CHESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
CONSULTATIVE MEETING
11.30am, FRIDAY 24TH APRIL 2020

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman will outline the way in which the meeting will be conducted and ask members of the Panel to introduce themselves.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive questions or comments from members of the public. A total period of 15 minutes will be allocated for members of the public to speak. Each member of the public shall be limited to a period of up to 5 minutes speaking.

THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE FOLLOWING PART OF THE MEETING

3. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER IN RELATION TO THE CURRENT CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY

4. QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSIONER

The following questions have been submitted in advance to the Commissioner by Panel members and will be asked by members of the Panel at the meeting:

(i) We understand the Coronavirus Act 2020 gives the Police the ability to arrest someone with COVID-19, who refuses to self-isolate. Can you confirm that Cheshire Constabulary have developed a Standard Operating Procedure for such circumstances, including the provision of appropriate PPE?
(ii) What checks and balances are in place to ensure a proportionate Police response to maintaining public safety throughout the period of COVID-19?

(iii) Can you explain to members of the Panel how Cheshire Police are implementing the strategy of “Engage Explain Encourage Enforce”?

(iv) Can you confirm the effective use of body worn video to monitor public and Police behaviour in order to develop effective policing throughout this period?

(v) Has the rate of reported domestic abuse risen since the implementation of the Coronavirus Act 2020?

(vi) A large number, although not all victims of Domestic Abuse are known to the authorities. What pro-active measures and interventions are taking place to support victims of domestic abuse?

(vii) What measures are in place to engage and control with known perpetrators of domestic abuse?

(viii) What level of absence from duty due to self-isolation or COVID-19 is currently being experienced in Cheshire Police?

(ix) What is the overall current level of sickness in Cheshire Police?

(x) What contingencies have been put in place to ensure that resilience in policing is maintained? Has Cheshire Police developed an effective business continuity plan? Has it been tested? If so, can you report the results?

(xi) What checks and balances are in place to prevent over zealous Police behaviour?

(xii) What steps have been put in place for the public to report and log what they feel to be disproportionate acts by the Police?

(xiii) What measures have been implemented to ensure any disproportionate Police activity is recorded and investigated?

(xiv) Given the historic tradition in the UK of policing by consent can you confirm there is a strategy to ensure community confidence in the Police whilst they have these extraordinary powers at their disposal?

(xv) Has the rate of child abuse risen since the implementation of the Coronavirus Act 2020?

(xvi) A large number, although not all victims of Child Abuse are known to the authorities. What pro-active measures and interventions are taking place to support victims of child abuse?
(xvii) What measures are in place to engage and control known perpetrators of child abuse?

(xviii) The National Crime Agency published a Threat Assessment for Coronavirus related crime.


Can you tell the Panel what steps are in place to counter these threats?

(xix) Given the significant increase in Police activity, overtime and recall of officers, can you confirm you are engaged with the Home Office to adequately compensate Cheshire Constabulary who were in a very tight fiscal situation prior to the outbreak of Coronavirus?

(xx) Has the overall level of complaints against the Police increased since the implementation of the Coronavirus Act 2020?

(xxi) What additional measures have been introduced by the PCC to support vulnerable members of the community?

(xxii) What additional measures are in place to support the health and wellbeing of frontline officers and staff?

5. TO REVIEW THE NEED FOR FURTHER MEETINGS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY

Members of the public who wish to participate or attend this meeting are asked to register their interest with the Panel’s Secretariat by 5.00pm on Wednesday 22nd April by email to martin.r.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk; they will be given an access code for the meeting. The meeting will be conducted using video technology and can be accessed using most PCs, tablet computers or smart phones.

This Consultative Meeting is not a formal meeting of the Panel as outlined in Section 2 of the Panel’s Procedure Rules. The meeting has no decision making powers.

The next scheduled formal meeting of the Panel will be held at 10.00am on Friday 12th June 2020.