

North Yorkshire

Police and Crime Panel

Presentation to Ryedale District Council

13 December 2012



Background

- n Coalition Manifesto - perceived lack of accountability of police authorities to the communities they serve.
- n Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 replaces police authorities with directly elected police and crime commissioners, scrutinised by police and crime panels.



Key facts (1)

- § Panel is a joint committee of the nine local authorities in the NY police area.
- § Scrutinises the actions and decisions of the commissioner.
- § Ensures that information is available to enable the public to hold the commissioner to account.
- § Meets in public.



Key facts (2)

- n The functions of the panel must be exercised with a view to supporting the effective exercise of the functions of the commissioner – a critical friend.
- n The panel is not the police authority!



Membership (1)

- n Ten councillors, at least one from each of the nine local authorities.
- n Two independent members co-opted by the panel.
- n Automatic membership for an elected mayor.
- n Balanced appointment objective (with provision for additional co-options).



Membership (2)

- n **Craven District Council** Cllr Simon Myers - Conservative
 - n **Hambleton District Council** Cllr Neville Huxtable - Conservative
 - n **Harrogate Borough Council** Cllr Margaret Atkinson - Conservative
 - n **North Yorkshire County Council** Cllr Carl Les - Conservative
 - n **Richmondshire District Council** Cllr Mick Griffiths - Independents
 - n **Ryedale District Council** Cllr Eric Hope - Conservative
 - n **Selby District Council** Cllr Gillian Ivey - Conservative
 - n **Scarborough Borough Council** Cllr Brian Simpson - non aligned
 - n **City of York Council** Cllr Fiona Fitzpatrick - Labour
 - n **City of York Council** Cllr Dafydd Williams - Labour
 - n **Independent Co-opted** Professor Gary Craig
 - n **Independent Co-opted** Santokh Singh Sidhu
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- n **Chair 2012/12** Cllr Carl Les
 - n **Vice-Chairs 2012/13** Cllr Fiona Fitzpatrick & Cllr Gillian Ivey



Responsibilities (1)

- n Review (in public) the commissioner's

- n draft police and crime plan

- n draft precept

- n annual report

and make recommendations to the commissioner, who must have regard to them and publish a response.



Responsibilities (2)

- n Hold confirmation hearings for the commissioner's proposed chief constable, chief executive, chief finance officer and any deputy commissioner.
- n Review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the commissioner in connection with the discharge of her functions.



Responsibilities (3)

- n Monitor all complaints about the commissioner, although criminal issues must be passed to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC).
- n Appoint an acting commissioner if the commissioner is incapacitated, resigns or disqualified.



Power of veto

- n Veto, by two-thirds majority, the commissioner's proposed
 - n first draft precept
 - n first candidate for chief constable



Enabling powers (1)

- n Access to all papers in the commissioner's possession (except those which are operationally sensitive).
- n Require the commissioner to attend the panel to answer questions.
- n Request the chief constable to attend the panel at the same time as the commissioner to answer questions.



Enabling powers (2)

- n Ask Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) for a professional view when the commissioner intends to dismiss or require the resignation of the chief constable.



Establishment of the panel

- n Panel arrangements agreed.
- n North Yorkshire County Council appointed as host authority.
- n Panel members appointed.
- n Panel induction September to November 2012.
- n Commissioner elected 15 November 2012, took up office 22 November 2012.



Initial work programme

- n Panel induction.
- n Procedures, protocols and relationships.
- n Consider draft precept for 2013/14.
- n Consider draft police and crime plan for 2012/17.
- n Confirmation hearings (in particular chief constable appointment).



Links to local authorities

- n Joint committee of the nine local authorities.
- n Every local authority appoints at least one member.
- n Key messages published after every meeting.
- n Annual opportunity for briefing on the panel.



Website

- n www.nypartnerships.org.uk/pcp
 - n Contact details
 - n Panel arrangements
 - n Members and their contact details
 - n Meeting dates and papers
 - n Key messages (after each meeting)
 - n Reports and recommendations