



COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL AGENDA

Date: Monday, 13 June 2022

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Hybrid Meeting - Council Chamber, Moorlands House, Leek and via Microsoft Teams

1 June 2022

PART 1

1. Apologies.
2. Notification of Substitute Members, if any.
3. To Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting. **(Pages 3 - 8)**
4. To Note the Minutes from the Last Meeting of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel. **(Pages 9 - 14)**
5. Declaration of Interests:
 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests
 - Other Interests
6. Urgent items of Business, if any (24 hours notice to be provided to the Chairman)
7. 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).
8. Work Programme **(Pages 15 - 16)**
Any additional items to be added to the Work Programme:
 - Chair's Items
 - Members' Items
9. Beat the Cold Service Overview and Recent Utilisation - Thomas Bostock, Development and Partnerships Manager. (Presentation to follow)
10. Climate Change Verbal Update.

MARK TRILLO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

Membership of Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Councillor D Shaw (Chair) | Councillor L Swindlehurst (Vice-Chair) |
| Councillor G Bentley | Councillor A Hart |
| Councillor I Herdman | Councillor T Holmes |
| Councillor K Hoptroff | Councillor B A Hughes |
| Councillor A Hulme | Councillor B Johnson |
| Councillor J Jones | Councillor K Martin |
| Councillor J Redfern | Councillor T Riley |
| Councillor P Taylor | Councillor N Yates |

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL
MEETING**

Minutes

MONDAY, 7 MARCH 2022

PRESENT: Councillor D Shaw (Chair)

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor M Bowen, B Cawley, K Flunder, A Hart, N Hawkins and
J Porter.

APOLOGIES: Councillors T McNicol, J Aberley and K Martin.

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

There were none.

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

DECIDED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Overview and
Scrutiny Panel held on 17 January 2022 be **APPROVED** as a correct
record and signed by the Chair.

92 **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL.**

DECIDED – That the report of the Chairman of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel
dated 14 Feb 2022 be **NOTED** by the Panel.

93 **URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS, IF ANY (24 HOURS NOTICE TO BE
PROVIDED TO THE CHAIRMAN)**

None had been received.

94 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:**

No declarations of interest were made.

95 **WORK PROGRAMME (6:10PM)**

DECIDED: That the Panel's Work Programme be agreed, subject to, the inclusion of
an item requested by the Chair on Post Covid Recovery Activity.

96 **QUESTIONS TO PORTFOLIO HOLDERS, IF ANY. (6.20PM)**

There were none.

97 **LOCAL POLICING ANNUAL UPDATE - CHIEF INSPECTOR MARK THORLEY. (6.30PM)**

Chief Inspector Mark Thorley was in attendance accompanied by Moorlands Neighbourhood Policing Team Deputy Commander Inspector Jason Allport, to provide the Annual Policing Team update.

Overall this year, crime had increased by 8% (337 more crimes), despite reductions in crime over the past 3 years. However, within these statistics there were still significant reductions in some areas of crime, such as anti-social behaviour.

Members considered a report which gave statistical information around the different types of crime, outcomes of investigations, detail of road traffic collisions and the impact increased tourism had on the area. The report provided members with the current staff resource of the Local Policing Team.

The Chief Inspector also provided an explanation of the new policing model to the Panel and responded to queries from members as below:-

Reduction in numbers of PCSO's – The number of PCSO's had remained the same over the past few years and may have fluctuated slightly by no more than one or two.

Assistance with road closures – The event organisers were responsible for road closures, traffic arrangements and the marshalling of crowds during an event. Officers may be able provide a visible presence but could be called elsewhere to other duties in the area.

Increased community policing – At present, Response Officers were deployed from Hanley to locations within the Moorlands, supplemented by Neighbourhood Police Officers. Under the new policing model, a number of Response Officers would start and end their shift in the Moorlands. Therefore, Neighbourhood Officers would be more visible and able to spend more time in the community resolving problems.

Increased sexual offences – A member of the Panel commented that this had been explained clearly in the report, confirming that the figures were not as negative as they initially appeared, as these were historic cases which were being investigated .

Speed reduction on Weston Coyney Road due to serious accidents – Although the Police would be consulted in relation to this it was the responsibility of the County Council. Sergeant Bland's (Road Policing), details would be provided to those councillors that wished to initiate consideration of a reduced speed limit in this area. Due to the number of venues located on this road, parked vehicles were an issue and needed to be resolved.

Cllr Ward advised that a traffic survey had been undertaken and a solution to this problem was being investigated. He offered to send this document to Councillor Roberts.

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Monitoring of CCTV – David Smith, Head of Communities and Climate Change, advised that the CCTV was monitored by the station in Chapel-en-le-Frith and all cameras had recently been upgraded.

Facebook Live Plans – The Moorlands Policing Team had piloted this for the Force and approached local Facebook groups such as LeekTV and Cheadle Forum to ask if they could hold engagement sessions on their group pages. This has been a great success with such events being seen by thousands of viewers each time. There were plans for this type of engagement to be rolled out across the Force. More formal engagement would continue with the public but was accessed by much fewer numbers of people.

Policing of the Platinum Jubilee – This would be a challenging time, particularly over the period of 3-4 nights in the town centres when numerous road closures were in place. The Local Policing Team would be visible, engage with the community and take action, if necessary. Safer Night Operations would be held in Leek town centre and the Community Support mobile vehicle would be deployed during this period..

Control of on-street parking on zig zag lines – The issues in Biddulph were understood and it was suggested that Partners worked together to identify specific problematic locations and request the Enforcement Team to attend. A targeted approach had proven successful in the past. PCSO's did not have the authority to issue parking tickets but their presence outside school helped to alleviate inappropriate parking.

A local telephone number for councillors to use e.g. livestock in the road – Any obstruction on the highways required an immediate response so members were advised to call 999. If less urgent, it was recommended to use social media direct messaging which linked directly to the Police Control Room and would be handled in the same way as a telephone call.

Discussion also took place around the feasibility of a Police Enquiry Office at Biddulph Town Hall, legalities around parked vehicles on zig zags, underlying crime trends, independent scrutiny panels and increased community speed watch groups.

To conclude, members were pleased with the introduction of the new policing model and thanked the Chief Inspector for his informative report.

A message of thanks was conveyed to Mark and his Team for the excellent service provided during the pandemic with limited resources.

DECIDED: That the report be **NOTED**.

98

FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ANNUAL UPDATE - ROB BARBER, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER AND DERMOT HOGAN, NORTHERN SERVICE DELIVERY GROUP LEAD. (VERBAL UPDATE) (7PM)

Rob Barber introduced himself as the newly appointed Chief Fire Officer for the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service from October 2021.

The Officer highlighted the key priorities to the Panel as follows;-

- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Protecting Staffordshire and People

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- Public Confidence
- Service Reform

Demand and risk levels had changed for the Service and a significant increase in fire safety activities had been seen since the Grenfell disaster.

The Moorlands had been subject to wildfires, there had been increased wide area flooding in the County and plans were required to be in place to resource potential acts of global terrorism, all with the backdrop of ever reduced funding. Other dynamics also affected the Fire Service such as an aged population, obesity and poverty.

This Chief Fire Officer advised that he wished to focus on strengthened relationships, visible leadership and community visibility. The details of each local Station Manager would be sent to councillors.

It had been a difficult two years due to Covid-19 and the Service had adapted during the pandemic. In collaboration with partners, food parcels and medications had been delivered, along with support given to the vaccination programme at various fire stations.

Discussion took place around the number of Fire Fighters, retained/on-call staff in the rural areas and the associated issues linked to this national issue. There was a commitment to recruit the full establishment of Officers, utilise volunteers and work was being undertaken in relation to the On-Call system. Members offered their support to reach out to communities to assist with recruitment.

A member of the Panel advised that Mr Haywood – Head of Development Services, was awaiting a response from the Fire and Rescue Service in relation to a Planning enquiry.. This matter had been passed to the Fire Safety Department and the Chief Fire Officer confirmed that he would follow this up.

The Chair thanked the Officers for their attendance at the meeting.

DECIDED: That the update be received.

99 **OUTSIDE - THE STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS PROJECT FUNDED BY ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND'S CREATIVE PEOPLE AND PLACES PROGRAMME. (7:30PM)**

David Smith - Head of Communities and Climate Change, introduced a report to the Panel about the Arts Council England's award of a grant of up to £943,000 for a 3 year project to increase participation in arts and culture across the District.

The Arts Council England had awarded a grant of up to £943,000 to a 3 year project to increase participation in arts and culture across Staffordshire Moorlands. This resulted from a competitive bidding process, with an application successfully submitted by Support Staffordshire on behalf of a consortium which includes Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, Buxton and Leek College, and B arts (a Stoke-on-Trent-based arts organisation).

The project, called Outside, would commence on 1st April 2022 with a 12-month preparatory period followed with two years of delivery (April 2023 - March 2025). It

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would be an empowerment project with a programme of arts and cultural activities that would be led by people in the Staffordshire Moorlands working with professional artists as co-producers.

In response to a query on collaborative working with town and parish councils, it was confirmed that this would be the case with a focus on engagement.

DECIDED:

- 1) The Panel **NOTED** the contents of the report;
- 2) The Panel **RECOMMENDED** that Cabinet **APPROVE** the financial commitments as set out within the report.

100 **CLIMATE CHANGE UPDATE - DAVID SMITH, HEAD OF COMMUNITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE. (VERBAL UPDATE) (8PM)**

Councillor Porter – Portfolio Holder for Climate Change and Biodiversity, advised that a substantial written update would be provided on a 6 monthly basis to the Panel.

The verbal update included the following key points; -

- The Climate Change Officer was now in post and had been tasked to develop a Community Engagement Strategy and to monitor performance.
- The Council had been ranked second best in the country for its Climate Change Action Plan.
- The recently set Budget included allocation of funding for Climate Change.
- Approximately 20 community orchards would be completed by March 2022. A total of 60 volunteers, which included 40 Scouts had recently been involved in the planting at Cheadle and they would continue to monitor the site. Others were planned at Endon, Brown Edge and at some schools.
- A briefing note to summarise the Environment Act would be produced for all members.
- Following a successful trial, all Council fleet vehicles would run on a biofuel mix.
- The Council was represented on the Staffordshire Sustainability Board which had recently committed funding towards countywide staff resource.

A member of the Panel requested commitment to empower parish and town councils to make individual biodiversity plans at green spaces within their areas. Councillor Porter welcomed ideas for orchard sites to be submitted to him and suggested that he could attend meetings of town and parish councils in relation to this matter.

It was noted that members would like to see individual spend on each section of the Part 1 Action Plan and the percentage of carbon reduction achieved against the target.

Other comments were made around staff resource, increased grant funding/sponsorship, a limit on the number of orchards, purchase of saplings, levels of maintenance required and potential misuse of the orchard sites.

Councillor Hart – Portfolio Holder for Property and Tourism, gave an update on the LED Lighting Project, Energy and Buildings Surveys. The Council was working on a medium/long-term EV Charging Point Policy in conjunction with the County Council

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and also on a shorter term project for the installation of charging points in the three towns.

DECIDED: That the update be **NOTED**.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm

_____Chairman _____Date

Minutes of the Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Meeting held on 25 April 2022

Present:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Lesley Adams | Philip Hudson |
| Adrian Bowen | Bryan Jones |
| Richard Cox (Vice-Chairman) | Roger Lees |
| Ann Edgeller | Martin Summers |
| Gill Heesom | Keith Walker |
| Tony Holmes | |

Also in attendance: Ben Adams, Helen Fisher, David Greensmith, Emma Christmas (Observer representing the ETAP) and Louise Clayton.

Apologies: Bernard Peters

PART ONE

65. Declarations of interest

None were made at the meeting.

66. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2022

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Panel meeting held on 14 February 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair of the meeting.

67. Confirmation Hearing - Chief Executive

The Secretary to the Panels report explained that the Panel was required to hold a Confirmation Hearing following receipt of formal notification by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner of his wish to appoint his preferred candidate for the post of Chief Executive.

The report explained that guidance on the role of the Panel, recommended that through questioning of the candidate they should consider the 'professional competence' and 'personal independence' of the individual. To assist, the Panel had been provided with the preferred candidates CV in advance of the meeting and a job description was attached to the agenda.

Presentation by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner

The Commissioner reported on the detailed and lengthy process followed by him to recruit a new Chief Executive for the Commissioner's Office.

The Commissioner reported that Ms Louise Clayton was his preferred candidate.

Presentation by and questions to Ms Clayton:

Ms Clayton briefly summarised her career, work experience and achievements to date.

The Panel questioned Ms Clayton on various issues including her experience of managing change, delivering results, working with partners, agencies and the public and measuring performance.

The Panel adjourned at 10.30 am to consider their decision.

The Panel reconvened at 10.40am. The Commissioner and Ms Clayton were re-admitted to the meeting and informed of the Panel's decision.

RESOLVED – That the Staffordshire Police Fire and Crime Commissioner be informed that this Panel recommends that he proceed with the appointment of Ms Clayton as the Chief Executive Officer for Staffordshire.

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

No decisions had been published on the Commissioners website since the last meeting.

69. Questions to the PFCC from Members of the Public

No questions were submitted in time for this meeting.

70. Police and Crime Plan update

The Commissioner Introduced his Police and Crime update report and summarised some of the progress made in addressing his main priorities which were designed to 'Keep Staffordshire Safe'. The Commissioner reminded the Panel that the Police and Crime Plan provided the strategic direction for the force. The Commissioners priorities were:

- A flexible and responsive service
- Prevent harm and protect people
- Support victims and witnesses
- Reduce offending and reoffending
- A more effective criminal justice system

The Commissioner raised the issue of two recent HMICFRS inspection reports which had shown failings in the service. The first inspection had looked at Child protection arrangements and the second was an interim Peels inspection report which had highlighted two areas of concern. These were, effective investigations and appropriate ongoing support for victims, and the area of identifying and assessing the vulnerabilities of those who contact Staffordshire Police. The Commissioner expressed his concern and stated

that this was 'not where the service want to be' and there were plans to address the issues raised.

Information on how the plans were being actioned would come to the panel as part of his Annual report in June 2022. In response to the panel's questions on how these action plans would be monitored, the Commissioner informed members that some of the actions had date requirements and some areas had previously been identified as needing improvement and so work had started to improve these. The Commissioner stated that he was comfortable that the actions needed to address the problems would not result in diverting resources away from core priorities. The Panel were reminded that the Commissioner held regular public performance meetings with the Chief Constable, and these could be observed or watched via the webcast. The agenda for the Commissioners performance meetings with the Chief Constable would be circulated to members of the Panel before each meeting for information but could also be found at [Public Meetings - Staffordshire Commissioner \(staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.staffordshire-pfcc.gov.uk)

Following the Commissioners presentation and questions from the Panel, the following information was shared with the Panel. This was in addition to that provided in the report:

- The Chief Constables new, more localised model of policing should be in place by the end of June 2022. It was hoped that this would help to provide focus on local issues and enable the police to respond in a more timely and appropriate manner.
- The Commissioners Independent scrutiny panels and his Audit panel were now fully recruited and had started work. He hoped that these would provide good oversight and independence of specific services such as stop and search and use of force. They would also be looking at strip and search guidance and repeat episodes of anti-social behaviour, where more needed to be done together with partners. The Panels would be supported by the Commissioner's office and members were being trained appropriately dependent on their needs.
- Funding grants were now available at a local level to support anti-social behaviour projects and community safety.
- Bidding for additional Safer Streets funding would continue with a new round of opportunities available soon.
- Drug treatment and addiction was a particularly important aspect to long term reoffending and would be considered by the Community Safety Forum.
- Working with the Criminal Justice system, particularly the Probation service and the NHS would continue. It was reported that the use of Alcohol or drug treatment orders was being looked at to help quicken access to services.
- There was also research taking place to look at what works in reducing reoffending in various age groups, particularly helping mature offenders into employment. PSHE co-ordinators were also working in

schools to help develop the PSHE curriculum to meet the needs of young people.

- The number of children going missing was a concern. The numbers going missing from either their home or a care setting would be provided to the panel.
- There was an Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Delivery Group whose aim was to look at repeat incidents and help to tackle them at a local level. It was explained that this may lead to additional work short term but should lead to longer term gain.
- A working group had been established by the Commissioner to uniform the requirements for a 'Community Trigger' which currently was different in each local authority area.
- County Councillors were the appropriate contact point for replacement or road signs.
- Work with the NHS on prisoner mental health was continuing.
- The working of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) was being reviewed with regard to the way information was shared between partners. Information on this piece of work would be shared with the appropriate panel/scrutiny committee.
- The potential use of Naloxone nasal spray to treat overdose victims would be reported back to the panel.
- The Chief Constable's new delivery model was more traditional than the current system with more local hubs. It was reported that this should not cost more but should deliver a more focused neighbourhood focused policing.
- The Chief Constable was keen to learn of the public's experience of policing and this should highlight any areas where officers were not confident in the way they respond to situations.
- The location of justice centres was not considered to be an issue, but there was more work taking place to establish why people didn't attend court or withdraw 'dropped out' from prosecutions at very short notice which resulted in wasted time and resources.
- Community Safety Strategic Partnerships are a statutory duty. Portfolio holders would normally be the lead members and questions could be channelled through them.
- The Commissioner's new Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Strategic Board would meet three times a year. Again, the lead member would normally be the portfolio holder.
- There was no extra financial support from the Home Office or Central Government to deal with the recent and ant future public protests surrounding the HS2 developments.

The Deputy Commissioner briefly updated the panel on road safety issues and reported that sadly there had been 12 deaths so far this year compared to 18 for the whole of 2021. There were seven priority road user groups who appeared to be more at risk of accidents. These included, cyclists; newly qualified drivers; and more mature drivers. Work was ongoing to

share information and educate drivers e.g. through schools and colleges and websites. Following a question on grants to support the work of the Safer Roads Partnerships, it was confirmed that there wasn't any available funding at the moment through that partnership but there may be opportunities to bid through the Community Grants scheme.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the report be received
- b) That information on the following points be provided to the panel:
 - i. Information on the how the action plans to address the failings identified in the HMICFRS inspection reports be included in the Commissioners Annual Report (June 2022 panel meeting).
 - ii. The agenda for the Commissioners performance meetings with the Chief Constable be circulated to members of the Panel before the next meeting.
 - iii. The number of children going from either their home or a care setting.
 - iv. Is Naloxone nasal spray used to treat overdose victims currently in Staffordshire and if not will it be considered.

71. 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 | Response |
|--|--|
| At the last meeting it was reported that liaison with the Fire Service and Housing Associations throughout the County needed to be developed and would be looked at. Had this been done? | The Commissioner would provide information to the Panel. |
| The member for Stoke on Trent thanked the Fire and Rescue service for their response to both the fires at the Leopard Public House earlier this year and the recent fire in Trentham. | This would be passed to the Fire Service. |

72. Dates of Future Meetings and Work Programme

The Vice Chairman asked for a means of tracking information requested by the panel so that the public could also access the information. An action on minutes sheet or a more detail included in the work programme report would be investigated.

The Vice Chairman thanked all members for their support over the past 12 months and wished all those facing local elections well.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the dates future meetings be noted.
- b) That some form of listing and tracking information requested be added to future agendas.

Chairman

Community Overview & Scrutiny Panel - Work Programme 2022/23

| Date | Items for Agenda | |
|---------------|--|--|
| 13 June 2022 | | |
| | Beat the Cold | |
| 11 July 2022 | | |
| | Your Housing Group 6 monthly update | |
| | Climate Change Strategy 6 monthly update | |
| | Refreshed Environment Enforcement Policy | |
| 12 Sep 2022 | | |
| | Staffordshire Commissioner Annual Update | |
| | CVS Sector Post Covid-19 Recovery Activity (TBC) | |
| 14 Nov 2022 | | |
| | Climate Change Annual Update | |
| | | |
| 16 Jan 2023 | | |
| | Your Housing 6 monthly update | |
| | CAB Annual Update | |
| 13 March 2023 | | |
| | Local Policing Team Annual Update (TBC) | |
| | Fire & Rescue Service Annual Update (TBC) | |

| Key Organisations to Invite/ Schedule Annually and Additional Items | Status Update |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Staffordshire Commissioner Annual Update | Invited to attend May, Sept or Nov |
| Local Policing Team Annual Update | Scheduled to attend March 2023 |
| Your Housing – 6 Monthly Update | Scheduled to attend Jul 2022 |
| Fire & Rescue Service Annual Update | Scheduled to attend March 2023 |
| Citizens Advice Bureau Annual Update | Scheduled to attend Jan 2023 |
| Refreshed Environment Enforcement Policy | Due approx. April 2022 |
| Climate Change Strategy 6 Monthly and Annual Update | July 2022 and Nov 2022 |
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