

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WEST MIDLANDS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON 11 JULY 2016 AT 1400 HOURS, SOLIHULL

PRESENT:-

Cllr Sean Coughlin, Chair – Walsall
Cllr Claire Clews (Substitute) – Walsall
Cllr John O’Shea – Birmingham
Cllr Peter Douglas-Osborn – Birmingham
Cllr Ken Hawkins - Solihull
Cllr Mike Bird - Walsall
Cllr Cathryn Bayton (Substitute) - Dudley
Cllr Preet Kaur-Gill - Sandwell
Cllr Abdul Khan - Coventry
Cllr Pervez Akhtar (Substitute) – Coventry
Lionel Walker – Independent Member
Kristina Murphy – Independent Member

ALSO PRESENT:

David Jamieson – West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner
Jonathan Jardine – Chief Executive for the Office of PCC
Ashley Bertie – Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
Judy Foster - Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
Emma Williamson – Head of Scrutiny Birmingham/ Panel Lead Officer
Baseema Begum – Research and Policy Officer

ELECTION OF CHAIR

266 Nominations were invited by Emma Williamson, Panel Officer, for the position of Chair of the Panel. It was proposed, seconded and:-

RESOLVED:-

That Councillor Sean Coughlan (Walsall) be appointed Chair of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel for the period ending with the Annual Meeting in 2017.

COUNCILLOR SEAN COUGHLAN IN THE CHAIR

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

267 Nominations were invited by Cllr Coughlan for the position of Vice-Chair of the Panel. It was proposed, seconded and:-

RESOLVED:-

That Councillor Ken Hawkins (Solihull) be appointed Vice-Chair of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel for the period ending with the Annual Meeting in 2017.

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEMBERSHIP 2016-2017

(See document No.1)

RESOLVED:-

- 268 i) That the appointments to the Panel by the West Midlands Local Authorities and the West Midlands Joint Committee for the 2016/17 Municipal Year be noted;
- ii) That the following two candidates be appointed as Independent Co-opted Members of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel for the term ending in May 2020:

Kristina Murphy
Lionel Walker

APOLOGIES

- 269 Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Fiona Williams, Paul Sweet, Dave Tyler, Wendy Thompson, George Duggins, Julie Webb (substitute), Waseem Zaffar (substitute), Les Jones (substitute), Jayne Francis (substitute), Roger Lawrence (substitute) and Sarah Norman Lead Chief Executive.
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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 270 None.
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MINUTES

- 271 The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
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CHAIRS INTRODUCTION

- 272 The Chair welcomed all Members to the Panel for the current municipal year.
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PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

- 272 No public questions were submitted.
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QUESTION AND ANSWER TIME WITH THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

- 273 Members of the Panel put questions to David Jamieson, the Police and Crime Commissioner. The following responses were made:-
- With regards to the former Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC), the PCC said that he had not been required to provide information to the Panel on this matter. The former DPCC's contract ended at the end of the PCC's former term (11th May) and she has not sought re-

appointment to any post. The former DPCC has taken a number of actions already, including making serious accusations. She had been invited to substantiate those accusations and had not done so. She has been through all the approaches available to her. The PCC stated that if Members have further information, then he would respond accordingly.

- The PCC undertook to provide further information on the take up of Business Crime Support initiative. There is currently some work going on in Birmingham and if successful will be developed across the region.
- The PCC highlighted that he is currently undertaking a consultation on his own Police & Crime Plan for the West Midlands in consultation with the Chief Constable. There is an on-line consultation asking residents, businesses and other stakeholders to give their views. Key priorities for the PCC are economic development, working with the West Midlands Combined Authority and the Metro Mayor in-line with the changing circumstances across the region.

RESOLVED:-

That the PCC provides details on the numbers of referrals to the Business Crime Support Service and information on outcomes.

STRATEGIC POLICE AND CRIME BOARD AND ASSISTANT POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS

- 274 The following report on the role of Strategic Police and Crime Board and Assistant Police and Crime Commissioners was submitted:-

(See document No. 2)

- The PCC outlined the role and make-up of the Strategic Police & Crime Board and the streamlining that has taken in place since he came into post.
- The appointment of two Assistant Police & Crime Commissioners was explained and the appointment of 8 people on the board. There is a good representation of political, gender, geography and ethnicity in the appointments made. The PCC highlighted the interview process and the invitation of a Panel member to observe the process. Lionel Walker from the Panel attended to observe and provided feedback on the experience.
- The Assistant Police & Crime Commissioners explained their respective roles, duties and responsibilities.
- Judy Foster outlined her key areas of responsibility that include leading on:
 - Professional standards and complaints against the police;
 - Equalities & Human Rights (in the Police force);
 - Victims (historic child abuse and engaging with the Goddard Inquiry);
 - Counter terrorism;
 - Mental health; and
 - Employment relations (in the Police force).
- Ashley Bertie is leading on public engagement, young people (including gang and violence commission) and stop and search.

- In response to a question about the proactive recruitment of BME officers it was confirmed that the new Chief Constable of West Midlands Police is committed to increasing the diversity of the force, including recruiting from BME backgrounds. A positive action day is planned to look at this issue in more detail. The PCC stated that this is a challenge, however a mentoring scheme is in place to support and encourage new recruits as retention is as important as recruitment. Included in this is what progression of BME officers already in post.
- With regards to a question on salary costs for the Assistant PCC's the PCC confirmed that the current arrangement meant that there was a reduction in the total cost than what was previously in place with the salary cost of the former Deputy PCC. The Board and the two Assistants are also costing less than they did previously.
- In response to a question on monitoring the performance of Assistant PCC's the PCC stated that they would be expected to demonstrate on a monthly basis to himself the work that they have carried out and what has been achieved. In addition they would be providing the PCC with their plans for the following three months and the PCC expects a report of the impact of their achievements between months 6 – 12. Both Assistants are on a 12 month renewable contract. The Board members will be assessed on their performance on a quarterly basis.

RESOLVED:-

That the PCC provides the Panel with diversity information for West Midlands Police participants in the Strategic Command Course in recent years.

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL BUDGET FOR 2015/16 AND 2016/17

- 275 The following report setting out the Panel's expenditure for 2015/16 and the budget forecast for 2016/17 was submitted:-

(See document No. 3)

- Emma Williamson outlined the key points of the report. It was highlighted that Members had agreed in 2012 that they would not claim an allowance. This can be changed if the Panel decides otherwise.
- It was clarified that contingency funding is only claimed if it is spent. This is done twice a year in retrospect.
- It was requested by budget headings in the report to the Panel are kept the same for successive years.

RESOLVED:-

That the Panel expenditure for 2015/16 and forecast for 2016/17 be noted.

WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17 AND RECENT DECISIONS BY THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

- 276 The following report setting out proposals for shaping the Panel's work programme for 2016/17, together with a suggested timetable of meetings was submitted:-

(See document No.4)

The following responses were received:-

- Cllr Douglas-Osborn stated that the Panel could do a piece of work around Child Grooming.
- Jonathan Jardine highlighted that the Panel could take a look at the work plan of the Strategic Police and Crime Board. He also stated the delivery of the WMP2020 should be a prime focus for key areas of work that can be examined further by the Panel.
- It was suggested by Cllr Ken Hawkins that the Panel wait for the Police and Crime Plan to come to its September meeting before Members decide on key pieces of work to undertake. He reiterated that the Panel should prioritise scrutiny of the WMP2020 delivery plan.

RESOLVED:-

- That the report be noted and Panel Members consider how they wish to refine the work programme topics; and
- The suggested meeting dates for the 2016/17 Municipal Year be noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

277 2pm on Monday 5th September 2016 (venue to be confirmed).

URGENT BUSINESS

278 None.

The meeting ended at 15:18 hours

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CHAIR