

DYFED-POWYS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

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1. Chairman's foreword

I am delighted to be able to introduce the fourth Annual Report of the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Panel.

2021-2022 has again been a busy year, with the re-election of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr. Dafydd Llewelyn, the development of a new Police and Crime Plan for Dyfed-Powys and the appointment of a new Chief Constable, Richard Lewis.

Despite the pandemic my colleagues and I have continued to hold the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys to account for the performance of his statutory functions and support him to deliver to the public an efficient and effective service. Again, the Panel has looked not just at policing in Dyfed-Powys, but also the wider remit of the Commissioner in relation to commissioned services and his use of the financial resources available to him

During the year Panel has been obliged to revert to physical meetings because of legislative requirements. However, meetings of the Panel have continued to be webcast to promote public engagement.

We have again looked at examples of best practice elsewhere through our networking with other panels across England and Wales and brought these to the attention of the Commissioner where appropriate.

On a personal note, this will be my last Annual Report as Chair of the Police and Crime Panel as I have decided not to stand again in the Council elections in May 2022. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those with whom I have been privileged to work, both in my time as a member of the Police and Crime Panel and before that as a member of the Police Authority.



Cllr. Alun Lloyd-Jones

(Panel Chairman)

2. Panel Membership

The terms of office of the Panel's two independent/co-opted members expired in October 2021. Following a public recruitment exercise which attracted interest from not just across the force area, but also beyond it, Professor Ian Roffe and Mrs Helen Thomas were appointed to the Panel for a further term of office. This will ensure that the Panel will retain at least some continuity and expertise after the local authority elections in May 2022 which could result in a significant turnover amongst the elected members of the Panel

Further information regarding the Panel Members for 2021-2022 can be found at Appendix 1.

3. Our role:

The functions of the Police and Crime Panel are to;

1. Review the Police and Crime Commissioner's police and crime plan.

2. Review the Police and Crime Commissioner's annual draft budget, with the power to veto the level of precept.
3. Deal with certain complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner or his deputy.
4. Scrutinise decisions and actions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
5. Review the appointment or removal of the Chief Constable and the appointment of certain senior staff in the Police and Crime Commissioners office, namely any Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Commissioner's Chief of Staff and Chief Financial Officer.
6. Support the Commissioner in the performance of his statutory functions.
7. Make reports or recommendations to the Commissioner.
8. Review the Commissioner's conduct.

The statutory functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner are.

1. Setting the priorities for Dyfed-Powys Police.
2. Publishing a Police and Crime Plan.
3. Engaging with Communities and representing the public's voice on policing matters.
4. Working closely with community safety and criminal justice partners.
5. Supporting victims and bringing people to justice.
6. Commissioning services to make communities safer and to support the vulnerable.
7. Appointing and, if necessary, dismissing the Chief Constable.
8. Dealing with complaints and disciplinary matters against the Chief Constable.
9. Holding the Chief Constable to account.
10. Setting the annual Police budget and precept level.

Neither the Panel, nor the Police and Crime Commissioner has any role in the management of operational policing by Dyfed-Powys Police. Operational Policing is the responsibility of the Chief Constable.

4. Review of the year:

The Panel held 3 formal meetings during the year along with one informal briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner. Sub-groups of panel members also met separately to undertake more detailed pieces of work. More information about the formal panel meetings can be found on the Panel's website www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales by clicking on the 'meetings' tab, the 'please select' button and then selecting the year of the meeting that you wish to look for.

Meeting Summary

July 2021

This was the Panel's Annual General Meeting (AGM). The meeting focussed on concerns about the quality of crime data recording by Dyfed-Powys Police, the Commissioners annual report and scrutinising his performance against the Policing Protocol Order. The Panel also received a report from one of its sub-groups on the issue of Policing and Mental Health which contained recommendations to the Commissioner.

The AGM was followed in the afternoon by a confirmation hearing for the appointment of Richard Lewis as the new Chief Constable for Dyfed-Powys

November 2021

This meeting focussed on scrutiny of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, the distribution of grant funding by the Commissioner and his performance against the Policing Protocol.

5th February 2022

This meeting focussed entirely on the setting of the police precept for 2022-2023 and the financial management of the Commissioner's budget.

Complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Police and Crime Panel must record any complaint against the Commissioner that it receives. However, the Panel has only very limited powers to deal with these complaints and cannot 'investigate' any complaint that has been made. The Panel is obliged to refer any serious complaint (i.e. a complaint of criminal misconduct) to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) and has no power to compel the Commissioner to take any remedial action in respect of a complaint.

During the year the Panel recorded one complaint against the Police and Crime Commissioner from members of the public. This was considered in accordance with the Panel's complaints protocol, and it was resolved to take no further action as the matter was not suitable for further consideration by the Panel and no meaningful outcome was likely.

Panel priorities for 2021-2022

In its last annual report, the Panel identified 3 priorities for the following year, each of which related to a statutory function of the Panel.

Therefore, our priorities for 2021-2022 were

| PRIORITY 1 | OBJECTIVE | WHAT WE DID | OUTCOME |
|---|--|--|--|
| Scrutiny of the Police Precept (A sub-group of panel members, chaired by Cllr Keith Evans led on this issue) | To ensure Police and Crime Commissioner's finances are being properly managed and that the people of Dyfed-Powys are receiving value for | Review the end of year accounts. Publicly question the Commissioner about those accounts. | The Panel concluded that the level of precept proposed by the Commissioner for 2022-2023 was appropriate having regard to all the circumstances. |

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| | money from the Police Precept | <p>Receive a briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Financial Officer regarding the financial status of Dyfed-Powys Police and the demands upon it.</p> <p>Receive information on the non-police services procured by the Commissioner.</p> <p>Receive information from the Chief Constable on budgetary pressure in a Finance Seminar.</p> <p>Hold a hearing to consider the proposed precept</p> | The Panel therefor recommended that the Commissioner proceed with that precept and the Commissioner followed that recommendation |
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| PRIORITY 2 | OBJECTIVES | WHAT WE DID | OUTCOME |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Policing and Mental Health</p> <p>(A group of panel members chaired by Mrs Helen Thomas led on this issue)</p> | To understand what the Police and Crime Plan has said about policing and mental health, how this has been implemented and the impact that it has had. | <p>Ask the Commissioner to provide the Panel with specific information regarding this issue.</p> <p>To invite other key stakeholders to give their views to the Panel.</p> <p>Seek examples of best practice from elsewhere.</p> | We satisfied ourselves that the approach taken by the Commissioner represented best practice and served to safeguard the vulnerable in the force area. We were concerned however that the Police were routinely having to undertake tasks which should more properly be undertaken by mental health professionals and therefore made recommendations aimed at trying to reduce this burden. |

| PRIORITY 3 | OBJECTIVE | WHAT WE WILL DO | OUTCOME |
|---|---|--|---|
| Public engagement (A sub-committee Chaired by Cllr. Alun Lloyd-Jones led on this issue) | To continue to increase public awareness of and improve public engagement with the work of the Panel. | To further promote the work of the Panel through webcasting and the increased use of social media. Take further steps to engage with those sections of the public who are unable or do not wish to engage online through use of local newsletters. Specifically engage with minority groups. | Public Engagement continued to be hampered by the Coronavirus pandemic during the period covered by this report. Meetings were however webcast and the public were once again able to attend the meetings in person if they wished to. Several members of the public submitted queries to the Panel via its website during this period. |

In addition to these priorities the Panel.

- Supported the Commissioner in the development of a new Police and Crime Plan for Dyfed-Powys
- Continued to scrutinise how the Commissioner held the Chief Constable to account.
- Scrutinised all key decisions made by the Commissioner including those in relation to commissioned services.
- Responded to the Home Office Review of Police and Crime Commissioners and participated in stakeholder consultations
- Responded to the Home Office consultation regarding changes to the Policing Protocol Order, which governs the relationship between the Home Office, Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables

5. OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2022-2023

The Panel has determined that given the likely change in Panel membership following the Council elections in May 2022 it should focus on the core functions of the Panel for its priorities

Therefore, our priorities for 2022-2023 will be

| PRIORITY 1 | OBJECTIVE | WHAT WE WILL DO | INTENDED OUTCOME |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Scrutiny of the Police Precept | To ensure Police and Crime Commissioner's finances are being properly managed and that the people of Dyfed-Powys are receiving value for money from the Police Precept | <p>Review the end of year accounts.</p> <p>Publicly question the Commissioner about those accounts.</p> <p>Receive a briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Financial Officer regarding the financial status of Dyfed-Powys Police and the demands upon it.</p> <p>Receive information on the non-police services procured by the Commissioner.</p> <p>Receive information from the Chief Constable on budgetary pressure in a Finance Seminar.</p> <p>Hold a hearing to consider the proposed precept</p> | That the level of precept set for 2023-2024 is appropriate having regard to all the circumstances. |

| PRIORITY 2 | OBJECTIVES | WHAT WE WILL DO | INTENDED OUTCOME |
|--|--|---|---|
| How the Commissioner manages the Police estate in light of the financial pressures on the capital budget | To understand how the police estate is managed and its impact upon the | Ask the Commissioner to provide the Panel with specific | To satisfy that the approach taken by the Commissioner represented best |

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| | <p>efficiency and effectiveness of the force</p> <p>To examine whether the capital programme represents best value</p> | <p>information regarding this issue.</p> <p>To invite other key stakeholders to give their views to the Panel.</p> <p>Seek examples of best practice from elsewhere.</p> | <p>value and promotes an efficient and effective police force</p> |
|--|--|--|---|

| PRIORITY 3 | OBJECTIVE | WHAT WE WILL DO | INTENDED OUTCOMES |
|---|--|--|--|
| Scrutinising how to Commissioner holds the Chief constable to account | To ensure that the Commissioner is holding the Chief Constable to account in a way that is thorough, effective and fair. | <p>Monitor the Commissioner's performance through attendance at Policing Accountability Board meetings</p> <p>Review and scrutinise agendas and reports submitted to the Policing Board</p> <p>Challenge the Commissioner in relation to specific issues that arise during the year.</p> | That there is clear evidence that the Commissioner is holding the Chief Constable to account in a robust but fair way. |

| PRIORITY 4 | OBJECTIVE | WHAT WE WILL DO | INTENDED OUTCOMES |
|---|--|---|---|
| Scrutinising the Commissioner's performance against the Policing Protocol Order | To ensure that the Commissioner is performing the statutory functions prescribed in the Order to the highest possible standard | <p>Monitor the Commissioner's performance against the order on a quarterly basis</p> <p>Challenge the Commissioner in relation to any specific performance issues that arise during the year.</p> | That there is clear evidence that the Commissioner is performing his functions to the Highest possible standard |

In addition to these priorities the Panel will.

- Scrutinise all key decisions made by the Commissioner including those in relation to commissioned services.
- Ensure that new Panel Members receive comprehensive induction training following the May 2022 elections

In addition to the above, the new Panel membership will be invited to consider undertaking an additional piece of scrutiny work into the Commissioner's role regarding Police complaints. This has been prompted by a request from a member of the public.

6. CONCLUSION

As I stated in my introduction, this is my final year as a member and chair of the Police and Crime Panel and marks the end of a long and thoroughly enjoyable association with the police. This started in the early 1970's as a special constable in North Wales and then continued as a member of the former Police Authority for Dyfed-Powys from 2006 to 2012 and thereafter as a member of the Police and Crime Panel, the last 5 and a half years as its Chair.

I must conclude by again thanking all those with whom I have had the pleasure of working during my time on the Panel and wish them every success and happiness in the future.

Cllr Alun Lloyd-Jones

(Chairman)

APPENDIX 1 – MEMBERS OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MEMBERS OF DYFED POWYS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL FOR 2021 to 2022

| NAME | COUNCIL | |
|------------------------|-----------------|---|
| | | |
| Cllr. John Prosser | CARMARTHENSHIRE |  |
| Cllr. KEN HOWELL | CARMARTHENSHIRE |  |
| Cllr. Jim Jones | CARMARTHENSHIRE |  |
| Cllr. ALUN LLOYD JONES | CEREDIGION |  |
| Cllr. KEITH EVANS | CEREDIGION |  |

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| Cllr. LLOYD EDWARDS | CEREDIGION |  |
| Cllr. DAVID EVANS | POWYS |  |
| Cllr. LES GEORGE | POWYS |  |
| Cllr. WILLIAM POWELL | POWYS |  |
| Cllr. MICHAEL JAMES | PEMBROKESHIRE |  |
| Cllr. ROBERT SUMMONS | PEMBROKESHIRE |  |

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| <p>Cllr. STEPHEN JOSEPH</p> | <p>PEMBROKESHIRE</p> |  |
| <p>IAN ROFFE</p> | <p>CO-OPTED MEMBER</p> |  |
| <p>HELEN THOMAS</p> | <p>CO-OPTED MEMBER</p> |  |

