



COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL AGENDA

Date: Monday, 23 November 2020

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Virtual Meeting

13 November 2020

PART 1

1. Apologies.
2. Notification of Substitute Members, if any.
3. To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. **(Pages 3 - 10)**
4. To Note the Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel. **(Pages 11 - 18)**
5. Declaration of Interests:
 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
 - Other Interests
6. Questions to Portfolio Holders, if any.
(At least two clear days notice required, in writing, to the Proper Officer in accordance with Procedure Rule 15).
7. Police, Fire & Rescue and Crime Annual Update - Matthew Ellis, Staffordshire Commissioner & Glynn Dixon, Chief Executive. (Presentation)
8. Early Outcomes Fund Project - Kate Tomson-Rayner, Project Volunteer Co-ordinator & Helen Gibson, Project Co-ordinator SCC.
9. Wildfire Public Spaces Protection Order **(To Follow)**
10. Work Programme **(Pages 19 - 20)**
Any additional items to be added to the Work Programme:
 - Chair's Items
 - Members' Items

MARK TRILLO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

Membership of Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel

Councillor D Shaw (Chair)

Councillor J Aberley

Councillor G Heath

Councillor K Hoptroff

Councillor B Johnson

Councillor K Martin

Councillor P Roberts

Councillor P Taylor

Councillor P Wood

Councillor T McNicol (Vice-Chair)

Councillor G Bentley

Councillor I Herdman

Councillor B A Hughes

Councillor J T Jones

Councillor T Riley

Councillor L Swindlehurst

Councillor R Ward

Councillor N Yates

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL
MEETING**

Minutes

MONDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2020

PRESENT: Councillor D Shaw (Chair)

Councillors J Aberley, G Bentley, G Heath, I Herdman, K Hoptroff, B A Hughes, J T Jones, K Martin, T Riley, P Roberts, L Swindlehurst, P Taylor, R Ward, P Wood and N Yates.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor C J S Atkins, M Bowen, S Coleman, M A Deaville, E Fallows, M Gledhill, T Holmes, K J Jackson, L A Malyon, J Porter, D Price, S E Ralphs MBE, P Routledge, J Salt and S Scalise.

APOLOGIES: Councillor T McNicol.

8 **NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS, IF ANY.**

There were none.

9 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

DECIDED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Panel held on the 27th July 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

10 **TO NOTE THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING OF THE POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL.**

DECIDED: That the minutes from the last meeting of the Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel be **NOTED**.

11 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

No declarations of interests were made.

12 **QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS, IF ANY.**

1. Questions received from Councillor Salt:

“Between instigating the climate emergency and today – please inform the council by how much SMDC’s actions have reduced carbon emissions? When presenting the data, could you explicitly demonstrate what has been Covid’s impact and what has been down to our own efforts?”

Response:

The stated intention of the Council is to produce a comprehensive climate change plan effective from the year 2021/22. This year the Council set out key enabling actions which taken together with the work of the Climate Change Subgroup will

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inform that Climate Change Plan. This year's activity was set out in the form of an information digest. Data collection and analysis is one of this year's key activities. This activity is ongoing with the aim of ensuring data used to underpin the Council's targets is as comprehensive as possible and consistent to ensure we can compare like with like. The Council has engaged the Energy Saving Trust to assist with data analysis and options for consideration. Some key illustrative data is below:

2019 Data: Indication of CO2 emissions for Staffordshire Moorlands District Council - CO2 emissions from fleet vehicles (Waste, Street Scene, Parks), staff business mileage.

- Fleet: 636 metric tonnes of CO2
- Business Travel: 63.75 metric tonnes (shared with HPBC) = 31.875 metric tonnes for SMDC
- Property: Gas and electricity (Leisure Centres not included and Moorlands House not apportioned to using organisations) = 421 metric tonnes
- **Total 1,089 metric tonnes of CO2**

Note:

- Alliance CO2 from business travel has been reducing year on year - from 110.34 metric tonnes in 2013 to 63.75 metric tonnes in 2019. Mileage has reduced in that period from 459,407 miles in 2013 to 284,985 miles in 2019.
- **Covid-19** Comparing Alliance business miles/CO2 for the 5 month period April to August 2020 with the same period in 2019 – 27 metric tonnes of CO2 (2019), 9.1 metric tonnes CO2 (2020).
- Further work is required on the data (to check data is fully inclusive, takes account of recording systems which have changed over time to make sure year on year comparisons are robust and to provide a detailed breakdown by area of operation). The data for the Council's CO2 emissions will be ready in December 2020 in time to inform targets for the 2021/22 plan.

By way of supplementary questions, Cllr Salt asked if the Council would be carbon neutral by 2030. The Portfolio Holder believed this would be the case, albeit an ambitious target for the whole of the District. Councillor Porter was also asked to explain how the £10k grant would encourage carbon neutrality. The Climate Change Community Fund had been delayed due to Covid-19 and examples of the type of projects that schools could use the money for included; eco clubs, recycling, tree planting and nature based projects. It was hoped that the scheme could commence in Spring/Summer 2021.

2. *"When will Biddulph TC receive its funding for the Covid grant application that it made months ago?"*

Response:

Councillor Ralphs confirmed that the application for funding had been approved and assured Councillor Salt that the payment was being processed.

3. *"When will SMDC complete its tree planting strategy so that Town and Parish councils can get on with the task of planting trees in their areas on SMDC owned land (where appropriate)?"*

Response:

SMDC formally adopted its Tree Strategy in 2016. The main document notes the context of the Council's tree-related policies and objectives, with links to the corporate plan aims, and sets out our policies in areas such as tree protection, tree management and planting. This is supported by appendices comprising a set of more technical Good Practice Guides covering:

1. Tree Work
2. Tree Management
3. Trees and Development
4. Tree Risk Management

Several factors now suggest a review/update of the Tree Strategy would be appropriate - it's coming up to 5 years since the Tree Strategy was first adopted, a climate emergency has been declared by the Council, there is a new Corporate Plan and the Local Plan has been adopted.

A key strategy to consider in the context of the question is the Green Infrastructure Strategy which is part of the Local Plan. To ensure the delivery of that strategy the Council has commissioned Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to work with us to develop the delivery plan (the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan). Development this year has involved comprehensive mapping and assessment of current habitats and species and opportunities to join up and extend otherwise isolated pockets. Development has reached the stage of identifying projects (in 3 categories) – large scale strategic projects, bringing forward development sites, and community projects.

The Delivery Plan provides detailed mapping and an evidence base which supports the development of nature recovery networks and corridors and in turn can inform decision making about what species of plants and what kinds of habitats it would be best to create, enhance or safeguard in particular locations. With this in mind and under the heading of community projects, the expectation is that over the next two months the team leading the Delivery Plan development will start to engage with Parish and Town Councils and Community Groups in relation to specific sites and local opportunities that they identify.

In parallel with the work to develop the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan Staffordshire wildlife Trust have agreed to assist the Council's team responsible for parks and open spaces to develop Council policy with regard to the maintenance of council land so as to increase opportunities for wildlife. This will form a revised Parks Management Strategy and be linked to the revision of the Tree Planting Strategy.

The Green Infrastructure delivery plan provides an evidence-based context within which we can make a site specific decision about what should be planted - it will not necessarily be trees. We will want to plant as many trees as possible on our land where that is the rights thing to do – the 'right thing' in terms of enhancing wildlife (informed by the plan), balanced with the needs of the particular amenity we are planting on, impact on neighbours, community safety considerations and cost of maintenance etc.

Councillor Salt was pleased with the comprehensive response to her question and gave her thanks to officers. She asked if a time frame for the completion of the Tree Planting Strategy could be provided. Councillor Porter agreed this was extremely important to address and advised that the strategy would be updated and reviewed next year. In the meantime, councillors could contact Steve Massey - Arboricultural

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Officer or Mark Forrester – Head of Democratic and Community Services, with details of areas of land which had been identified for planting.

4. Received from Councillor Swindlehurst:

“What is the present role of community and voluntary groups in maintaining public assets such as benches, planted areas and bus shelters?”

Response:

Councillor Ralphs explained that there were a number of volunteers and voluntary groups which carried out excellent work in the area, particularly at the countryside sites. Examples of such work included; maintenance of benches, steps, stiles, pathway clearance, hedge laying and litter picking. Recently, some benches had been installed by the West End Leek voluntary group.

By way of supplementary questions, Councillor Swindlehurst wished to know if the recent work carried out by volunteers to the bus shelter on Stockwell Street, Leek had been risk assessed and was in-line with the Health and Safety at Work Act. She also asked what the implications were for regeneration and recovery in the current pandemic climate, if the commitment to the maintenance of the street scene was not fulfilled. The Leader confirmed that work to the bus shelter had been carried out at her request and authority for the aspects mentioned had been granted by the Council. The project had been monitored and supervised as it was in the vicinity of Moorlands House. In relation to the second supplementary question, Cllr Ralphs agreed that first impressions and appearance of the towns mattered to both visitors and residents. On a weekly basis, the Leader liaised with the Mayor of each town to identify work that needed to be carried out. This information was then passed on to the relevant officers at the Council. The way in which the Council’s assets were managed was being reviewed and options were being explored which included the contract being managed in-house, as it was important to have a maintenance programme under the Council’s control.

5. Received from Councillor Hoptroff:

“What progress has the Leader made in her bid to improve rural bus services as she promised to full council on the 19th October 2019?”

Response:

The Leader explained that the rural bus project commenced in November 2019, and by the end of February 2020, she had identified a bus company prepared to provide a rural service for a period of 12 months. A route to cover outlying villages and allow 2 hours shopping in the towns had been agreed. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic the pilot scheme had been put on hold and would hopefully re-commence in May 2021. Parish Councils had been made aware of the current situation.

Councillor Hoptroff requested clarification around the funding for this project and thought that the Council should put more pressure on bus companies to provide

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additional services at this time. Councillor Ralphs confirmed that the Council had funding for pilot projects such as this, and thought it was unfair to expect bus companies to provide additional services, as the current priority was to keep existing routes running and passenger safety. Councillor Bowen contributed to the response and advised that he had been in touch with bus companies and established that current bus routes were at capacity, unless extra vehicles were purchased.

Councillor Bentley suggested that the buses which transported staff to Alton Towers could potentially also carry members of the public.

13 YOUR HOUSING GROUP UPDATE.

Members considered a briefing paper introduced by Sharon Wheeler – Regional Housing Manager South, which provided a performance and development update on YHG business areas identified in the legacy agreement and related to business activity between January 2020 and June 2020. Aaron Hamersley – Head of Housing Management, was also present at the meeting, along with two customer representatives; Cheryl Ballan and George Wallace.

Topics covered within the report included:

- Your Housing Group Response to Covid-19
- Housing Management
- Neighbourhood Inspections
- “Out and About” Customer Engagement Events
- Agile Working
- Neighbourhood Information
- Compliance
- Development
- Repairs and Maintenance
- Improvement to Assets
- Digital Engagement
- Community Regeneration
- Regeneration
- Revolution Launderette Unit, Mill Street Leek
- Swallow Walk, Biddulph

The Panel thanked the Officers and Team for the report which contained positive information. Members commented and asked questions around the following subject areas:-

Regular surgeries in the 3 main towns – Sharon Wheeler advised that the organisation felt it was more effective to hold ‘out and about’ events rather than customers being asked to attend fixed surgeries. Statistics confirmed that the surgery at Leek was not well attended. It was generally accepted that the mobile

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office was a good way for people to make contact with YHG but it was important for this to be promoted.

Contact by telephone – An example of poor attitude and customer service provided over the telephone was discussed and it was agreed this would be investigated after the meeting. Other members gave accounts of good customer service. However, matters took a long time to resolve and there was an overall level of concern and frustration in relation to the telephone service received by customers. Sharon Wheeler was sorry to hear about these problems and gave assurance that the Moorlands had an active Housing Team. Members could contact her at any time and she would ensure that they were responded to. Cheryl Ballan advised that she would raise these concerns at the next YHG Scrutiny Meeting.

Contact list – A YHG contact list would be beneficial for members. This would be circulated to the Panel.

6 Month extension of evictions – Your Housing Group would follow the latest government guidance for evictions.

Re-instatement of CCTV cameras at Kingsfield Avenue, Biddulph due to anti-social behaviour – Officers agreed this would be looked into after the meeting.

List of YHG assets/ownership – It was agreed that YHG would provide ownership information on a case by case basis and also provide a list of the specific areas where the organisation had responsibility for grounds maintenance.

Climate change mitigation – Councillor Yates inquired if YHG had identified areas of land that would be suitable for planting schemes. Some landscaping had recently been carried out in the area and the YHG Regeneration Manager would contact the councillor in relation to this query.

Fix 360 – The Portfolio Holder for Communities highlighted communication issues with the Fix 360 Repairs Team and the length of time taken by this Team to respond to complaints. He requested that all members make him aware of any particular problems they had encountered with the Repairs Team. The Officers understood the issues around repairs and would look into this further.

YHG was praised for its work at Bellevue Flats and Mill Street Laundrette in Leek and it was commented how positively the organisation responded to cases raised by members.

Discussion also took place in relation to communication with residents and incidents of anti-social behaviour, level of housing stock and the criteria for the letting of bungalows. In response to additional information on Work Clubs, the relevant Officer at YHG would be contacted and asked to provide an overview for members.

DECIDED: That the update be received and comments noted.

14 CLIMATE CHANGE UPDATE REPORT.

Councillor Porter – Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Biodiversity, introduced the Climate Change Update report and a more recent briefing paper on the Climate Change Working Group which set out the work carried out by the Council to date.

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Discussion took place around the 10 year fleet replacement programme, possible investment in hydrogen fleet, photovoltaics combined with battery storage packs, LED lighting and heat pumps. Councillor Yates also highlighted his concerns in relation to smaller business potentially being discouraged by the ISO 14001 criteria within the Council's Procurement Strategy.

Councillor Porter agreed that the fleet replacement programme was a priority to ensure emissions were reduced and the vehicles made as efficient as possible. The Energy Saving Trust was working with the Council and provided advice on vehicles powered by hydrogen. He welcomed suggestions from members to reduce carbon emissions. Councillor Yates offered to send an email containing his ideas and suggestions to the Portfolio Holder. In regard to the Procurement Strategy, Councillor Porter was determined for this to be science led and for products and services to be purchased with the lowest greenhouse gas impact.

Councillor Yates advised the Panel, that the Natural Environment Working Group had made a recommendation to empower Town and Parish Councils to take an active role in green spaces. In response, Councillor Porter agreed that the Parish and Town councillors had the local knowledge and it was important for them to be involved. He had visited some Parish Councils, was in discussion with the Chairman of the Parish Assembly and hoped to contact as many Town and Parish Councils as possible.

The Panel debated the delay of the transfer of Wetley Moor and the management of all of the country parks by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (SWT). Councillor Yates requested for SWT to be invited to a future meeting of the Climate Change Working Group.

Finally, the Panel discussed the energy consumption of the Council, increased renewable energy and the importance of actions, outcomes and impact, in relation to the Council's carbon footprint being reduced.

DECIDED:

- 1) The actions taken to date be noted.
- 2) The proposed actions for 2020/21 set out in 7.7.1 – 7.7.8 of the report be noted;
- 3) For the figures on the number of leased and purchased Council vehicles be circulated to members;
- 4) For a written response in relation to the Council's Procurement Strategy and ISO 14001 be provided by the Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Biodiversity;
- 5) For the costs and savings associated with the transfer of the Country Parks to SWT be circulated to members of the Panel.

15 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Panel considered its Work Programme and agreed the items listed.

DECIDED: That the Work Programme for 2020-21 be agreed.

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The meeting closed at 8.20 pm

_____Chairman _____Date

Minutes of the Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Meeting held on 26 October 2020

Present: Stephen Sweeney (Chairman)

Lesley Adams	Tony Holmes
Stephen Doyle	Helena Maxfield
Ann Edgeller	Alan Pearson
Brian Edwards	Keith Walker
Simon Gaskin	Ashley Yeates
Ray Sutherland (Sub. for A Edgeller after 2.30pm)	

Also in attendance: Matthew Ellis, Glynn Dixon, David Greensmith.

Apologies: Paul Darby

PART ONE

65. Declarations of interest

None were made at the meeting.

66. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2020

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Panel meeting held on 13 July 2020 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

67. Decisions published by the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC)

1. Tamworth Belgrave Shared Estate

<https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/cms/wpcontent/uploads/SCPF-D-202021-002.pdf>

2. Crest Support to LCJB Performance Framework Product

<https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/cms/wpcontent/uploads/SCP-D-202021-002-4.pdf>

The Commissioner updated the Panel on the work taking place with Crest to create a criminal justice dashboard. Lobbying was taking place to get more Courts open, however Covid regulations was limiting this.

3. Space 2020

<https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/cms/wpcontent/uploads/SCP-D-202021-003>.

The panel were pleased that this was continuing.

4. Purchase of X2 Taser Devices

<https://staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk/cms/wpcontent/uploads/SCP-D-202021-004>.

The Panel asked if there had been more than one quote for the supply of tasers. It was informed that the purchase was done for the whole of Policing across the country and there was only one approved supplier in the United Kingdom.

Referring to a previous decision of the PFCC, a question was asked on the accommodation of Community Groups in the new **Hanley Fire Station**. It was agreed that information on where groups had moved to would be provided to the panel.

68. Questions to the PFCC from Members of the Public

No questions were submitted.

69. COVID 19 (Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service) - Update

Since the last update to the Panel in July 2020 the Service have continued to be fully involved in all aspects of the multi-agency commitment and had participated in both the strategic coordination group and the recovery coordination group in order to influence and support the ongoing Local Resilience Forum approach.

The Service had continued to perform well despite a 2.5% reduction in staff with Covid related absence. Some proactive work had been curtailed but most of the non face to face prevention work had continued.

RESOLVED: That the work that SFRS had delivered during the COVID19 pandemic be noted.

70. Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Fire and Rescue Service- Update

The Panel considered the update on the current Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

The report set out the following:

- Update to current year's budget
- Update to future years' MTFS assumptions
- The impact of COVID-19 on financial performance and position
- Sensitivity analysis around key financial items
- Update on capital programme

The Covid-19 pandemic had impacted on the in-year response as well as the ongoing potential impact on Fire funding. The Fire and Rescue service has adapted quickly to new ways of working and Service delivery. The work had been complex and cut across numerous partner organisations and government departments locally, regionally, and nationally.

£1 million in grant funding had been received from the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in order for the Service to deal with the additional costs incurred as a result of the pandemic. To date the Service was forecasting to spend around £0.5m of the £1.0m grant by the end of October 2020. This did not take into account potentially the impact of a second wave and further lock down restrictions during the winter. This money had been made available through a Section 31 Grant, and any balance remaining at the end of the year would be earmarked to support the reduction in Council Tax receipts.

The Coronavirus pandemic is affecting funding across the wider public sector and it was unclear if further support would be provided by the Government as part of the Local

Government Finance Settlement for 2021/22. Without further support the Staffordshire Commissioner would need to consider how the financial position can be supported through; Council Tax increases, the delivery of further savings, and also the intelligent use of reserves.

Looking forward, it was not currently known what Central Government Grant would be available for 2021/22. The impact of Covid-19 on Authority finances may also be severe and the report made assessment of the likely impact of a deficit on the Council Tax Collection Fund and also a reducing Council Tax Base and lower business rates collected.

The report included a table that gave the best and worst case scenario which would be developed further as more information was made available by the billing authorities. It was estimated that there would be a 4.5% deficit, £1.2m for the Fire and Rescue service.

Following questions from the Panel, it was confirmed that Utility suppliers were reviewed each year as part of the ongoing financial challenges and the business pooling arrangements benefited the service in the region of £200,000 and the PFCC Office £100,000.

RESOLVED: The Panel noted the information contained within this updated MTFS report.

71. Fire and Rescue Service Safety Plan 2020 /24 - Update

Following the transfer of governance from the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority to the Staffordshire Commissioner, a new Safety Plan 2020-2024 was developed which was published in August 2020.

The Safety Plan was designed to underpin the Staffordshire Commissioners Fire and Rescue Plan and four priorities for the Service were determined following consultation in 2020 across Staffordshire.

The Panel was updated on the progress to date on the four priorities that the Service is delivering against which were: -

- a) Prevention and Early Intervention
- b) Protecting Staffordshire and its people
- c) Public Confidence
- d) Service Reform.

It was hoped that the service would be able to get back to doing prevention work, particularly in schools, and the Princes Trust face to face programmes soon. The recruitment of 52 new officers was welcomed.

RESOLVED: The delivery of the Safety Pan was noted.

72. COVID 19 (Staffordshire Police)- Update

Staffordshire Police's approach to policing Covid-19 had been governed by a Gold structure (Op Jafar) which at its height was meeting 3 times a week, more recently fortnightly. Since August, with the rise again of infections and the imposition of further changes to Covid legislation and restrictions, the Gold group has stepped up its frequency once again to weekly.

The focus of the response to Covid-19 is as follows:

- Compliance and Enforcement
- Workforce -
- Workplace - Covid secure
- Operation Affinity (Impact of the EU Exit)

The Commissioner informed the Panel that the number of Covid cases amongst the police force had nearly doubled recently and he paid tribute to all the emergency services for their support and approach to "encouraging" individuals to comply with rules rather than the "heavy handed" approach adopted in some areas.

This led to a question on the impact of the new tier system and the enforcement of new regulations. The panel was informed that it was more complex, but the principle was to treat individuals as adults and encourage compliance.

The initial lockdown period had led to a reduction in crime statistics which was due to several factors including pub closures and more working from home.

RESOLVED: The delivery of the Safety Pan was noted.

73. Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Staffordshire Police - Update

The Panel considered the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners update on the current Medium-Term Financial Strategy covering the years 2021/21 to 2023/24.

The report set out the following:

- Update to current year's budget
- Update to future years' MTFS assumptions
- The impact of COVID-19 on financial performance and position
- Sensitivity analysis around key financial items
- Update on capital programme

The Group (Commissioner and Staffordshire Police) outturn forecast for the current year was £212.232m. This was a positive variance of £0.170m (0.08%) against the annual net revenue budget of £212.402m.

The Panel was reminded that the key assumptions for the Police budget would be the same as those discussed under the previous Fire and Rescue MTFS report. The collection deficit was estimated at £3.3m over the next 3 years and the Council tax deficit £886,000 per year.

The review of the current MTFS highlighted that 93% of current year savings have been delivered. However, it did identify a number of savings that were at high risk of non-delivery, slippage in delivery or have been impacted on by external events such as the

Governments Uplift programme. These total £0.801m over the four-year MTFs period. These will continue to be reviewed.

New pressures totalling £1.528m for 2021/22 had been identified by directorates:

- Of these, just under half (£0.736m) relate to national increases in costs such as Home Office IT charges (£0.319m), increase in national airwave charges (£0.127m) and the National Police Air Service (£0.290m). These are outside of local control.
- Of those pressures identified as 'local pressures' a number of these relate to inflationary pressures above the estimate contained in the MTFs for inflation (Insurance £0.160m), Fleet costs, in part as a result of greater usage due to increasing Officer numbers, (£0.131m), reduction in specific income streams (£0.178m)
- A pressure of £0.055m has been included due to the planned increase in Special Constabulary Numbers to cover of the expenses of Special Constables.

A question was asked on the possibility of local Police Officers being transferred to areas of higher levels of crime as mentioned in section 4.5 of the report. The Commissioner confirmed that work was being undertaken nationally to ensure that this would be from areas that could accommodate the reduction and governance would not be lost.

The uplift in officer numbers would continue to see growth in the Police Officer numbers through 2021/22 and 2022/23. For the current year this uplift had been 90 Officers (in addition to replacing those retiring and leaving); based on the Home Office applying the same distribution formula at a local level this would result in an additional 120 in 2021/22 and 90 in 2022/23. This was on the back of the Commissioners investment in Police Officer numbers since 2017/18 which would result, by the end of 2022/23, of an additional 391 Officers since 2017/18. The Panel felt that numbers may not be as originally promised.

RESOLVED: The report was noted.

74. Safer, Fairer, United Communities for Staffordshire - Update

In May 2017, the Staffordshire Commissioner for Police, Fire and Rescue, and Crime (Staffordshire Commissioner) published an updated Safer, Fairer, United Communities strategy for 2017–2020. An annual report covering the entire period of the Commissioner's two terms of office was submitted to the panel in February 2020.

Due to Covid-19 the elections for Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners, were postponed until 7 May 2021. When the election is held, it will be for a reduced, three-year term with the following election scheduled for May 2024. In the interim period, the Commissioner determined that his priorities, as set out in the Strategy would remain broadly the same for his extended term of office:

- Modern Policing: A police force that is fit for a changing future
- Early Intervention: Tackling root causes before they become a problem
- Supporting Victims and Witnesses: Making it easier for victims and witnesses to get the support they need, when they need it

- Managing Offenders: Preventing offending in the first place and reducing the likelihood of reoffending
- Public Confidence: Creating opportunities for communities to shape policing, with greater transparency and openness to increase confidence in policing.

A question was asked on the reporting procedure when domestic violence had taken place in front of children and if schools were automatically informed. The Commissioner agreed to find the answer and respond to the Panel.

The Commissioner also offered to facilitate access to more information on the 'New Era' service which undertakes work to help individuals escaping abuse.

RESOLVED: The update was noted.

75. Implementation of Reforms to the Police Misconduct and Complaints Regulations 2020

The report updated the Panel on the implementation of Police Misconduct and Complaints Reforms, as set out in the Police (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2020 which came into place on 1 February 2020. The Staffordshire Commissioner became the Appropriate Authority for reviews (formally known as appeals). The Commissioner now receives all reviews unless they are about a senior officer, criminal or misconduct proceedings, or article 2/3 (Human Rights), the review body for these is the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC).

A complaint review process map was attached to the report.

Up to the end of September 2020, the Commissioner's office had received 25 requests for a review. Between the 1st October and the 12th October an additional 7 requests have been received making the total 32.

RESOLVED: The Panel noted the contents and agree to receive regular updates for scrutiny at future panel meetings.

76. Questions to the PFCC by Panel Members

Members of the Panel questioned/sought the views of the Commissioner on the following issues and received the responses indicated:

Question/Issue	Response
Why was the Police Station in Kinver up for auction and what was the current position?	The Commissioner agreed to respond to the Panel with the information
Why were the Police Inspectors geographical areas so big? An example was given of a Sargent from Burton having to travel to Newcastle.	The Commissioner agreed to respond to the Panel with the information
What was the current situation with the sale of Blyth Bridge Police	The site is currently listed as a Community Asset. Its disposal will

Station?	be processed when the listing formally expires.
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77. Dates of Future Meetings and Work Programme

It was noted that the Work Programme would be further developed following the election of PFCC in May 2021.

Members noted that dates for panel meetings scheduled up until April 2022:

- Monday 1 February 2021 (pm)
- Monday 15 February 2021 (pm)
- Monday 22 February 2021 (pm) (RESERVED)
- Monday 22 March 2021(pm)
- Monday 21 June 2021(pm)
- Member Monday 25 October 2021(pm)
- Monday 31 January 2022(pm)
- Monday 14 February 2022 (pm) (RESERVED)
- Monday 25 April 2022 (pm)

RESOLVED – That the scheduled dates be noted.

Chairman

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Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel - Work Programme 2020/21

Date	Items for Agenda
27 July 2020	
	COVID-19 – Community Recovery
5 October 2020	
	Your Housing Group – waiting to confirm 6pm start is ok
	Climate Change Update Report
	Early Outcomes Fund Project TBC
23 Nov 2020	
	Staffordshire Commissioner Annual Update
	Early Outcomes Project Fund
	Wildfire Public Spaces Protection Order
1 Feb 2021	
	Replacement of the cameras in SMDC
	Public Spaces Protection Order - Alcohol Exclusion Zones
22 March 2021	
	Refreshed Community Safety Strategy

Key Organisations to Invite/ Schedule Annually

Staffordshire Commissioner Annual Update - confirmed
Local Policing Team Annual Update
Your Housing – 6 Monthly Update
Fire & Rescue Service Annual Update
Citizens Advice Bureau Annual Update
Regular Updates and an Annual Status Report on the Levels of Pollution and the Air Quality Action Plan
Assets of Community Value

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