

## Local Government North Yorkshire and York

28 September 2012

### Update on the Police and Crime Panel

#### Purpose of the report

- 1 To provide an update on the establishment of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel.

#### Background

- 2 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the local authorities in each police force area to establish a police and crime panel, as a joint committee, to scrutinise the directly elected police and crime commissioner. The panel has to be in place before the commissioner takes office on 22 November 2012.

#### Progress

- 3 The nine local authorities agreed the panel arrangements in May 2012 and appointed the ten councillor members:

Craven District Council	Cllr Simon Myers
Hambleton District Council	Cllr Neville Huxtable
Harrogate Borough Council	Cllr Margaret Atkinson
North Yorkshire County Council	Cllr Carl Les
Richmondshire District Council	Cllr Mick Griffiths
Ryedale District Council	Cllr Eric Hope
Selby District Council	Cllr Gillian Ivey
Scarborough Borough Council	Cllr Brian Simpson
City of York Council	Cllr Fiona Fitzpatrick
City of York Council	Cllr Dafydd Williams
- 4 At its first meeting (19 July 2012), the panel appointed Cllr Carl Les as Chairman, with Cllr Gillian Ivey and Cllr Fiona Fitzpatrick as Vice-Chairmen, for the remainder of the current municipal year. The panel also agreed its rules of procedure.
- 5 A panel website has been established at [www.nypartnerships.org.uk/pcp](http://www.nypartnerships.org.uk/pcp). The panel has committed to publishing “key messages” very quickly after each panel meeting and circulating these to the nine local authorities (for onward distribution to all councillors) and other stakeholders. An offer has also been made to the nine local authorities to provide a short presentation about the panel and its work to councillors and relevant officers.
- 6 A sub-group of the panel, chaired by Cllr Fiona Fitzpatrick, interviewed eight candidates for the two positions of co-opted independent members, drawn from the 26 applications received following a recruitment campaign. Two names will be recommended to the panel at its meeting on 27 September 2012.

- 7 The panel has three meetings planned (27 September 2012 in Northallerton, 25 October 2012 in York and 22 November 2012 in Harrogate). These will focus on providing panel members with the knowledge and understanding necessary to hold the commissioner to account and to undertake statutory responsibilities (such as reviewing the proposed police precept and holding confirmation hearings for senior appointments).
- 8 Two panel meetings are anticipated in the period from December 2012 to March 2013. Business will include consideration of the commissioner's draft police and crime plan, the commissioner's draft police precept and any confirmation hearings.
- 9 North Yorkshire County Council is the host local authority for the panel and, within the funding provided by the Home Office, is providing officer support to the panel.

### **Recommendation**

- 10 It is recommended that the update be received.

Neil Irving  
Assistant Director (Policy and Partnerships)  
North Yorkshire County Council

17 September 2012