules 33 - 36.

### **Voting**

41. Every proposition shall, unless otherwise required by these Rules of Procedure or Statute, be determined by show of hands or, at the discretion of the Chairman, by voices. Secret ballots are not permissible under these Rules of Procedure save for voting on the election of a Chairman/Vice Chairman where there is more than one candidate.
42. Subject to para 87 and para 104 of these rules of procedure, every matter shall be determined by a simple majority from amongst those Members present and eligible to vote. *(The meaning of the word "present" shall be in accordance with legislation and, where relevant, can include remote/virtual attendance only in the circumstances permitted by law).*
43. In the case of equality of votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote, whether he or she has or has not voted previously on the same proposition, but no Member in any other circumstance shall cast more than one vote.
44. If an automatic system of recording votes is in operation, the Chairman shall have power to order votes to be given and counted in accordance with the system.
45. In taking the votes on any proposition, those Members only shall be entitled to vote who are present in the meeting room when the proposition is put from the Chair.
46. Any Member present who is a substitute for a regular Member is entitled to vote, if present when the proposition is put.



47. After a proposition is put from the Chair but before the vote is taken, any three Members rising in their places may require that the voting shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting so as to show whether each Member present gave his or her vote for or against that proposition or abstained from voting.
48. Where immediately after a vote is taken any Member so requires, there shall be recorded in the minutes of the proceedings of that meeting whether that person cast his or her vote for the question or against the question or whether he or she abstained from voting.

### **General disturbances**

49. If a member of the public interrupts the proceedings at any meeting the Chairman shall warn him or her. If he or she continues the interruption the Chairman shall order his or her removal from the room. In case of general disturbance in any part of the room open to the public the Chairman shall order that part to be cleared.
50. If, in the opinion of the Chairman, misconduct or obstruction renders the due and orderly dispatch of business impossible, the Chairman, in addition to any other power vested in him or her, may without the question being put suspend the meeting for a period not exceeding 30 minutes.

### **Interests in contracts and other matters**

51. If any Member of the Panel has any relevant interest as defined within the Code of Conduct of their appointing Authority (or, in the case of Independent Co-opted Members, Leicester City Council's Code of Conduct) in any contract, proposed contract, or other matter, that Member shall declare that interest and withdraw from the meeting while the contract, proposed contract, or other matter, is under consideration by the Panel unless the inability to discuss that matter imposed upon him or her by the Code has been removed by Leicester City Council .

### **Subcommittees and task groups**

52. Time limited task and finish groups (subcommittees) may be established from time to time by the Panel to undertake specific task-based work.
53. Subcommittees and task groups shall not have the power to co-opt additional members.
54. The work undertaken by a subcommittee 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.

### **Meetings of the Panel and Subcommittees**

55. The Chairman of the Panel or the chairman of a subcommittee may cause a special meeting of the body concerned to be called at any time. In the absence of the Chairman of the body concerned, the Deputy Chairman of that body may exercise the powers conferred on the Chairman by this Rule.
56. A special meeting of the Panel or subcommittee shall be called on the request of at least one quarter of the whole number of Members of the body concerned by Notice in writing signed by them and given to the Clerk to the Panel and specifying the business for which the meeting is to be called. Appropriate adjustments will be made by the Clerk to accommodate the receipt of such a meeting requisition by electronic means.

### **Proceedings of the Panel and subcommittees**

57. The quorum of a subcommittee, unless a special quorum is otherwise prescribed, shall be at least one quarter of the whole number of the body concerned, provided that in no case shall a quorum be less than three Members.
58. Subject to the provisions of Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, all reports and all documents marked as "confidential" or "not for publication" shall be treated as confidential until they become public in the ordinary course of the Panel's or Police and Crime Commissioner's business.
59. No act of a subcommittee shall have effect until approved by the Panel except to the extent that the subcommittee has itself power to act without the approval of the Panel.

### **Variation and revocation of Rules of Procedure**

60. Any motion to add to, vary or revoke these Rules of Procedure shall when proposed and seconded stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Panel.

### **Interpretation of the Rules of Procedure**

61. The ruling of the Chairman as to the construction or application of any of these Rules of Procedure, or as to the proceedings of the Panel, shall not be challenged at any meeting of the Panel.

### **Frequency of Meetings**

62. Meetings of the Panel will generally take place six times a year, but extra meetings may be convened with the agreement of the Chairman.

### **Additional Co-opted Members**

63. The Panel is entitled, in order to achieve the balanced appointment objective, to recommend to the Secretary of State that additional Members be co-opted to the Panel. Such Co-opted Members will be elected Members of the local authorities, nominated in accordance with Schedule 1. Any local authority providing additional Co-opted Members will nominate the individual members to act in that capacity and the Panel will accept the nomination. Schedule 1 may be amended from time to time to reflect changes in membership required to achieve the balanced appointment objective.

### **Work Programme**

64. The Police and Crime 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 Police and Crime Panel will also take into account the wishes of its Members.
65. The work programme must include the functions described in the terms of reference for the Panel.
66. Any Member of the Police and Crime Panel shall be entitled to give notice to the Secretariat of 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, including notice of any motion which he or she wishes to put to the meeting.

### **Reports from the Police and Crime Panel**

67. Where the Police and Crime Panel make a report to the Police and Crime Commissioner, it will publish the report or recommendations (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) and send copies to all the relevant local authorities.
68. The Police and Crime Panel must, by writing, require the Police and Crime Commissioner, as appropriate, within one month of the date on which he or she receives the report or recommendations to:
- (a) consider the report or recommendations;
  - (b) respond in writing to the Panel indicating what (if any) action the Police and Crime 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.

69. The Police and Crime Panel will produce an Annual Report detailing progress against KPIs in achieving outcomes and targets, and highlight how value for money (e.g. benefits, savings, efficiencies etc.) is being achieved and send a copy to the Home Office before 31<sup>st</sup> July in accordance with the Home Office Grant Agreement

The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to be monitored and reported on are:

- a) The number of public meetings held,
- b) Scrutiny documents and publications produced, including the Panel's annual report,
- c) Engagement with the work of the Panel by members of the public and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire Police.

### **Police and Crime Commissioner and officers giving account**

70. The Police and Crime Panel will scrutinise, and review decisions made, or actions taken in connection with the Police and Crime Commissioner's role. To this end, the Panel may require any papers in the Commissioner's possession (except those that are operationally sensitive) which appear to the Panel to be necessary in order to carry out its functions. In addition, it may require the Police and Crime Commissioner and Members of that 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.
71. The Panel may not require any Member of the Police and Crime Commissioner's staff to give any evidence, or produce any document, which discloses advice given to the Commissioner by that person.
72. Where the Police and Crime Commissioner, or a Member of that Commissioner's staff, is required to attend the Panel under this provision, the Chairman will inform them in writing giving, where practicable, fifteen 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.
73. If the Police and Crime Panel requires the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend before the Panel, the Panel may (at reasonable notice) request of the Commissioner that the Chief Constable also attend 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.

### **Attendance by others**

74. The Police and Crime 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.

### **Carrying out 'Special Functions'**

75. The special functions of the Panel may not be discharged by a subcommittee of the Panel or a task group. Special functions are those functions conferred on a Panel by: -
- a. Section 28(3) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (scrutiny of Police and Crime Plan)
  - b. Section 28(4) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (scrutiny of annual report)
  - c. Paragraphs 10 and 11 of Schedule 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (review of senior appointments)
  - d. Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (issuing precepts)
  - e. Part 1 of Schedule 8 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (scrutiny of appointment, suspension or removal of the Chief Constable)
76. Reports and recommendations made in relation to the functions outlined in the terms of reference will be carried out in accordance with the procedures outlined at paragraphs 77- 108.

### **Police and Crime Plan (Section 28 Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011)**

77. The Police and Crime Commissioner must issue a Police and Crime Plan within the year in which he or she is elected. The Commissioner may vary the Plan or issue a new one during that time.
78. The Police and Crime Commissioner must send the draft Police and Crime Plan or variation to the Police and Crime Panel in good time to enable the Panel to consider the plan.
79. The Police and Crime Panel, having considered the draft Police and Crime Plan or variation will make a written report or recommendation to the Police and Crime Commissioner in relation to the draft Plan or variation. The Panel will require a written response to the report or recommendation.

**PCC's Annual Report (Section 28 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011)**

80. The Police and Crime Commissioner will produce an Annual Report on the exercise of his functions in the financial year and on the progress made on meeting the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan and send a copy to the Police and Crime Panel.
81. The Police and Crime Panel will hold a public meeting, which the Police and Crime Commissioner must attend to present the Annual Report and respond to questions from the Panel.
82. The Police and Crime Panel will make a written report or recommendations on the Annual Report to the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Panel will require a written response to the report or recommendations.

**Senior Appointments (Schedule 1 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011)**

83. The Panel has a duty to review the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed appointments of the Chief Constable, a Chief Executive, a Chief Finance Officer and a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. The Panel is required to hold public confirmation hearings for these posts.
84. 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. Guidance on convening confirmatory hearings exists here: <https://cfgs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/police-and-crime-panels-on-confirmation-hearings.pdf>

**Appointment of Chief Constable (Schedule 8 Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011)**

85. Where a Chief Constable is to be appointed, the Panel is required to hold a confirmatory hearing within the period of three weeks from the day on which the Panel received notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner.
86. Confirmatory hearings will be held in public and the candidate will be 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.
87. Having considered the appointment, the Panel will be asked to either:
  - a. support the appointment without qualification or comment
  - b. support the appointment with associated recommendations

- c. 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)
- 88. If the Panel vetoes the appointment of the Chief Constable, the report to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel vetoed the appointment with reasons.
- 89. Where the Panel exercises its power of veto of the proposed appointment, the Commissioner shall then propose a 'reserve candidate' for appointment as Chief Constable.
- 90. When a reserve candidate has been proposed, the Panel is required to hold a confirmatory hearing within the period of three weeks from the day on which the Panel received notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 91. Having considered the appointment the Panel will be asked to make a report to the Commissioner, which will include a recommendation to the Commissioner as to whether or not the reserve candidate should be appointed.
- 92. The Commissioner must have regard to the report and will notify the Panel of his decision as to whether or not he accepts or rejects the recommendation.

**Appointment of an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner (Part 1 Chapter 6 Section 62 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011)**

- 93. The Panel must appoint a person as Acting Police and Crime Commissioner if:
  - a. no person holds the office of Police and Crime Commissioner
  - b. the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated
  - c. the Police and Crime Commissioner is suspended
- 94. The Police and Crime Panel may appoint a person as Acting Police and Crime Commissioner only if the person is a Member of the Police and Crime Commissioner's staff at the time of the appointment or if he or she is the Deputy PCC in which case the Deputy PCC's term of office will run until the acceptance of office by the newly elected PCC, whereupon it will automatically terminate.
- 95. In appointing a person as Acting Police and Crime 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.
- 96. The appointment of an Acting Police and Crime 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 Police and Crime Panel, or by the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner, of the appointment of the Acting Commissioner;
- c. in a case where the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner is appointed because the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated, the Commissioner ceasing to be incapacitated;
- d. in a case where the Acting Police and Crime Commissioner is appointed because the Police and Crime Commissioner is suspended, the Commissioner ceasing to be suspended.

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

97. Where the Police and Crime Commissioner suspends a Chief Constable from duty, he will inform the Police and Crime Panel as soon as practicable.
98. Where the Police and Crime Commissioner intends to seek the resignation or retirement of the Chief Constable, the Commissioner must provide the Chief Constable with a written explanation of the reasons why he is proposing to call for their resignation or retirement. The Commissioner will also notify the Police and Crime Panel in writing and provide the Panel with a copy of the explanation provided to the Chief Constable.
99. The Police and Crime Commissioner may not call upon the Chief Constable to resign or retire until the scrutiny process involving the Police and Crime Panel has been completed.
100. The Chief Constable will make representations to the Police and Crime Commissioner, which the Commissioner must have regard to and must provide a copy of to the Police and Crime Panel as soon as reasonably practicable. If, following consideration of the written representations, the Commissioner still intends to seek the resignation or retirement of the Chief Constable, he or she must notify the Panel.
101. The Police and Crime Panel will hold a meeting, at which the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable may make representations to consider whether or not the Commissioner should call for the resignation or retirement of the Chief Constable.
102. Within six weeks of the notification in paragraph 97 the Panel will make a written recommendation to the Police and Crime Commissioner as to whether he or she should call for the resignation of the Chief Constable. The Panel will require a response to the recommendation.



**Proposed precept (Schedule 5 Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011)**

103. The Police and Crime Commissioner will notify the Panel of the precept which the Commissioner is proposing to issue for the financial year by 1 February of the relevant financial year. The Panel must review the proposed precept and make a report including recommendations by 8 February of the relevant financial year.
104. Having considered the precept, the Panel will either:
  - a. support the precept without qualification or comment;
  - b. support the precept and make recommendations;
  - 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).
105. If the Panel vetoes the proposed precept, the report to the Police and Crime Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed the proposed precept with reasons, including an indication as to whether it considers the proposed precept is too high or too low. The Panel will require a response to the report and any such recommendations.
106. Where the Panel exercises its power of veto, the Commissioner must issue a response, notifying the Panel of the revised precept he intends to issue. (If the Panel had vetoed the proposed precept because it was too high, the revised precept must be lower; and if the Panel had vetoed the proposed precept because it was too low, the revised precept must be higher.)
107. When notified of a revised precept, the Panel shall, by 22 February of the relevant financial year, review the revised precept and make a report to the Commissioner, which may indicate with the Panel accepts or rejects the revised precept (a rejection does not prevent the Commissioner from issuing the revised precept as the precept for the financial year) and make recommendations.
108. The Commissioner shall have regard to the second report (and any recommendations) and will issue a response (to be published) to that report, by 1 March of the relevant financial year.

**Complaints**

109. Complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner may be brought to the attention of and recorded by the Panel subject to procedures to be agreed by the Panel. Complaints involving suspicion that a criminal offence has been committed must be referred to the Independent Office for Police Conduct.
110. Non-criminal complaints in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner or any Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner can be considered by the Panel through a hearing. The Panel can examine this through a subcommittee.

111. The Panel may delegate the initial handling of complaints and conduct matters but not its functions relating to the final resolution of a complaint. Part 4 of this Constitution deals with such complaints.
112. A Police and Crime 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;
  - b. the offence is one which carries a maximum term of imprisonment of two years or more.
113. The suspension of the Police and Crime Commissioner ceases to have effect upon the occurrence of the earliest of the following 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;
  - d. the termination of the suspension by the Police and Crime Panel.

#### **Working with Local Authority Scrutiny Bodies**

114. The Panel will act in accordance with any Protocols developed between the Police and Crime Panel and Local Authorities.

#### **Review of Constitution**

115. This constitution may be amended at any time by the Police and Crime Panel. The Host Authority will conduct an annual review of the provisions of the Constitution and report to the Panel on the outcome of that review should it be considered appropriate to make any amendments. The Host Authority will carry out a review of the provisions of Schedule 1 at any time upon the occurrence of a change in political balance in the authorities represented on the Panel and report to the Panel on any proposed changes.

# PART 4

## MAKING A COMPLAINT ABOUT THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER OR DEPUTY POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

## **4. Making a Complaint about the Police and Crime Commissioner or Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner**

**(Elected Local Policing Body (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012, Part 4)**

### **Introduction**

This section explains:

- how to complain about the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Commissioner and/or Deputy PCC ('PCC/DPCC').
- what type of complaints the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Panel ('the Panel') can consider.
- the process that will be followed in handling and resolving these complaints.

### **Background**

On 20th December 2012, the Panel delegated authority to the Director of Law and Governance, Leicestershire County Council to:

- i. act as the first point of contact for complaints (and that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Panel act as second or reserve points of contact);
- ii. make decisions, in consultation with the Chairman of the Panel if appropriate, as to whether:
  - (1) a complaint has been made which requires resolution under the complaint's procedures;
  - (2) that complaint should be referred to the Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC);
  - (3) the complaint should be subject to the informal resolution process; and
  - (4) to make arrangements for the process of informal resolution;
- iii. produce such further procedures, notes of guidance and forms as may be helpful to assist in the operation of the process and the provision of information to complainants;

At the same meeting the Panel delegated authority to the Director of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to:

- i. resolve complaints informally, or
- ii. arrange for a meeting of a sub-committee to be drawn from the full membership of the Police and Crime Panel, to resolve complaints informally.

References to the Panel in this document include therefore the Director of Law and Governance acting on behalf of the Panel, or to the equivalent postholder in the relevant Host Authority from time to time.

## Objectives

The objectives of the complaints process are to:

- Handle complaints in a fair and independent way
- Deal with complaints as quickly and effectively as possible
- Keep all parties informed of progress until the complaint reaches a conclusion

## What complaints can the Panel look at?

The Panel is responsible for dealing with complaints about the conduct of the PCC/DPCC. This means the way things are done or not done, statements that are made and the way decisions are taken.

Any complaint alleging criminal conduct will first be passed onto the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) for investigation.

Other non-criminal complaints are logged and then handled by the Panel, in accordance with the decisions and delegations referred to above, usually through a process of Informal Resolution.

## What the Panel is unable to do

There are certain complaints the Panel cannot consider because it does not have the legal power to do so. There are separate procedures for the following complaints:

- Complaints about operational policing matters
- Complaints about the Chief Constable
- Complaints relating to the administration of the Panel
- Complaints relating to the conduct of Members of the Panel.

If it is decided that your complaint should be directed to another body because it falls beyond the Panel's remit, the Panel will explain why and offer to direct it to the appropriate body.

The Panel cannot consider complaints about the merits of a PCC/DPCC decision, for example where someone disagrees with a policy the PCC/DPCC has introduced.

It is important to note that the Panel has no power to investigate complaints in any way, although it may ask the PCC/DPCC to provide information or comment on the complaint.

## Submitting a complaint

Complaints should be sent in writing to:

Kamal Adatia  
City Barrister and Monitoring Officer  
Leicester City Council  
Leicester  
LE1 1FZ

Or by email to [Monitoring-Officer@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:Monitoring-Officer@leicester.gov.uk)

You can arrange for someone to act on your behalf, such as a friend or relative. However, you must provide written confirmation that you have given your consent before the Panel can discuss your case with them.

## **How the Panel will deal with your complaint (Elected Local Policing Body (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012, Reg 9 etc)**

### **Step 1 – Initial Assessment**

Your complaint will be checked to see that it is about the conduct of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland PCC/DPCC.

If the complaint is about operational policing matters or the performance of the Leicestershire Police or any of its officers, you will be redirected to the Leicestershire Constabulary.

If the complaint is about the Chief Constable, it will be passed to the PCC.

### **Step 2 – Recording your Complaint**

If your complaint relates to the conduct of the PCC/DPCC it will be recorded, unless the matter has been or is currently being dealt with by criminal proceedings.

If it is decided not to record your complaint, the reason for this will be explained to you.

Where a complaint is recorded:

- a) You will be supplied with a copy of the record made of the complaint; and
- b) The PCC/DPCC will be supplied with a copy of the complaint.

A copy of a complaint supplied may be in a form which keeps anonymous your identity or the identity of any other person.

A copy of the complaint may not be supplied where to do so may:

- a) Prejudice any criminal investigation or pending proceedings, or
- b) Would otherwise be contrary to the public interest.

Where it is decided not to supply a copy of a complaint, that decision shall be kept under regular review.

### **Step 3 – Deciding how your complaint will be handled**

#### **Option A – Is it a serious complaint that should be passed to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC)?**

If your complaint alleges criminal conduct (or appears to involve a criminal offence that can be triable in England and Wales) it will be passed to the IOPC. The IOPC will then decide how to deal with your complaint.

#### **Option B – Are there grounds to reject the complaint?**

It may be decided to reject your complaint and take no action in the following circumstances:

- a) The complaint is by a member of the PCC staff, arising from their work;

- b) The complaint is more than 12 months old where there is no good reason for the delay, or the delay would be likely to cause injustice;
- c) The complaint is about conduct that is already the subject of another complaint;
- d) The complaint is anonymous;
- e) The complaint is vexatious, oppressive or otherwise an abuse of the procedures for dealing with complaints; or
- f) The complaint is repetitious.
- g) The complaint is trivial, unevidenced, circumstantial or otherwise wholly inferential

If it is decided to take no action regarding your complaint you will be notified of the reasons for this.

### **Option C – Has the complaint already been satisfactorily dealt with?**

If it appears your complaint has already been satisfactorily dealt with by the time it comes to the Panel's attention, it may decide to take no further action.

### **Option D – Should the complaint be taken forward to Informal Resolution?**

If your complaint has not been passed to the IOPC, rejected, or already been dealt with, it will usually be taken forward to informal resolution.

## **What is Informal Resolution of Complaints?**

Informal Resolution is a way of dealing with a complaint without investigation or formal proceedings. It is a flexible process that may be adapted to the needs of the complainant and the individual complaint.

Informal Resolution may be conducted by the Director of Law and Governance (in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Panel) or by the Panel or a sub-committee of the Panel. Examples of informal resolution include:

- Resolution by telephone
- Providing information
- Concluding the matter through correspondence and explaining the circumstances
- Individual communication between the PCC/DPCC and the complainant via the office of the Director of Law and Governance
- An apology made by the person complained about
- A face to face meeting between the complainant and the person subject to the complaint facilitated through the office of the Director of Law and Governance
- Identification of 'lessons to be learnt' and changes in practice communicated to the complainant

In attempting to secure a resolution the Panel will consider whether further information, clarification or explanation is required and/or whether any actions are required and can be agreed with all parties.

The Panel cannot tender an apology on behalf of the person who is subject to the complaint unless he or she is agreeable to this.

The Panel has no powers to investigate complaints (including seeking corroborating witness statements) but is allowed to ask the person complained against to provide information and documents and /or attend to answer questions.

The Panel cannot impose formal sanctions on the person you have complained about because it does not have the power to do so.

## **Outcome of Informal Resolution**

A record of the outcome of your complaint will be sent to both parties and shall not be published unless (i) both parties have been given the chance to comment on the proposed publication And (ii) it is deemed in the public interest to publish the outcome.

## **Timescales for Handling your Complaint**

Wherever reasonably possible your complaint will be acknowledged within 5 working days. Your complaint will be concluded, insofar as reasonably practicable within 12 weeks if it is dealt with through informal resolution.

However, each case is different, and the time taken to reach a conclusion will depend on the nature of the complaint.

All parties will be kept updated of progress until the complaint reaches a conclusion.

If the complaint is criminal in nature it must be passed to the IOPC as soon as possible. You will be notified if that happens. The IOPC will then decide how to deal with the complaint and will contact you.

## **Withdrawing a Complaint**

If you wish to withdraw your complaint you (or someone authorised to act on your behalf) must say this in writing via post or email. It is however for the Panel to determine whether a complaint should be withdrawn.

## **Appeals**

There is no right of appeal regarding the outcome of the complaint. The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman has the power to investigate the administration of the complaint process.

If you are unhappy with the way your complaint was handled, you can refer the matter to the Local Government Social Care Ombudsman.



# PART 5

# ROLE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

## **5. Role of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

---

Directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) were introduced by the 2011 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act. The role of the PCC is to be the voice of the people and to hold the Chief Constable to account.

The PCC is responsible for setting priorities for the police force within their area, having regard to needs and demands of communities and ensuring that local and national priorities are suitably funded by setting a budget and for the local performance of the force. He or she will do this by, inter alia:

1. representing all those who live and work in the communities in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and identifying their policing needs
2. Setting priorities that meet those needs by agreeing a force level strategy plan for Leicestershire Police (the police and crime plan)
3. Holding the Chief Constable to account for achieving these priorities as efficiently and effectively as possible, ensuring that value for money is achieved
4. Agreeing the Leicestershire Police budget and setting the precept
5. Hiring the Chief Constable and, if necessary, calling upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign
6. Having regard to reports and recommendations made by the Police and Crime Panel

# SCHEDULES

### **MEMBERS TO THE LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

1. The statutory requirement is for a Panel of 10 Councillors and 2 Independent Members. The ten Councillors **must** include one from each local authority in the area – i.e. City, County, Rutland and 7 Districts. However, in establishing the Panel it is necessary to ensure the membership: -
  - i) Represents all parts of the relevant police area (geographic balance);
  - ii) Represents the political make-up of the relevant authority or relevant authorities (when taken together);
  - iii) Has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to discharge the functions effectively.
2. When the Panel was established in 2012 the decision was taken to establish a Panel of 15 Members made up as follows:
  - 8 Members representing the County Area (7 nominated by the Districts and 1 by the County)
  - 4 City Members
  - 1 Rutland Member
  - 2 Independent Co-opted Members
3. This make-up was to ensure that 'all parts of the relevant police area were appropriately represented hence the decision to allow 4 City representatives to reflect the fact it accounts for nearly 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the population served by the Police.
4. The other considerations are the political balance of the 'area as a whole' and the view taken by all Authorities that powers of the Panel were considered so significant that an Executive Member would represent their Authority. Based on this and the current political balance and control of local authorities (see table below) the membership is as follows:
  - 7 Conservatives                      Nominees from - County Council, Rutland, Harborough, Melton, Charnwood, Blaby, NWLDC)
  - 4 Labour                                      City Council
  - 2 Liberal Democrats                      (Nominees from Hinckley & Bosworth and Oadby & Wigston)
  - 2 Independent Co-opted Members

*(Note 1– Due to the geographical balance requirement the Labour Party has a slightly higher representation than the overall political balance would suggest. The political balance will be reviewed after every election – the next review will take place following the County Council elections in 2021.*

*Note 2 – The size of the PCP was agreed with the Home Office and any decision to increase the size would need Home Office approval. It is therefore proposed that the size of the Panel remain unchanged).*

### QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. The Agenda for Ordinary meetings of the Panel shall include the opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of the Panel members on issues under the purview of the Panel.
2. The Agenda item will ordinarily allow no more than 10 minutes for this item, though the Chair of the Panel may reduce or extend this in their absolute discretion.
3. Anyone living, working or studying within the area of the constituent authorities will be entitled to ask questions.
4. A questioner can submit up to two questions per Panel either in their own right or on behalf of one organisation.
5. Notice of questions must be received by the Lead Authority for the Panel no later than 15 clear working days before the Ordinary Panel meeting is held.
6. In order for a question to be accepted, it must relate to the strategic functions of the PCC (including his Police and Crime Plan) and not relate to the operational management of Leicestershire Police \*

*(\* Any questions relating to the operational management of Leicestershire Police will automatically be directed to the Office for the Chief Constable, who will endeavour to respond in accordance with normal practice – the questioner will be notified that it has been forwarded. These questions will therefore not be taken in public at PCP meetings.)*

7. Questions may not:
  - Require the disclosure of exempt or confidential information
  - Repeat a question asked at a Panel meeting in the previous 6 months
  - Be defamatory, frivolous or offensive
8. In circumstances where a questioner is unable to attend personally or be represented at the Panel meeting at which his/her question is to be considered, the answer will be presented to the Panel and forwarded in writing to the questioner.
9. Where the questioner or their representative attends the Panel in person to receive the answer to their question the questioner (or representative as the case may be) may in the Chair's discretion be permitted to ask one supplementary or follow up question on the same subject matter as their original questions and to receive an answer orally through the Chair.

For Information

*Meetings of the PCP are webcast live to the public and this footage will be owned by and archived in perpetuity on the website of the Leicester City Council.*

*The public are reminded that the PCC has his own channels of communication through which the public are encouraged to engage, including a "Have Your Say" area of the PCC's website:*

*<https://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Have-Your-Say/Comments.aspx> and his direct email address: [police.commissioner@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk](mailto:police.commissioner@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk)*