

Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel – Outline Work Programme

MEETING DATE	STATUTORY BUSINESS	DISCRETIONARY BUSINESS	BUSINESS RELATING TO PANEL OPERATION	OTHER BUSINESS
12 July 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC)’s Annual Report and Fire and Rescue Statement for 2023/24</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction to the PFCC elected in May 2024 and their priorities</li> <li>- Draft report from task and finish scrutiny of support for early intervention activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appointment of Panel Chair and Deputy Chair</li> <li>- Appointment of independent co-opted members</li> <li>- Work programme</li> <li>- Appointment of Complaints Sub Committee members</li> </ul>	
5 September 2024		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Joint Independent Audit Committee annual report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work programme</li> <li>- Complaints and conduct matters update</li> </ul>	
5 December 2024			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work programme</li> </ul>	
5 February 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PFCC’s proposed Police precept for 2025/26</li> <li>- PFCC’s proposed Fire and Rescue precept for 2025/26</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work programme</li> <li>- 2025/26 meeting dates</li> </ul>	

19 February 2025 (Reserve meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PFCC's revised Police precept for 2025/26 [if required]</li> <li>and/or</li> <li>- PFCC's revised Fire and Rescue precept for 2025/26 [if required]</li> </ul>			
13 March 2025			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work programme</li> <li>- Complaints and conduct matters update</li> </ul>	

#### **Potential topics suggested by the Police, Fire and Crime Panel in 2023/24**

The previous Panel was invited at its final meeting in 2023/24 to identify any matters that it wished to highlight for potential inclusion in the outline work programme to be agreed by the Panel at the start of 2024/25. The previous Panel identified violence against retail workers as a potential topic for future scrutiny.

#### **Briefings / Training (open to all Panel members)**

(A) Briefing sessions with the Chief Constable and with the Chief Fire Officer

The Panel has previously sought to include in its work programme briefing sessions, held at least annually, with the Chief Constable of Northamptonshire Police and the Chief Fire Officer of Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service. These sessions are intended to give an overview of the operating environment for the two organisations and their key priorities and challenges, to help to inform the Panel in carrying out its role of scrutinising and supporting the PFCC. It was not possible for the previous Panel to meet with the two chiefs in 2023/24 due to issues affecting the two roles that arose during the year.

(B) Development of the PFCC's proposed precepts and budgets

The Panel has previously included in its work programme a workshop session with the PFCC and the OPFCC Chief Finance Officer in January of each year to consider the financial environment and key factors informing the development of the PFCC's budget and precept proposals. This session feeds into scrutiny of the final proposals by the whole Panel at its formal meeting in February.

(C) Potential briefings suggested by the Police, Fire and Crime Panel in 2023/24

The previous Panel identified the following potential briefing activities at its final meeting:

- A visit to the Youth Violence Intervention Unit
- A visit to the Northamptonshire Police training team

### **Further Information**

(A) Statutory Business

**PFCC's Annual Report and Fire and Rescue Statement** – The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) is required to produce an Annual Report on the exercise of the PFCC's police and crime functions during the previous financial year and the progress made in meeting objectives set out in the PFCC's Police and Crime Plan. The PFCC is also required to publish an annual statement of assurance of compliance with the priorities set out in the Fire and Rescue National Framework for England. The Panel must review and report on both the Annual Report and Fire and Rescue Statement as soon as practicable after they are received.

**PFCC's proposed Police and Fire and Rescue precepts** – The PFCC's proposed precepts must be reviewed and reported on by the Panel before they can be issued. The Panel has the power to veto a proposed precept, in which case the PFCC is required to produce a revised proposal that must also be reviewed by the Panel at the reserve meeting included in the outline work programme (if the Panel does not veto either of the proposed precepts the reserve meeting will not be held). The steps involved in this process must take place by specific deadlines set in legislation.

**PFCC's Police and Crime Plan and Fire and Rescue Plan** – The PFCC must issue a Police and Crime Plan setting out their local police and crime objectives and related matters during the financial year following an ordinary election. The PFCC must also issue a Fire and Rescue Plan setting out their strategic vision, priorities and objectives 'shortly after' taking office. In both cases, proposed plans must be reviewed and reported on by the Panel. The Panel can therefore anticipate needing to include these tasks in its work programme for 2024/25, although the timing is not yet known.

(B) Discretionary Business

**PFCC's Delivery Update** – The Panel has previously received a regular report setting out actions by the PFCC supporting progress towards the delivery of the strategic outcomes set out in their Police, Fire and Crime Plan. The Delivery Update also includes contextual information about Northamptonshire Police and Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service performance.

**PFCC's Finance Updates** – The Panel has previously received two regular reports setting out the latest in-year position for the budgets for policing and the Office of the PFCC and for the budget for the Northamptonshire Commissioner Fire and Rescue Authority.

**Joint Independent Audit Committee Annual Report** – The Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC) is responsible for providing independent assurance of the corporate governance, risk management and financial control arrangements operated by the PFCC and the Chief Constable. The JIAC's Annual Report has previously been presented by its Chair to the Panel, to reflect the complementary roles of the two bodies.

(C) Business relating to Panel operation

**Complaints and conduct matters update** – The Panel has adopted specific arrangements to carry out its responsibilities for dealing with complaints and conduct matters relating to the PFCC. These include the provision by the host authority Monitoring Officer of a half-yearly monitoring report about all matters dealt with in the preceding period. In this way the Panel is able to monitor the operation of the arrangements it has made to deliver this aspect of its statutory responsibilities.