

Report to: The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

Report of: The Lead Panel Officer

Date: 15 October 2018

Establishment of a Police and Crime Panel Budget Sub-Group

1. Introduction

This report sets out the terms of reference and suggested membership for the Police and Crime Panel Budget Sub-Group.

2. Recommendations

- i) Agree the terms of reference for the Budget Sub-Group attached at Appendix A; and**
- ii) Appoint a minimum of 3 members to the Budget Sub-Group for the remainder of the 2018/19 Municipal Year.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 gives the Police and Crime Panel the responsibility to review the Police and Crime Commissioner's annual precept proposals.
- 3.2 This is one of only two areas where the Panel has the power of veto and therefore is a significant responsibility for the Panel.
- 3.3 To reach an informed decision on the precept proposals the Panel must scrutinise the PCC's budget.

4. The role of the Sub-Group

- 4.1 To enable the Panel to adequately scrutinise the PCC's budget in the necessary detail, and to be able to develop robust lines of enquiry, it is recommended that an informal sub-group of members be constituted to lead on the financial aspects of the Panel's role.
- 4.2 The terms of reference for the Sub Group is set out at Appendix A.
- 4.3 The Sub-Group would report its findings and any recommendations to the Police and Crime Panel.

5. Meetings

- 5.1 It is suggested the Budget Sub-Group meet three times - in October/ November, then in January/February and in June/July.

6. Membership

- 6.1 Given the terms of reference and to draw on the expertise of the Panel it is recommended that members of the Sub-Group have the relevant financial skills and/or experience.
- 6.2 There should be a minimum of three members with membership open to Panel Members and named substitutes. It is also suggested the group is cross party and has regional representation.

Appendix A – Terms of Reference Police and Crime Panel Budget Sub Group

Lead Officer:

Sarah Norman – Chief Executive, Dudley MBC

Contact Officers:

Emma Williamson – Head of Scrutiny Services, Birmingham City Council

Sarah Fradgley – Scrutiny Officer, Birmingham City Council

wmpcp@birmingham.gov.uk Tel: 0121 303 1727

Appendix A

West Midlands Police and Crime Panel Budget Sub-Group

Terms of Reference

Purpose

To proactively scrutinise the Police and Crime Commissioner's budget and precept proposals prior to consideration by the Panel.

Membership

A minimum of 3 Members of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel (including Named Substitutes).

Role of the Budget Sub-Group

1. To develop a good understanding of the West Midlands Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner's budget, the key issues, projections, financial pressures and budget outturn.
2. To carry out detailed scrutiny of specific budget issues as necessary
3. To review the precept proposals in advance of the annual precept Panel meeting
4. To examine the PCC's Budget Outturn
5. To present its findings to the Police and Crime Panel so that other members of the Panel can make informed decisions.