

WEST MERCIA POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 26 SEPTEMBER 2017

WORK PROGRAMME

Purpose

- 1 To discuss the content of and agree the 2017/18 work programme with the Panel.

Recommendation

- 2 **The West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (PCP) is asked to:**
 - a) **Consider the content of the report and the proposed work programme;**
 - b) **Determine any additional items that it wishes to include in the work programme;**
 - c) **Determine the purpose and membership of any Task and Finish Groups that it wishes to establish.**
- 3 A work plan for the Panel enables members to prepare in advance and gives officers from each of the West Mercia Local Authorities time to brief their respective Panel Members prior to each meeting. It also assists the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in preparing their reports. It is not intended to set out the full agendas for meetings, as consideration must always be given to any matters arising over the period which may require the attention of the Panel, and there must remain a degree of flexibility in the Panel's approach.

Role of the Police and Crime Panel

- 4 The PCP is a scrutiny body. It exists to scrutinise the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), to promote openness in the transaction of police business and also to support the PCC in the effective exercise of their functions. Therefore the work programme should reflect the following functions:
 - contributing to the development of the PCC's Police and Crime Plan (on which it is a statutory consultee – the PCC must have regard to the PCP's views on the draft plan)
 - scrutinising the PCC, and receiving evidence from the Chief Constable (by invitation), at 'set piece' events at certain points in the year
 - reviewing the PCC's proposed precept
 - receiving evidence in person from officers of the PCC's secretariat, although powers to require information do not extend to receiving 'advice' given by the PCC's secretariat to the PCC

- reviewing the PCC's proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and holding public confirmation hearings for these posts
- making reports and recommendations on matters relating to the PCC, on which the PCC is obliged to provide a response
- carrying out investigations into decisions made by the PCC, and into topics of particular interest, or public concern. This is not a statutory function (the Act does not require it), but may be necessary in order to effectively carry out the rest of the PCP's business
- an informal role in investigating complaints about non-criminal behaviour of the PCC, without any explicit powers to investigate
- making comments on the PCC's annual report at a public meeting to be held as soon as possible after the publication of that report (the public meeting will also provide the PCP with an opportunity to directly question the PCC on the annual report).

5 Below is a suggested Work Programme for the Panel to consider and amend/add to as the Panel sees fit:

Meeting Date:	Work Programme Topic:
30 November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police & Crime Plan Activity and Performance Monitoring (July 2017- September 2017)
February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017/18 Budget & Precept Proposals • Police & Crime Plan Activity and Performance Monitoring (October 2017- December 2017)
June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Annual Report 2018/19 • Police & Crime Plan Activity and Performance Monitoring (January 2018 – March 2018)
September 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police & Crime Plan Activity and Performance Monitoring (April 2018 -June 2018)

Specific Contact Points for this report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda and Minutes of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel

[All agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website here.](#)