

# Minutes



To: All Members of the Community  
Safety & Waste Management  
Cabinet Panel, Chief  
Executive, Chief Officers, All  
officers named for 'actions'

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services  
Ask for: Michelle Diprose  
Ext: 25566

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## COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT CABINET PANEL THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2019

### ATTENDANCE

#### MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

J Bennett-Lovell, J Billing (*substitute for J G L King*), S N Bloxham, S J Featherstone,  
J S Hale, F R G Hill, T W Hone (*Chairman*), P V Mason, R A C Thake (*substitute for M Bright*),  
T J Williams, C B Woodward (*Vice Chairman*), J F Wyllie

#### OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Community Safety & Waste Management meeting on Thursday, 19 September 2019 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below:

#### PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS

#### ACTION

##### 1. MINUTES

1.1 The Minutes of the Cabinet Panel meeting held on 28 June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendments:

4.2 and 4.3 to read 'the Police and Crime Panel' and not 'the Panel'

##### 2. PUBLIC PETITIONS

2.1 There were no public petitions received.

### 3. HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER UPDATE REPORT

[Officer Contact: Dr Amie Birkhamshaw, Director of Delivery & Commissioning (Tel: 01707 806154)]

3.1 The Panel considered the Police & Crime Commissioner report detailing the update in activity undertaken by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) since the last meeting of the Panel.

3.2 Members heard that in relation to the 20,000 new officers promised by the Government the PCC was awaiting news on how numbers were going to be disseminated across the country. It was noted that because Hertfordshire maintained its Police Officers numbers by using financial reserves, it may mean that Hertfordshire could be penalised as it might be deemed that the establishment was at full compliment. Members were informed there was a difference between establishment numbers and actuals due to vacancies. Establishment was 2,034 and the number of actual police officer was now above 2,000 and increasing.

**Admin note:** Following on from a request of this CSWM meeting the following links shows how many police officers have recently graduated in Hertfordshire and which districts they will be based in -

<http://www.hertscommissioner.org/2019-09-new-police-officers-join-force-after-passing-out-ceremony>

<http://www.hertscommissioner.org/2019-10-hertfordshire-constabulary-welcomes-11-new-officers-as-part-of-graduate-scheme>

3.3 In relation to the Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan (CSCJP) the Panel heard it was in its final draft after working through 450 items following consultation. It was noted the plan would be presented to the Police and Crime Panel on 19 September and following any amendments it would be published thereafter.

3.4 In relation to the Beacon Fraud Hub, the Panel were informed the PCC had recruited four specialist fraud advisors through funding from the Ministry of Justice to safeguard vulnerable people.

3.5 In response to a Member question it was noted an update would be included in a future report of the PCC on the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel and how well it was attended. It was also noted the meeting was a 'meeting in public'.

*Action OPCC*

3.6 A Member asked if there were any plans following the visit to Hertfordshire by new Government Minister for Crime, Policing and the Fire & Rescue Service (FRS) to merge the Police and FRS. In

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response the Panel were informed there was never a planned merger, legislation required the PCC to explore if taking on fire governance was an option.

- 3.7 In relation to concerns about engagement, some Members were disappointed they were not informed of the recent visit by the Minister who met with the PCC, Councillors and members of the public. Because this visit was not promoted attendance at the meetings was very low, some Members believed if it had been promoted more residents would have attended as there was enormous concerns in relation to crime. The Cabinet Panel were informed the event was run by the Minister and not the PCC.
- 3.8 The Panel were informed there were twenty Police Stations open to the public and the OPCC was looking to publicise the opening times to the community. In response to a Member question it was noted it would be beneficial for members of the public to book an appointment before attending the Police station as it could not be confirmed there would be someone available to deal with an enquiry at all times.
- 3.9 In relation to the CSCJP and the statement where it says the pilot of 'Drugs testing on Arrest was successful' (page 9 of the CSCJP), a Member raised a query as to why the PCC wanted to review it if it had been a success. In response the representative of the OPCC said the pilot was a few years ago and the Constabulary asked for a review to ensure quantitative data was available.
- 3.10 In response to a Member question it was noted since the new I.T system had been implemented the OPCC was seeing the benefits of the data, but needed to make sure it made the necessary efficiencies in the right areas.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

- 3.11 The report of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire was noted.

#### **4. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL UPDATE**

[Colin Woodward – Vice-Chairman of the Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel and Police & Crime Panel Representative]

- 4.1 The Cabinet Panel were advised the Police and Crime Panel (P&C Panel) had not met since the last meeting if the Cabinet Panel and it was due to meet on 19 September 2019. [Police & Crime Panel website](#).
- 4.2 The Police and Crime Panel representative reported he had attended a Problem Solving Conference at which the Police outlined its multi-

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agency approach to joint problem solving. There were some awards given to District led teams, with two out of the three being won by Hertsmere. He also reported that there was to be more focus on listening and communication using social media i.e. Echo and face to face Community Focus Groups and local Priority Setting Forum.

**CONCLUSION:**

4.3 That the Cabinet Panel noted the update

**5. HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARIES AND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES (HMICFRS) ACTION PLAN – UPDATE REPORT**

[Officer Contact: Darryl Keen, Director of Community Protection and Chief Fire Officer, Tel: (01992) 507500]

- 5.1 The Panel received a report which provided a summary and update regarding the progress on actions taken to date to address the “areas for improvement” identified by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabularies and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) in their report published in December 2018.
- 5.2 Members were presented with an updated RAG action plan to show the status of each action.
- 5.3 Members agreed this was a useful document, however one of the areas of concern was the establishment vacancies and how recruitment was being addressed. Members heard the number of firefighters fluctuated on a daily basis. The F&RS deliberately held vacancies for staff overtime. It was noted the Establishment numbers were always different to the actual numbers of fire-fighters.
- 5.4 The Panel heard there was a passing-out of a cohort of fire-fighters taking place on 21 September 2019 and a further recruitment drive was being carried out in January and Summer of 2020.
- 5.5 In response to a Member question it was noted that overtime requests was approximately 5% in 2018 and less in 2019 due to recruitment. The F&RS looked to offer overtime at approximately 3-5%. It was noted that fire-fighters were enthusiastic to take pre-arranged overtime when offered.

**Conclusions:**

5.6 The Cabinet Panel noted the content of the HMICFRS Action Plan 2019/20, attached as Appendix A to the report and made any additional comments or observations.

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**6. REVIEW OF ALTERNATIVE FINANCIAL MODEL (AFM)**

[Officer Contact: Simon Aries, Assistant Director Transport, Waste & Environmental Management Tel: (01992) 555255, Matt King Head of Waste Management & Environmental Resource Planning Tel: (01992) 556207]

- 6.1 The Panel received a report seeking its views on proposals to aim to maintain an unchanged Alternative Financial Model (AFM) mechanism for a period of three years (2020/21 to 2022/23) whilst reducing the base position 'pot' to assist the County Council in meeting its savings targets and to make recommendations to Cabinet accordingly.
- 6.2 Members heard that since £1m was taken out 3 years ago the AFM pot had increased by a further £1m. It was proposed to reduce the pot by a further £1.5m over the next three years, i.e. £500k each year to 2022/23.
- 6.3 The Panel heard that the Executive Member for Community Safety and Waste and County Council Officers was meeting with all ten districts and boroughs to promote the benefits and opportunities of partnership working. The Executive Member stated that most district and boroughs were working in silo's but it was essential to work together to reduce residual waste and increase recycling, this was the key aim of the AFM. It was noted those authorities that had invested in services changes or reduced costs to the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) received significant payment as the mechanism for reward.
- 6.4 Members were informed there was a full day Hertfordshire Waste Partnership meeting scheduled for January 2020 and it was hoped this would be an opportunity to encourage partnership working and promote more recycling, reduced residual waste and show the cost benefits.
- 6.5 In response to a Member question as to why the spreadsheet, which detailed how district and borough council's had spent the money they had received under the AFM was not circulated to the Panel, officers advised the Panel that the spreadsheets were a comprehensive document which contained sensitive information and referred the Panel to point 9.4 of the report which identified items of spend by the district and boroughs.
- 6.6 The Executive Member reiterated the £4.2m in the AFM was non-statutory and under pressure and each portfolio was requested to provide efficiencies in order to support Children's Services and Adult Care portfolio's. He reminded the Panel the Executive Member for Resources could take the full pot of £4.2m, but the Executive Member for Community Safety and Waste Management supported retention of the model but the County Council needed all district and boroughs to

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support partnership working.

6.7 The Panel agreed it was essential for all districts and boroughs to work together and noted the County Council's recent declaration in relation to climate emergency.

6.8 A motion was proposed by a Member of the Liberal Democrat Group and seconded to revise the recommendation to Cabinet as follows:

*"That the Panel recommends to Cabinet that it does not make changes to the AFM baseline in 2020/21 and that the Waste Disposal Authority works with the Waste Collection Authorities on alternative proposals."*

Upon a vote being taken 4 voted in favour, 8 voted against. Therefore the vote was lost.

6.9 The Chairman invited Members to vote on the recommendation as detailed in the report. Upon a vote being taken 8 voted in favour of supporting the recommendation, 4 voted against. Therefore the vote was won.

**CONCLUSION:**

6.10 That the Cabinet Panel recommends to Cabinet that it approves the approach set out in section 5 of the Report for a phased reduction in the AFM baseline payments totalling £1.5m through a £500k reduction in 2020/21 and further £500k deductions in 2021/22 and 2022/23

**7. UPDATE ON THE HERTFORDSHIRE EMERGENCY SERVICES COLLABORATION BOARD**

[Officer Contact: Grace Kent, Resources Business Manager Tel: (01992) 556333]

7.1 The Panel received a report informing it of the recent discussions and decisions made by the Hertfordshire Emergency Services Collaboration Board (HESCB).

7.2 The Chairman advised the Leader of the Council was a member of the Hertfordshire Emergency Collaboration Board and a number of shared response activities formed part of the agenda and were being investigated, this includes drones; dogs; missing person services etc. A good example being the Board was reviewing the drones to see if these were the most appropriate ones to meet the needs of both services.

7.3 In relation to the move of Hertfordshire F&RS HQ the Chairman assured the Panel there would still be a fire station in Hertford whilst building work was being undertaken and it would still operate in

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collaboration with the Police service.

- 7.4 In relation to Emergency Services Volunteers Scheme the Police and Crime Panel representative wanted to encourage the PCC, F&RS and County Councillors to promote the benefits of being a volunteer to the community at all levels especially the promotion of fire / police cadets to 16-18 year olds.
- 7.5 Members were pleased to see the report and hoped it would be a regular occurrence and would give future updates on the programme of the collaboration board.
- 7.6 Members heard that although the Director of Resources was to commission an outline business case to consider the co-location of the control rooms there would always be a secondary control room as a back-up of services.

**CONCLUSION:**

- 7.7 The Cabinet Panel noted and considered the contents of the report.

**8. OTHER PART I BUSINESS**

- 8.1 None.

**QUENTIN BAKER**  
**CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

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