

PANEL HEDDLU A
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DYFED POWYS POLICE
AND CRIME PANEL



ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

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chairman's foreword



I am delighted to be able to introduce the third Annual Report of the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Panel.

2019-2020 has again been a busy year for the Panel. My colleagues and I have continued to hold the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys to account for the performance of his statutory functions and support him to deliver to the public an efficient and effective service. Again, the Panel has looked not just at policing in Dyfed-Powys, but also the wider remit of the Commissioner in relation to commissioned services such as victim support.

We have again looked at examples of best practice elsewhere through our networking with other panels across England and Wales and brought these to the attention of the Commissioner where appropriate.

We have continued to promote public engagement with the work of the Panel. Members of the public are always welcome to attend our meetings, which can also be viewed online via webcasting facilities at our meeting venues.

The end of the year has coincided with the Coronavirus pandemic which continues to have unprecedented impact upon all our lives. Although the national focus is rightly upon the NHS at this difficult time the role of the Police and other frontline services should not be forgotten. My colleagues and I would therefore like to pay tribute to all key workers, whatever their role, who have striven to maintain those essential services upon which we all rely.

As a result of the pandemic we have adjusted our priorities for 2020-2021 to reflect the postponement of the Police and Crime Commissioner elections (and the consequent publication of a new Police and Crime Plan). Although the Panel has not met since the outbreak of the pandemic, members have kept in touch with the Police and Crime Commissioner and his office. We are also working with our host authority to establish remote meetings of the Panel which the Public will be able to view.

Cllr. Alun Lloyd-Jones
(Panel Chairman)

changes to panel membership

There has been one change to the membership of the Panel during the year, when Councillor Jim Jones from Carmarthenshire was replaced by his fellow Carmarthenshire Councillor Emlyn Schiavone.

On behalf of my fellow Panel members I would like to thank Councillor Jones for his valuable contribution to the work of the Panel since he was appointed.

The terms of office of the Panel's two independent/co-opted members were due to expire in October 2020. However due to the Coronavirus pandemic the Police and Crime Commissioner elections scheduled for May 2020 have been delayed until May 2021. This means the terms of office of the Panel's Independent/Co-opted members have automatically been extended to October 2021 as a result.

The Coronavirus pandemic has sadly had a direct impact upon one of our members, Councillor William Powell who has spent a considerable amount of time in hospital after contracting the virus. Thankfully however he appears to be on the path to recovery and I and the rest of my colleagues wish him a speedy return to the best of health. We all look forward to working with him again as soon as he is well enough.

Further information
regarding the Panel
Members can be found at
Appendix 1.

our role

The functions of the Police and Crime Panel are to;

1. Review the Police and Crime Commissioner's police and crime plan.
2. Review the Police and Crime Commissioner's annual draft budget, with the power to veto the level of precept.
3. Deal with certain complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner or his deputy.
4. Scrutinise decisions and actions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
5. Review the appointment or removal of the Chief Constable and the appointment of certain senior staff in the Police and Crime Commissioners office, namely any Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Commissioner's Chief of Staff and Chief Financial Officer.
6. Support the Commissioner in the performance of his statutory functions.
7. Make reports or recommendations to the Commissioner.
8. Review the Commissioner's conduct.

The statutory functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner are;

1. Setting the priorities for Dyfed-Powys Police;
2. Publishing a Police and Crime Plan;
3. Engaging with Communities and representing the public's voice on policing matters;
4. Working closely with community safety and criminal justice partners;
5. Supporting victims and bringing people to justice;
6. Commissioning services to make communities safer and to support the vulnerable;
7. Appointing and, if necessary, dismissing the Chief Constable;
8. Dealing with complaints and disciplinary matters against the Chief Constable;
9. Holding the Chief Constable to account; and
10. Setting the annual Police budget and precept level;

Neither the Panel, nor the Police and Crime Commissioner has any role in the management of operational policing by Dyfed-Powys Police. Operational Policing is the responsibility of the Chief Constable.

review of the year

The Panel held 6 formal meetings during the year. More information can be found on the Panel's website www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales by clicking on the 'meetings' tab, the 'please select' button and then selecting the year of the meeting that you wish to look for.

meeting summary

26th April 2019

This meeting focussed on **drug related crime** and fraud and cybercrime. The link to the minutes and agenda of this meeting is below.

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/media/5980/dyfed-powys-police-and-crime-panel-minutes-26-04-19.pdf>

3rd July 2019

This meeting focussed **Mental Health and policing** and the most recent HMICFRS report into Dyfed-Powys Police. A link to the minutes and agenda for this meeting is below.

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/media/5993/dyfed-powys-police-and-crime-panel-minutes-03-07-19.pdf>

25th October 2019

This meeting focussed on **Domestic and Sexual violence and Anti-Social Behaviour**, including evidence from the West Wales Anti-Racism network. A link to the minutes and agenda for this meeting is below.

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/media/5995/dyfed-powys-police-and-crime-panel-minutes-25-10-19.pdf>

6th November 2019

This meeting focussed on **Complaints and Mental Health and Policing**. A link to the minutes and agenda for this meeting is below.

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/media/5997/dyfed-powys-police-and-crime-panel-minutes-06-11-19.pdf>

7th February 2020

This meeting focussed on **Anti-Social Behaviour and Rural and Wildlife Crime**. A link to the minutes and agenda for this meeting is below.

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/home/meetings/2020/february-21-2020/>

complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Police and Crime Panel must record any complaint against the Commissioner that it receives. However, the Panel has only very limited powers to deal with these complaints and cannot 'investigate' any complaint that has been made. The Panel is obliged to refer any serious complaint (i.e. a complaint of criminal misconduct) to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) and has no power to compel the Commissioner to take any remedial action in respect of a complaint.

During the year the Panel recorded 3 complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner from members of the public. All these complaints were concluded during the year and all resulted in no further action being taken. One complaint that had been carried over from 2018-2019 was also concluded. Again, this resulted in no further action being taken.

During the year the Panel adopted a revised protocol for dealing with such complaints, which aims to more properly reflect the limited role and powers that the Panel has. Details of this protocol can be found on the Panel website.

www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales

panel priorities for 2019–2020

In its annual report for 2018–2019 the Panel identified 3 priorities for the following year, each of which related to a statutory function of the Panel.

The priorities and outcomes achieved are set out below:

Priority 1	What we did	Our Objective	The Outcome
<p>Scrutiny of the proposed police precept</p> <p>(Cllr. Keith Evans led on this issue on behalf of the Panel)</p>	<p>Reviewed the end of year accounts for 2018–2019</p> <p>Publicly questioned the Commissioner about those accounts.</p> <p>Received a briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Financial Officer regarding the financial status of Dyfed-Powys Police and the demands upon it.</p> <p>Received information on the non-police services procured by the Commissioner.</p> <p>Held a hearing to consider the proposed precept and made a recommendation to the Police and Crime Commissioner.</p>	<p>To ensure Police and Crime Commissioner’s finances are being properly managed and that the people of Dyfed-Powys are receiving value for money from the Police Precept.</p>	<p>The Commissioner proposed an increase of 4.83% in the precept to address financial demands upon his budget.</p> <p>The Panel also noted that the performance of Dyfed-Powys police was generally good, that non-police services procured by the Commissioner appeared to be performing well and that the cost to council taxpayers of the service that they received was lower than elsewhere in Wales.</p> <p>The Panel therefore recommended that the Commissioner formally adopt his proposed precept.</p> <p>The Commissioner accepted that recommendation.</p>
Priority 2	What we did	Our Objective	The Outcome
<p>Anti-Social Behaviour</p> <p>(Cllr. William Powell led on this issue on behalf of the Panel)</p>	<p>Received a report from the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding this issue.</p> <p>Invited representatives of the West Wales Anti-Racism Network and Carmarthenshire Disability Forum to attend meetings of the Panel to discuss how Anti-Social behaviour affected their members.</p> <p>Conducted a public consultation exercise.</p> <p>Had regard to examples of best practice elsewhere.</p>	<p>To understand the level of Anti-Social Behaviour in Dyfed-Powys and the impact that it has on people’s lives.</p>	<p>Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the publication of the Panel report on this priority has been deferred to 2020–2021.</p>

panel priorities for 2019–2020

Priority 3	What we did	Our objective	The outcome
<p>Public Engagement</p> <p>(Cllr. Alun Lloyd-Jones led on this issue on behalf of the Panel)</p>	<p>We engaged directly with the public and their elected representatives to inform them of our work and seek their views on Policing and Crime in Dyfed-Powys.</p>	<p>To make more people aware of what we do and why we do it.</p>	<p>During the year;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 141 people responded to our public consultation on anti-social behaviour. • Members of the public attended 2 Panel meetings and gave evidence as to their experiences with anti-social behaviour. • Webcasts of our meetings were viewed 196 times. • Our website was visited 4319 times. • 17 questions were submitted by members of the public for consideration. Of these only 1 question met the criteria for inclusion on the agenda of a Panel meeting. The remaining 16 were raised directly with the Commissioner via his office. • 11 press releases were published, resulting in coverage in local newspapers and radio as well as on Wales Online and in the Western Mail. • We established social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter and made 28 social media posts. The most popular of these posts reached over 7000 people. • We developed a simple bi-lingual newsletter for distribution by panel members in their communities. • The above represents a significant increase in public engagement with the work of the Panel compared to 2018-2019

our priorities for 2020-2021

The Panel has determined that in addition to continuing the existing priorities relating to the setting of the police precept and increasing public awareness of and engagement with the Panel, it would also prioritise an examination of the cost effectiveness of the Commissioner's investment in CCTV in several town centres in the force area.

Therefore, our priorities for 2020-2021 will be:

Priority 1	Objective	What we will do	Intended outcome
Scrutiny of the Police Precept (A sub-committee, chaired by Cllr Keith Evans will lead on this issue)	To ensure Police and Crime Commissioner's finances are being properly managed and that the people of Dyfed-Powys are receiving value for money from the Police Precept	Review the end of year accounts. Publicly question the Commissioner about those accounts. Receive a briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Financial Officer regarding the financial status of Dyfed-Powys Police and the demands upon it. Receive information on the non-police services procured by the Commissioner. Receive information from the Chief Constable on budgetary pressure in a Finance Seminar. Hold a hearing to consider the proposed precept	That the level of precept set for 2021-2022 is appropriate having regard to all the circumstances.
Priority 2	Objective	What we will do	Intended outcomes
CCTV (A sub-committee will be appointed to lead on this issue)	To have an understanding of the impact that the Commissioner's investment in CCTV has had upon the efficiency and effectiveness of Dyfed-Powys Police, the management of the night-time economy, partnership working with other agencies and the impact on the public's overall fear of crime.	Ask the Commissioner to provide the Panel with specific information regarding this issue. To invite other key stakeholders to give their views to the Panel. Seek the views of the public. Seek examples of best practice from elsewhere.	To satisfy ourselves that the investment in CCTV represented good value for money and has had positive benefits for the People of Dyfed-Powys.

Priority 3	Objective	What we will do	Intended outcomes
Public engagement (A sub-committee Chaired by Cllr. Alun Lloyd-Jones will lead on this issue)	To continue to increase public awareness of and improve public engagement with the work of the Panel.	To further promote the work of the Panel through webcasting and the increased use of social media. Take further steps to engage with those sections of the public who are unable or do not wish to engage online through use of local newsletters. Specifically engage with minority groups.	That the public are better informed about the work of the Panel. That the public have engaged with the Panel to help it perform its statutory functions.

In addition to these priorities the Panel will;

- Publish its report on Anti-Social Behaviour that has been carried over from 2019-2020.
- Continue to scrutinise how the Commissioner holds the Chief constable to account.
- Scrutinise all key decisions made by the Commissioner including those in relation to commissioned services.

conclusion

As I stated in my introduction to this annual report 2019-2020 has again been a busy year for the Panel.

The increase in public engagement with the work of the Panel has been welcomed and will directly inform our report on Anti-Social Behaviour which will hopefully be published soon. We will look to build on this success in 2020-2021 by again seeking the public's views on the Commissioner's CCTV investment.

The impact of the Coronavirus on everyone's lives is obvious. In terms of the work of the panel a move towards remote attendance at meetings is inevitable for the foreseeable future. However, we are committed to ensuring that the public will continue to have full access to those meetings when they take place.

I must conclude by again thanking and paying tribute to all frontline workers who have kept those essential services upon which we all rely going during this crisis. I and my colleagues are truly grateful for their efforts.

Cllr Alun Lloyd-Jones
(Chairman)

appendix 1


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