

# **Minutes of the Community Scrutiny Panel Annual General Meeting 2024**

14 May 2024

18:30 – 20:30

Cambridgeshire Constabulary Headquarters, Huntingdon

## **1. Welcome and Introduction**

The Chair, Keith Parish (KP) welcomed members of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Community Scrutiny Panel (the “Panel”) to the 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and gave a brief overview of the agenda.

KP congratulated Darryl Preston (DP) on his re-election as Police and Crime Commissioner and thanked members of Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for their support with Panel meetings.

The Panel approved the minutes of the 2023 AGM and the proposed Terms of Reference.

*[Slides 1-4]*

## **2. Address from Keith Parish, Panel Chair**

KP spoke to the Panel about the various themes they have covered within scrutiny meetings over the past year, including Acute Behavioural Disturbance and juvenile strip searches. KP reminded the Panel of their achievements from the last year and beyond, highlighting that there has been an increase in Body Worn Video (BWV) scrutiny during meetings meaning more incidents have been scrutinised than before.

KP reminded the Panel of the opportunity to request a ride-a-long with an officer when they are next available. Caitlin Bones (CB) advised the Panel that the option to do this was suspended during the pandemic and the Constabulary is currently awaiting health and safety sign off to implement them once again. Once this is approved the Constabulary will invite interested Panel members to attend.

*[Slide 5]*

## **3. Appointment of Custody Chair**

KP and the Panel welcomed Jonathan Peryer (JP) as Co-Chair of the new custody scrutiny meetings and explained that going forward JP will Chair custody meetings, whilst KP shall remain as Chair for use of force and stop and search meetings. This mean additional has meant that the two Chairs will now be referred to as Co-Chairs, as covered in the Terms of Reference.

JP introduced himself to the Panel and explained how his role as an Independent Custody Visitor (ICV) will support him in his role as Chair of the custody scrutiny meetings.

#### **4. 2023 Round Up**

KP discussed the average attendance of Panel members in use of force and stop and search meetings during 2023 and summarised the number of incidents the Panel scrutinised during this time and how many were voted as red, amber or green.

Robin Sissons (RS) explained that officers are provided with feedback from all RAG rated incidents, both positive and negative. RS advised that officers are provided with appropriate learning in relation to amber rated incidents, whereas red rated incidents are referred to the Constabulary's Professional Standards Department (PSD) to be reviewed and handled as appropriate.

RS advised that the Panel rated one incident as red last year as they felt that the level of force used was too high, too soon and didn't feel that the level of restraint used was appropriate. This incident was reviewed by PSD who determined that the use of force was appropriate in the circumstances.

*[Slide 6]*

#### **5. Actions and Feedback to the Constabulary**

RS summarised the actions and feedback provided to the Constabulary by the Panel over the past year.

*[Slide 7-8]*

#### **6. Address from Jack Hudson, Deputy Chief Executive OPCC**

Jack Hudson (JH) passed the Commissioner's apologies to the Panel for not being able to attend the meeting. JH highlighted the importance of the positive feedback from HMICFRS regarding the scrutiny of Cambridgeshire Constabulary and thanked the Panel for their important part in this.

JH discussed the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan and highlighted that it was the only Plan to include ethical policing as a strand and that including this was important to the Commissioner. JH explained that part of the way in which the Commissioner ensures the Constabulary is acting ethically, is via scrutiny and that the Community Scrutiny Panel play an integral role in this.

JH advised that, as part of the uplift programme, there has been an increase in the number of young and inexperienced police officers who need training and the Panel play an important role in supporting this. JH highlighted how the Constabulary take away and act on the feedback provided by the Panel, stating it is important for the community to trust the Constabulary and the Panel play an important part in developing this. JH offered his personal thanks to KP for acting as Chair of the Panel and to the members of the Panel for their work and support.

JH advised that scrutiny of different areas of the Constabulary is growing and managing the demand for this is challenging, but it is being managed between the OPCC and the Constabulary. JH offered thanks to the members of the Constabulary and OPCC involved who have been involved in this area of work.

*[Slide 9]*

## **7. Break and Networking**

*[Slide 10]*

## **8. Data Analysis: Stop and Search and Use of Force Jan-March 2024**

Dandy Doherty (DD) presented home office data for Cambridgeshire in relation to stop and search and use of force and explored some of the challenges this represents. DD asked Panel members to think of what they would like the new data group to analyse.

*[Slides 11-21]*

## **9. Address from Superintendent Robin Sissons**

RS gave thanks to DD for the data analysis and recognition of the importance of analysing stop and search disparity when it comes to ethnicity.

RS summarised the positive points made by HMICFRS in relation to how Cambridgeshire Constabulary scrutinise the use of policing powers and recognised the work of the Community Scrutiny Panel in this. RS discussed how recommendations made by HMICFRS and the Panel have been addressed by the Constabulary and highlighted some of the improvements that have been implemented such as educating their workforce about disproportionality and using innovative technology to promote the Community Scrutiny Panel.

*[Slides 22-27]*

## **10. Introduction of additional scrutiny**

RS advised the Panel that the Constabulary will be running scrutiny sessions of 163 Vehicle Searches. These meetings will be managed by the Constabulary rather than the OPCC and ran separately to the Community Scrutiny Panel, however Panel members are invited to attend.

## **11. AOB and Close of Meeting**

*[Slides 28-29]*