

WEST MERCIA POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 19 JUNE 2018

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANELS

Recommendation

1. Members of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (PCP) are asked to consider whether to join the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels and if so, to agree the membership fee for the first year of £500.

Background

2. In September 2017, the Panel considered options for establishing national representation for Police and Crime Panels. The Panel considered that a Special Interest Group within the LGA would be the most appropriate.

3. An inaugural meeting of interested Panels was held in April at which it was agreed to form a National Association and a Chairman, John Gili-Ross from Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel, was elected. He has written to all Panel Chairmen setting out further details including its terms of reference. His letter is attached to this Report (Appendix 1). The Chairman of the Association has completed an application to be a Special Interest Group of the LGA, and, it is hoped, this will be considered at the June LGA Board meeting.

- 4. The terms of reference of the Association include:
 - providing a forum for collaborative discussion of issues relating to and impacting on Police and Crime Panels and Police, Fire and Crime Panels (PCPs/PFCPs);
 - sharing ideas and experience
 - creating a mechanism for direct liaison between PCPs/PFCPs and the Home Office
 - supporting the development of joint PCP/PFCP responses to relevant consultations
 - sharing good practice, creating guidance and other supporting materials
 - promoting better public understanding of the role of PCPs/PFCPs.

5. The fee of £500 can be met from the Annual Grant provided by the Home Office to support the running costs of the Panel.

6. If the Panel agrees to join, the first meeting of the new Association will be held during the Annual Conference of Panels at Warwick on 12 November 2018.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – letter from National Association of Police Fire and Crime Panels to all Police and Crime Panel Chairmen

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.