

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2019 AT THE MECHANICS CENTRE, MANCHESTER

PRESENT:

Councillor Nadim Muslim	Bolton Council
Councillor Nigel Murphy	Manchester City Council – (In the Chair)
Councillor Steve Williams	Oldham Council
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford City Council
Councillor Warren Bray	Tameside Council
Councillor Mike Freeman	Trafford Council
Councillor Kevin Anderson	Wigan Council
Angela Lawrence MBE	Independent Member
Majid Hussain	Independent Member

ALSO PRESENT:

Baroness Beverley Hughes	GM Deputy Mayor
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OFFICERS:

Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Jeanette Staley	Salford City Council & GM Police and & Crime Policy Lead
Clare Monaghan	Director Policing, Crime and Fire, GMCA
Gwynne Williams	Deputy Monitoring Officer, GMCA
Steve Annette	GMCA Governance and Scrutiny
Peter Langmead-Jones	Head of External Relations, GMP
Sarah Barnes	Principal Researcher, GMCA
Alison Connelly	Principal (Criminal Justice and Victims), GMCA
Laura Mercer	Principal (Victims and Vulnerability), GMCA
ACC Chris Sykes	GMP

PCP/19/36

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received on behalf of Carolyn Wilkins, Chief Executive, Oldham Council, Councillor Sharon Briggs, Bury Council, Councillor Paula Boshell, Salford City Council, Councillor Amanda Peers, Stockport Council and Alison Gwynne, Tameside Council.

PCP/19/37

CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair announced the recent passing of councillor Steve Smith a former Chair of the GM Police Authority and placed on record the Panel's appreciation of his services and extended condolences to his family.

PCP/19/38

INFORMATION SERVICES TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME (iOPS)

ACC Chris Sykes, GMP provided a verbal update in relation to the Information Services Transformation Programme, in particular the iOPS products. He reported that the OCB's were now back to the position they were prior to the launch of iOPS, and that the data quality was much improved in the OCB with less failings, such as mapping, which had been one of the concerns under the old system. He reported that mobile technology was working well and police officers were now equipped with brand new devices, which provided better information and also reduced the need for officers to return to the police station as often. The focus remained on building confidence across the workforce, but specifically with front line staff on the operation of the new system during the period of transition, including training and understanding on how to get the most out of the system. Staff were finding some things slower and others slower and fine-tuning of the performance system would address those slower elements. The next phase in returning GMP to 'business as usual' would be a clear understanding of what the new norm is for the new operating system which has already demonstrated its capability in terms of the Force's response to specific, demands, for example the recent climate change demonstrations.

A Member sought assurance that (a) crime incidents with positive leads of enquiry were not being closed down as part of the efforts being made to reduce the open crime lists, (b) that incidents involving vulnerability and children were being appropriately actioned and (c) what feedback was available from the recent HMIC visit. In response, ACC Sykes said that there had been no change to GMP's closing down policy since iOPS had gone live. There was a real focus in relation to crimes involving vulnerability and extra resources had been introduced and crime queues were coming down; HMIC had been involved primarily in terms of giving additional reassurance, its report was awaited, and would be brought to a future meeting.

Members enquired whether the level of progress made was in line with planning and if any contract issues had arisen with Capita, and what level of service improvement had been achieved to date. ACC Sykes said that Capita had been fully supportive at every stage and the planned upgrade completed in the preceding week had been on track. The record management system was the area that had set back progress, all the previous data had been saved to the new system but staff still needed to be educated in terms of where and how to

fully access that data, and whilst it was difficult to quantify in percentage terms the level of improvement achieved overall, was estimated that this was in the region of 10% at this stage.

Members emphasised that communications were critical and ACC Sykes fully accepted this indicating that weekly engagement emails went out to every district so that everyone was kept in the loop.

The Deputy Mayor in concluding the discussion reminded members of the imperative that had driven the introduction of these system improvements. Detailed scrutiny of the system as it changes and develops would continue, and in this respect effective channels of communication remained key, especially at district and local level, and she welcomed all the support that had been given by the Districts during the implementation phase.

RESOLVED/-

To note the report and to thank ACC Sykes for his detailed responses to all the issues raised by members.

PCP/19/39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in relation to any of the items appearing on the agenda for the present meeting.

Councillor Mike Freeman declared a personal declaration of interest in Item 6 - Police Precept Setting Process and took no part in the discussion and decision making process.

PCP/19/40 MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2019

The minutes of the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel held on 23 September 2019 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel held on 23 September 2019, be approved as a correct record, subject to Councillor Warren Bray, Tameside Council, being included in the list of attendees and Majid Hussain, being deleted from the attendance list

PCP19/41 PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

The GM Deputy Mayor introduced a presentation that described the current position with regards to the Standing Together Outcomes Framework.

She said that this had first been embraced in the Police and Crime Panel's Outcomes Framework around the commitments in that Plan, so that together all our partners could get a view of progress made at both GM level and District Level, and the report now presented is the outcome of the first independent survey. These surveys would continue quarterly and

would provide progress which could be interrogated at GM level and by district breakdown and enable tracking of impacts being made.

Peter Langmead-Jones, GMP and Sarah Barnes, GMCA provided a comprehensive overview of the Standing Together Outcomes Framework, highlighting key outcomes from the survey of 2500 residents across Greater Manchester. The outcome would be published by the end of the month once remaining analysis had been completed.

Members generally welcomed the findings of the survey, they were interested to see the data drilled down to District level to enable hotspots to be identified in crime types such as domestic abuse, which could then focus local responses.

A member questioned how the information presented would find expression in other mainstream neighbourhood policing models and the Deputy Mayor accepted the importance of this being tied into community safety partnerships because that was the point of citizen access. She accepted the need to strengthen links between Neighbourhood Policing and Community Safety Partnerships and to this end had already assigned one of her team to be a direct link with each CSP.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the update be noted.

PCP/19/42 POLICE PRECEPT SETTING PROCESS

Richard Paver, Treasurer GMCA introduced a report which detailed the statutory duties of the Police and Crime Panel in relation to the setting of the police precept. He indicated that the impending Parliamentary General Election presented a central decision making vacuum and that it was likely therefore to be mid-January before the Home Office made any announcements about grant levels for 2020/21; the timetable was therefore very tight and it may require a special meeting of the Panel in the early part of the New Year.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the statutory duties of the Police and Crime Panel in relation to the setting of the police precept.
2. To note the timetable for the setting of the 2020/21 police precept and that arrangements be made for an additional meeting to take place in mid-January 2020.

PCP/19/43 RICHARD PAVER

On the occasion of his impending retirement, the Chair paid tribute to the support that Richard Paver had given to the work of the Panel, and members wished him well for the future.

PCP/19/44

STANDING TOGETHER: PRIORITY 2 – REDUCING HARM AND OFFENDING

The Deputy Mayor introduced the report and then Alison Connelly, Principal (Criminal Justice and Victims), GMCA provided an update on progress against the commitments under priority two of the Standing Together Police and Crime Plan - Reducing Harm and Offending.

She reported that some remarkable progress had been made in this area of work which was underpinned by a multi-agency Justice and Rehabilitation Executive, in particular a Memorandum of Understanding had been agreed with the Ministry of Justice to take forward developments to a new phase, as part of which a strong and successful bid had been made to establish a Head of Probation in Greater Manchester, and an appointment was to be made imminently

Alison Connelly then went through the presentation and answered specific questions on matters of detail. Members, whilst welcoming the news in relation to the Head of Probation for GM, were concerned to establish whether there were any funding or staffing consequences involved. Alison indicated that the Probation Service was nationally funded and that a GM Transition Board of which the Deputy Mayor would be a member would begin work in February, and that would be the forum for the debate about how resources were divided between Greater Manchester and the rest of the North West.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the report and the progress being made be noted.
2. That the establishment of a Head of Probation Office for Greater Manchester and the opportunity that this provides for a strong and coordinated approach to probation services be welcomed.

PCP/19/45

DECISIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR

Consideration was given to a report which highlighted decisions made by the Deputy Mayor in the period from 23 September to 31 October 2019.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the report.

PCP/19/46

GM POLICE AND CRIME PLAN – FORWARD LOOK 2018-20

Members emphasised the importance of maintaining an overview of iOPS at each meeting, until at least the end of the financial year. Reference was made to a previous request for a review of CCTV, and the Panel was reminded that a report had been presented (this would be recirculated) and if there was a wish for a further update this could be brought back.

RESOLVED/-

To note the report.

PCP/19/47

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Tuesday 28 January 2020

Tuesday 24 March 2020