SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020 24 NOVEMBER 2020

SUMMARY

In accordance with best practice for scrutiny and transparency as noted in Schedule 3 – In-Year Monitoring Information Requirements of the Home Office Grant Agreement, an annual report by Police and Crime Panels is an important Key Performance Indicator (KPI) to be monitored and reported on.

This is a newly introduced report which provides a summary of the activity of the Surrey Police and Crime Panel during July 2019 - May 2020 and the next annual report of the Panel will be aligned to its annual meeting in June 2021.

DETAIL

1. BACKGROUND

Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) were introduced through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, which significantly changed the arrangements for police governance and accountability in England and Wales. Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) were established through this legislation in order to provide scrutiny and support to PCCs.

The Panel is a Committee of the Council under sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972. The county and each of the eleven borough and district authorities across Surrey shall appoint one member as its representative on the Panel, and two independent persons will also be co-opted to the Panel. All fourteen members of the Police & Crime Panel may vote in proceedings of the Panel.

The twelve local authorities making up the Surrey Police and Crime Panel and adopting these constitutional arrangements are:

Elmbridge Borough Council
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Guildford Borough Council
Surrey Heath Borough Council
Mole Valley District Council
Reigate & Banstead Borough Council

Spelthorne Borough Council
Surrey County Council (host authority)
Runnymede Borough Council
Tandridge District Council
Waverley Borough Council
Woking Borough Council

Surrey County Council is the host authority responsible for the Panel's governance and administration. All Home Office funding for the Panel will be received and administered by the host authority.

In accordance with Surrey Police and Crime Panel's Constitution, the Panel will hold the elected Police and Crime Commissioner to account and will seek to work in a constructive manner with the post-holder with a view to supporting the effective exercise of his/her functions.

The Panel's Terms of Reference (ToR) is summarised below:

- 1.1 To review the draft police and crime plan, or draft variation, given to the Panel by the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) and make a report and recommendations to the PCC, who must have regard to them.
- 1.2 To review the PCC's annual report and ask questions, make reports and recommendations at a public meeting, which the PCC must attend.
- 1.3 To review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the PCC in connection with the discharge of the PCC's functions.
- 1.4 To publish any reports or recommendations made to the PCC.
- 1.5 To require the PCC and members of their staff to attend the Police & Crime Panel to answer questions.
- 1.6 To hold a confirmation hearing to review, make a report and put forward a recommendation in respect of senior appointments made by the PCC. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 identifies senior appointments as the Commissioner's Chief Executive, the Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer and a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 1.7 To hold a confirmation hearing to review and make a report on the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable, with the power to veto the appointment by a twothirds majority.
- 1.8 To hold a scrutiny hearing to review and report on the PCC's proposals to remove a Chief Constable.
- 1.9 To review the PCC's level of precept, with the power to veto the precept by a two-thirds majority.
- 1.10 To suspend the PCC on their being charged in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man with a criminal offence that carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years.
- 1.11 To appoint an acting PCC where the elected PCC is incapacitated, resigns or is disqualified.
- 1.12 To handle complaints about the conduct of the PCC and/or Deputy PCC and engage in informal resolution of such complaints, passing serious complaints to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) as appropriate.
- 1.13 The Police and Crime Panel may not exercise any functions other than those conferred by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (as outlined in paragraphs 1.1 1.12 above).

2. MEMBERSHIP

Elmbridge Borough Council	Councillor Christine Elmer
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	Councillor David Reeve
Guildford Borough Council	Councillor Fiona White
Surrey Heath Borough Council	Councillor Josephine Hawkins
Mole Valley District Council	Councillor Hazel Watson
Reigate & Banstead Borough Council	Councillor Victor Lewanski
Spelthorne Borough Council	Councillor Richard Barratt
Surrey County Council	Councillor Andrew Povey
Runnymede Borough Council	Councillor John Furey
Tandridge District Council	Councillor Ken Harwood (Chairman), Councillor Bob Milton from 7 May 2020
Waverley Borough Council	Councillor John Robini
Woking Borough Council	Councillor Will Forster
Independent Member	Mr David Fitzpatrick-Grimes (retired 30 October 2019), Vacant
Independent Member	Mr Bryan Cross (Vice-Chairman)

The Panel will be made up of twelve appointed members, one from each local authority in Surrey, and two independent members. All fourteen members of the Police and Crime Panel may vote in proceedings of the Panel.

All county, district and borough councillors are eligible to be members of the Police and Crime Panel. Appointments will be made at the relevant council's annual meeting, with the term of office agreed by that council.

Panel Members, both appointed and co-opted, may be re-appointed and may serve a maximum of eight years on the Panel.

A Chairman and a Vice-Chairman will be elected annually, at the annual meeting in June.

Councillor Ken Harwood, the Panel's Chairman 2019-2020 sadly passed away in March 2020. The Panel offered its deepest condolences to his family and thanks for his service to the Panel over the last eight years. The Vice-Chairman took over chairmanship in the interim.

3. MEETINGS

The Panel holds five public meetings a year in which the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey, David Munro, is invited to answer questions that the public and Panel Members may have. The Panel holds one informal meeting with the Chief Constable a year. The Panel also has Finance Sub-Group which meets annually and the Complaints Sub-Committee which meets as an when complaints against the PCC arise.

The Panel met on the following occasions for the reporting year 2019-2020:

- 18 September 2019
- 31 October 2019 Informal meeting
- 27 November 2019
- 7 February 2020 Budget meeting
- 20 April 2020 (cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic)

A summary of the agenda items is provided below. Any **RESOLVED** recommendations that fall within the Panel's statutory remit in line with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 are included; as the Panel 'notes' non-statutory items:

18 September 2019

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PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

❖ POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2018-2020 - PROGRESS

The PCC published a refreshed Police and Crime Plan in May 2018 for the period 2018 to 2020. This built on the previous plan issued in 2016. The refresh was informed by emerging crime trends, consultation, scrutiny of current force performance and meetings and visits with Surrey Police, public and partners.

❖ VICTIM AND WITNESS CARE UNIT STAFFING AND GOVERNANCE On 1 April 2019 Surrey Police opened its new Victim and Witness Care Unit, based out of Guildford Police Station. This professionally trained team has been established by the OPCC and Surrey Police to help victims of crime cope and, as far as possible, recover from their experience, putting in place

❖ RURAL CRIME STRATEGY

The report presented the panel with an update on the progress against the force rural crime strategy.

❖ INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME

care plans tailored to the needs of the individual.

The report presented the Annual Report for the OPCC for Surrey's Custody Visiting Scheme.

PCC PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The report detailed how the PCC seeks to engage with the Surrey public through face-to-face meetings and events, communications and consultation.

❖ CCTV

The Police and Crime Panel asked for an update on the Surrey Police CCTV (Closed Circuit Television) strategy.

Standing items – these appear on every agenda:

❖ FEEDBACK ON MANAGEMENT MEETINGS BETWEEN THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER AND CHIEF CONSTABLE

The report provided an update on the meetings that have been held: 24 June and 2019 (private meeting) and 14 August 2019 (webcast meeting); and what has been discussed in order to demonstrate that arrangements for good governance and scrutiny are in place.

❖ COMMISSIONER'S QUESTION TIME

The Panel to raise any issues or queries concerning crime and policing in Surrey with the Commissioner. The following key points were raised:

- Knife Crime
- High harm crimes Positive Outcome rate
- 101 calls average time to answer
- Vetting of staff/partners
- Parking controls

❖ COMPLAINTS RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Complaints Sub-Committee received no complaints since the last Panel meeting.

❖ RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER AND FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME To Panel reviewed the Recommendations Tracker and Forward Work Programme.

• 31 October 2019 – Informal meeting (private)

***** CHIEF CONSTABLE UPDATE

- Strategic observations, Demand for Services and Managing demand.
- **❖ EQUIP PROGRAMME UPDATE**
- **❖ ROADS POLICING**
- **❖ CALL HANDLING AND RESPONSE**
- ❖ CRIME RECORDING
- **RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING**
- **❖ BUILDING THE FUTURE VERBAL BRIEFING**

27 November 2019

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

❖ CONFIRMATION HEARING - APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) provides that the Police and Crime Commissioner for a police area must appoint a person to be responsible for the proper administration of the Commissioner's financial affairs (referred to in the Act as the Chief Finance Officer).

RESOLVED: The Panel reviewed the proposed appointment and would publish a report to the Commissioner on the proposal recommending the appointment of the candidate, Kelvin Menon.

❖ SURREY POLICE GROUP FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MONTH 12 FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/20

The purpose of the report was to inform the Police & Crime Panel of the Surrey Police Group (i.e. Finances of both the PCC and Chief Constable)

financial position as at the 30th September 2019, comparing the expenditure and income incurred by both Surrey Police and the Office of the Surrey Police & Crime Commissioner, with the revenue and capital budgets approved by the Police & Crime Commissioner in January 2019 for the financial year 2019/20

❖ OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER 2019/20 END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

The purpose of the report was to inform the Police & Crime Panel of the OPCC's financial performance. The purpose of this report is to inform the Police & Crime Panel of the OPCC's financial performance at Month 7 for the 2019/20 financial year. The report compares the expenditure and income, incurred and received by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner up to the 31st October, against the financial budget approved by the PCC in January 2019.

❖ MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

The purpose of the report was to provide the Police and Crime Panel with the latest projections on the expected financial position of the Surrey Police Group for the period 2019/20 to 2022/23.

❖ BUILDING THE FUTURE - UPDATE

The purpose of the report was to set out for the Panel the governance arrangements for the strategic change programme 'Building the Future' (BTF) and provide an update on key aspects of its delivery.

RECRUITMENT AND WORKFORCE PLANNING

The increase in the police precept for 2019/2020 meant that the police establishment will be increased by 104 police officers and operational staff. In June 2019 the PCC presented a paper to the panel providing information on where the extra resources would be directed. Since then, the Government have announced extra funding for police officers nationally. The paper provided an update on numbers, recruitment plans and timescales.

❖ VICTIM AND WITNESS CARE UNIT UPDATE

The paper had been created at the request of the PCC's Office to highlight the current 'as is' status of the Victim and Witness Care Unit (V&WCU), six months post implementation.

<u>Standing items – these appear on every agenda:</u>

❖ FEEDBACK ON PERFORMANCE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER AND CHIEF CONSTABLE

This report provides an update on the meetings that have been held: 25 September 2019 (private meeting) and 6 November 2019 (webcast meeting); and what has been discussed in order to demonstrate that arrangements for good governance and scrutiny are in place.

❖ COMMISSIONER'S QUESTION TIME

For the Panel to raise any issues or queries concerning crime and policing in Surrey with the Commissioner. The following key points were raised:

There were none.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Complaints Sub-Committee received no complaints since the last Panel meeting.

❖ SURREY PCP BUDGET 2018/19

The Surrey Police and Crime Panel has accepted a grant from the Home Office to meet the costs of the Panel, including the administrative support. This paper is to report on the use of the grant in 2018/19. The following key points were raised:

- The Home Office grant for 2018/19 was £66,180.
- The apportioned costs for time spent by officers and their associated overheads will be reclaimed against the Home Office grant and will amount to £60,677 for 2018/19 – consisting of Panel administration costs and Member expenses.
- The Panel voted unanimously that the report be deferred to Part 2 at an
 upcoming meeting, whereby an officer from the Finance department would
 answer the Panel's concerns on the reporting figures as it was noted that
 the accounts had been prepared on the same basis as in the previous
 year.
- ❖ RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER AND FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME To Panel reviewed the Recommendations Tracker and Forward Work Programme.
- 7 February 2020 Budget meeting

❖ PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were none.

❖ POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PROPOSED PRECEPT 2020/21 The Police and Crime Panel was required to consider and formally respond to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Proposed Precept for 2020/21. The purpose of the item was to allow the Commissioner to outline his proposals in more detail and to answer any questions that Panel Members might have.

Following consideration of the Commissioner's proposed precept, the Panel must either:

- a) agree the precept without qualification or comment;
- b) b) support the precept and make comments or recommendations concerning the application of the revenues generated;
- c) or c) veto the proposed precept. Report to follow due to the late Government announcement detailing the grant and precept cap level.

RESOLVED: The Panel voted unanimously: That it agreed the proposed Surrey Police Council Tax Precept of £270.57p for a Band D Property for the financial year 2020/21.

Action: On behalf of the Panel, the Vice-Chairman wrote to the Commissioner to confirm agreement of the 2020/21 precept proposal (7 February 2020).

❖ OFFICE OF THE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER'S BUDGET FOR 2020/21

The paper was provided to the Police & Crime Panel for information only to give Panel Members oversight of the intended budget, to fund the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for the financial year 2020/21.

❖ SURREY POLICE GROUP FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MONTH 8 FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/20

The purpose of the report was to inform the Police & Crime Panel of the Surrey Police Group (i.e. Finances of both the PCC and Chief Constable) financial position as at the 30th November 2019, comparing the expenditure and income incurred by both Surrey Police and the Office of the Surrey Police & Crime Commissioner, with the revenue and capital budgets approved by the Police & Crime Commissioner in January 2019 for the financial year 2019/20.

❖ OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER 2019/20 END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

The purpose of the report was to inform the Police & Crime Panel of the OPCC's financial performance at Month 8 for the 2019/20 financial year. The report compares the expenditure and income, incurred and received by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner up to the 30th November 2019, against the financial budget approved by the PCC in January 2019.

BUILDING THE FUTURE - UPDATE

The purpose of the report was to update the Panel on key aspects of delivery for the strategic change programme 'Building the Future' (BTF).

❖ POLICE COMPLAINTS REFORM

The report informed the Panel of the main changes to the police complaints system and how they are being implemented in the Surrey Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

<u>Standing items – these appear on every agenda:</u>

❖ FEEDBACK ON PERFORMANCE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER AND CHIEF CONSTABLE

The report provided an update on the meetings that have been held: 16 December 2019 (private meeting); and what has been discussed in order to demonstrate that arrangements for good governance and scrutiny are in place.

❖ COMMISSIONER'S QUESTION TIME

For the Panel to raise any issues or queries concerning crime and policing in Surrey with the Commissioner. The following key points were raised:

There were none.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Complaints Sub-Committee had received one complaint since the last Panel meeting, which would be reviewed within four weeks of receipt and the outcome presented to the Panel at its next meeting (PCP 0033).

SURREY PCP BUDGET 2018/19 - ADDENDUM The report set out additional information regarding the expenditure of the Home Office grant for the Surrey Police and Crime Panel.

The following key points were raised:

- Queried the high percentage allocation for Democratic Services
 Officers supporting the Panel at 90% Full Time Equivalent charge
 during that year, as support officers looked after a number of other
 committees.
- Queried the high amount of days spent by Legal officers, Accountants and Managers assisting the Panel under the Employee Costs breakdown 2018/19, which was excessive as the Panel met formally five times a year.

- Queried where the under spend of the Home Office grant went.
- Queried the £120 spent on refreshments between three meetings in 2018.

❖ REPORT ON INDEPENDENT MEMBERS - RECRUITMENT

The Panel was asked to note the ongoing open recruitment process for two co-opted independent members of the Police and Crime Panel.

- ❖ RECOMMENDATIONS TRACKER AND FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME To Panel reviewed the Recommendations Tracker and Forward Work Programme.
- 20 April 2020 (cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic)

❖ COVID-19 BRIEFING NOTE

The report was provided to the Panel by the OPCC in the absence of a meeting.

Key topics raised:

- Budget and resources
- Crime statistics
- Public feedback/dissatisfaction
- Arrests and Fixed Penalty Notice
- Social media campaigns

Sub-Committees:

The Panel is empowered to establish sub-committees to fulfil any of its functions except those that by law may not be delegated. Sub-committees may not co-opt members (3.29 ToR). The Panel currently has a Complaints Sub-Committee and a Finance Sub-Group which is re-established at the Panel's annual meeting – usually in June.

Complaints Sub-Committee:

Purpose:

To informally resolve non-criminal complaints about the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), as well as criminal complaints or conduct matters that are referred back to it by the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) on behalf of the Surrey Police and Crime Panel.

Membership:

Three - six appointed members of the Surrey Police and Crime Panel, including an Independent Member.

Frequency:

The Complaints Sub-Committee meets as and when a complaint that falls under its remit arises, in line with the agreed Complaints Protocol and the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012.

The Complaints Sub-Committee received one complaint on 22 January 2020 and met on 18 February 2020 to consider complaint PCP 0033. The outcome in summary was that:

- The Sub-Committee noted that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) had apologised for and recognised that there were some irregularities concerning the recording of complaints by staff from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the unacceptable delays in the OPCC's response to your complaint. The Sub-Committee acknowledged that subsequent actions had been taken to redress those matters.
- The Sub-Committee considered the complaint as set out in the summary above and not the opinion by the OPCC that the complaints were 'persistent' and 'vexatious'.
- The Sub-Committee recommended that it would be helpful if the PCC further explained to you his ability to hold the Chief Constable to account on strategic matters only.

The Complaints Sub-Committee has a non-investigatory role and the complainant if unsatisfied with the Sub-Committee's outcomes, may make a complaint to the LGO (Local Government Ombudsman).

Finance Sub-Group:

Purpose:

To monitor and review the Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner's budget proposals (including the proposed precept) and make recommendations to the Panel as appropriate.

Membership:

Three - six appointed members of the Surrey Police and Crime Panel, including an Independent Member.

Frequency:

The Sub-Group meets annually in advance of the Panel's annual budget meeting, in order to review the PCC's proposed precept by scrutinising the financial information provided in support of the precept and to identify any further information which might be required.

The Sub-Group met on 5 February 2020 to consider the Police and Crime Commissioner's Proposed Precept 2020/21, receiving a summary of the intention of the PCC's proposed precept of 3.84% - representing a £10 flat increase on last year's Band D property figure to £270.57p – which emulated the Minister of Policing's proposal in his statement in January without triggering a referendum. The £1.4mn savings programme put Surrey Police in a better financial position adding on the precept increase and Government grant.

The Sub-Group raised the following topics:

- Surrey Police officer/staff pay increase
- Recruitment based on the uplift
- Building the Future' project
- Budgeted Savings
- Areas of concern financial risk/overspend
- Government's Comprehensive Spending Review and Police Funding Formula

4. PANEL'S BUDGET

In establishing Police and Crime Panels, the Home Office agreed that a limited grant would be provided to each local authority acting as the host authority in providing the administrative support and management and maintaining the Police and Crime Panel. The host authority for the Surrey PCP is Surrey County Council.

The Panel's arrangements, agreed with the Home Office in 2013, stated that:

The annual costs associated with the operation, organisation and administration for the Panel shall be offset by the Home Office grant to be managed by the host authority. All of the relevant costs incurred by the host authority in connection with the work of the Panel shall be met from the funding allocated by the Home Office unless the authorities agree otherwise. The host authority shall monitor all expenditure incurred and make provision for an annual report.

In January 2013 the Panel agreed that Members (host authority) would not use the Home Office grant to draw allowances for members of the Panel.

HOME OFFICE GRANT 2019 MID-YEAR CLAIM: 1 April 2019 - 30 September 2019

In accordance with Schedule 3 – In-Year Monitoring Information Requirements of the Home Office Grant Agreement, a mid-year claim was produced.

To be returned to the Home Office by 31 October 2019 to remain eligible for the payment covering the second half of the financial year

The Home Office grant available for the 2019 mid-year claim was £33,090 (total grant = £66,180).

The actual expenditure was: £23,192.

Any underspend must be returned to the Authority (Home Office) and any overpayment of grant will be recovered.

OUTTURN FORECAST: 1 October 2019 – 31 March 2020

In accordance with Schedule 4 – Outturn Forecast of the Home Office Grant Agreement, an outturn forecast was produced.

To be returned to the Home Office by 6 March 2020 to remain eligible for the payment covering the second half of the financial year

The Home Office grant available for the outturn forecast was £33,090 (total grant = £66,180).

The actual expenditure was: £21,900.

Any underspend must be returned to the Authority (Home Office) and any overpayment of grant will be recovered.

HOME OFFICE GRANT 2019-2020 END-YEAR CLAIM: 1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020

The Home Office grant available for 2019-2020 was £66,180.

The actual expenditure was: £50,811

(£23,192 - Mid-Year Claim plus £21,900 - Outturn Forecast)

To be returned to the Home Office by 31 July 2020 to remain eligible for the payment covering the second half of the financial year – sent 7 May 2020.

Any underspend must be returned to the Authority (Home Office) and any overpayment of grant will be recovered.

5. VISITS, EVENTS AND TRAINING

- As part of new Panel Member's induction, the OPCC provides a tour round its headquarters at **Mount Browne**, Guildford as well as the **Contact Centre** there.
- Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) following the Panel meeting on 18 September 2019, Panel members received a presentation on ANPR from the ANPR & Vehicle Recovery Manager, Surrey Police.
- **Haywards Heath** Two Members visited the Surrey and Sussex Cyber Crime Unit based at Hayward's Heath Police Station 23 October 2019.
- Cyber Crime Presentation following the Panel meeting on 7 February 2020,
 Panel members received a presentation on the Surrey and Sussex Cyber Crime Unit.
- **Burpham Firearms Department** The scheduled visit on 23 March 2020 was postponed due to COVID-19 and will be rescheduled in due course.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further details about the Panel including meeting agendas and minutes please visit the Surrey County Council website: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-crime-panel community/emergency-planning-and-community-safety/surrey-police-and-crime-panel

The website of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey (PCC) can be accessed through the following link: https://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk/

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Panel members note the Surrey Police and Crime Panel's Annual Report 2019-2020.

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