



NORTHUMBRIA POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

25 October 2022

PRESENT:

Gateshead Council	Councillors A Douglas (Chair) and P Maughan
Newcastle City Council	Councillor K Robinson
North Tyneside Council	Councillor T Mulvenna
South Tyneside Council	Councillor J Foreman
Sunderland City Council	Councillors S Laws and J Warne
Independent Co-opted Members	Mr J Klajn

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

K McGuinness	- Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria (PCC)
R Durham	- Chief of Staff
A Pearson	- Director of Planning and Delivery
S Hume	- Director Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit

Gateshead Council

G Morton	- Representing the Clerk to the Panel
A Simmons-Mather	- Legal and Democratic Services
M Aynsley	- Democratic Services

APOLOGIES: Councillors J Sathian (Newcastle City Council), C Johnson and C Burdis (North Tyneside Council), J Welsh (South Tyneside Council) and P Stewart and C Rowntree (Sunderland City Council)

GED MORTON

The Panel was advised that this was the last meeting of the Panel that Ged Morton would be attending as he was leaving Gateshead Council for a new post with Stockton Council. Members thanked Ged for his advice and contribution to the work of the Panel and wished him all of the best in his new role.

13. MINUTES

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the last meeting held on 26 July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

14. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER

The terms of office of the Panel's current Independent Members comes to an end in May 2024. One of the Independent Members, Mr A Shepherd, has resigned from the Panel.

All of the constituent Councils have been requested to place the advert for the appointment of the Panel's Independent Member on their websites and to circulate the advert to relevant partners, organisations and individuals who might be interested in applying for the position.

It was proposed that the Clerk should be authorised, following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Panel, to finalise the timetable for the appointment process. It is also suggested that the Chair, Vice Chair and another Member of the Panel should form a Group to shortlist the applicants and to undertake the subsequent interviews. The Group will then recommend its preferred candidate for appointment to the Panel which will make the final decision.

RESOLVED - (i) That the proposed arrangements outlined above for the appointment process for the Independent Member position be approved.

(ii) That training on the Panel's statutory responsibilities be arranged for all Members following the appointment of the Independent Member.

15. FEEDBACK FROM NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

There were no updates.

16. COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER – JUNE TO SEPTEMBER 2022

In accordance with the agreed procedure, an update report about the complaints and purported complaints against the PCC and every conduct matter recorded by the Monitoring Officer between June and September 2022 was submitted.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

17. DELIVERY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN – PREVENTING CRIME

The PCC submitted a thematic report on preventing crime setting out the aims to support this core theme and updates on the work being undertaken in regard to the two priorities in relation to the prevention of violent crime and neighbourhood policing. Northumbria Police and Crime Plan core performance data was also provided.

Steven Hume, Director of the Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit, also gave a presentation on preventing crime.

The Panel raised the following issues:

It was asked how the success of the Education Teams was measured. It was explained that whilst it was difficult to measure early intervention there had been a significant improvement in areas such as school attendance. The Student Liaison officers will have been in place for one year by March 2023 and that would be an appropriate time to gauge their success.

The issue of whole family interventions was raised, whether this was a multi-agency partnership approach and how they ensured that parents understood what their children were being advised. The Panel was informed that the key priorities were established for each of the families and this made it easier for officers to deal with them and to resolve their issues and problems. A multi-agency approach was adopted and this had been a positive approach.

A Member commented that police officers were on site at Walbottle Academy a few days per week and this had made a big difference to the students.

The success of Operation Payback was welcomed by Members.

Concern was expressed at the performance for call handling answer times. The Panel was advised that the performance was not acceptable, however, demand on the service was currently at its highest level. New call handlers had been recruited and more were due to be appointed. The call handlers were becoming increasingly proficient at their demanding roles.

RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

18. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Panel will be held on Tuesday, 13 December 2022 at 2.00pm.