

# Cherwell District Council

## Council

22 July 2019

### Police and Crime Panel Annual Report

#### Report of Chief Operating Officer (Deputy Chief Executive)

This report is public

#### Purpose of report

This report presents to members the Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel Annual Report for 2018/2019 and provides members with background to the role of the Police and Crime Panel.

#### 1.0 Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the Annual Report of the Police and Crime Panel and the manner in which this panel provides oversight and scrutiny of Thames Valley Police by holding the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to account.
- 1.2 To appoint a named substitute member to the Police and Crime Panel.

#### 2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced the role of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) in strategic police decision-making. This Act also created a statutory scrutiny framework for the PCCs through Police and Crime Panels.
- 2.2 Since November 2012, police and crime panels have had a role in challenging, scrutinising and supporting each PCC, by scrutinising police and crime commissioners' precepts and police and crime plans, conducting confirmation hearings and dealing with complaints against the PCC.
- 2.3 The Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel produces an annual report. This paper introduces the Panel's 2018/2019 annual report for members information.
- 2.4 The report also seeks the appointment of a named Cherwell District Council representative to be the named substitute member on the Panel.

### **3.0 Report Details**

- 3.1 The Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel is hosted by South Bucks District Council. It is a joint committee of all 18 local authorities, consisting of a representative from each and two independent co-opted members. Minutes of the Panel meetings can be viewed via the Panel's website- <https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/about-us/police-and-crime-panel/>
- 3.2 Cherwell District Council is represented on the Panel by Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing, Councillor Andrew McHugh. At the June meeting of the Panel it was agreed that the membership rules of the Panel be changed to enable all authorities to appoint a named substitute member.

### **4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations**

- 4.1 The Annual Report of the Police and Crime Panel is submitted to Council for information and demonstrates the manner in which this panel provides oversight and scrutiny of Thames Valley Police by holding the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to account.
- 4.2 The Panel amended its membership rules to enable partner councils on the Panel to nominate a named substitute member for the Panel in support of the Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing.

### **5.0 Consultation**

- 5.1 None

### **6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

- 6.1 The following alternative options have been identified and rejected for the reasons as set out below.

Option 1: To not appoint a named substitute member to the Police and Crime Panel. This has been rejected since the Panel rules allow for a named substitute and nominating a named substitute would ensure that Cherwell is represented at Panel meetings in the event that the Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing was unable to attend.

### **7.0 Implications**

#### **Financial and Resource Implications**

- 7.1 There are no financial or resource implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:

Kelly Wheeler, Principal Accountant, [kelly.wheeler@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:kelly.wheeler@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

## Legal Implications

7.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:

Nick Graham, Director: Law and Governance, [nick.graham@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:nick.graham@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

## 8.0 Decision Information

### Wards Affected

All

### Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

Clean, Safe and Green; Thriving Communities and Wellbeing

### Lead Councillor

Councillor Andrew McHugh, Lead Member for Health and Wellbeing

### Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2018/2019
Background Papers	
None	
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