

Local Government North Yorkshire and York**7 December 2012****Police and Crime Panel: Budget****Purpose of Report**

1. To seek approval for the budget for the operation of the North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel.
2. LGNYY has previously considered the changes brought about by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The nine local authorities have been required to establish a Police and Crime Panel as a joint committee. The Panel's role is to provide a strong check and balance on the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), including review and scrutiny of the decisions and actions of the PCC, and the handling of any complaints against the PCC.
3. As part of the panel arrangements, the nine local authorities agreed that:
 - a. The County Council would be the host authority and provide the secretariat and specialist legal, financial, communications and complaints handling support required to enable the Panel to undertake all of its functions.
 - b. A draft budget for the operation of the Panel would be drawn up by the host authority and approved by the nine local authorities (for example via Local Government North Yorkshire and York).
 - c. Apart from travel expenses of elected members appointed to the Panel by the nine local authorities – which would be covered by the local authority that appointed them – all other costs (including the travel expenses of the co-opted members) would have to be contained within the grant provided for the Panel by the Home Secretary.
 - d. The payment of a special responsibility allowance to Panel members should be considered and a recommendation sought from the Independent Remuneration Panel for North Yorkshire County Council (to ensure a consistent approach across the nine local authorities) as to whether the payment of such an allowance is appropriate.
4. The Home Secretary is to make a grant to cover the costs of the Panel of £64,370 (based on a flat rate of £53,330 plus £920 per panel member) per annum, paid in arrears. The grant for the current financial year (2012/2013) will be paid pro-rata from October 2012 and does not take account of the substantial work involved before that date to establish the Panel.
5. A draft annual budget is attached as Appendix 1.

6. At this stage, most of these calculations are projections, although there is a fair degree of confidence they will prove accurate. Less certainty however surrounds the scale of work associated with the handling of complaints against the PCC, which is prescribed by very detailed statutory regulations; confirmation hearings; and communications support.
7. A proposal will be made to the Independent Remuneration Panel for North Yorkshire County Council regarding special responsibility allowances for the Panel Chair and two Vice Chairs. This will suggest that an allowance should be paid for the Panel Chair and two Vice Chairs, based on that paid to the Chair and Vice Chair of overview and scrutiny committees, as the role of the Panel is comparable to that of overview and scrutiny committees and the Panel Chair and two Vice Chairs will take on additional responsibilities over and above those of ordinary Panel members.
8. The Panel intends to monitor expenditure by having regular reports presented to it. These will be publicly available, as indeed all agendas and reports are via the NY Partnerships Website (www.nypartnerships.org.uk/pcp).

RECOMMENDED -

- a) That the arrangements for the Panel and the projected costs in accordance with the grant received, outlined in Appendix 1 attached, be approved.
- b) That Elected Members submit claims for expenses to their appointing authority.
- c) That expenses incurred by the two Co-opted Independent Members be paid by NYCC and recharged as part of the costs of the Panel.

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County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

26 November 2012

Background Documents: None

Appendix 1 – draft annual budget for North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

			<u>TOTALS</u>
<u>INCOME</u>			
Grant from Home Secretary			<u>£64,370</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Secretariat – Governance / Policy / Complaints	38000		
Administrative / Clerical	2200		
Legal	6500		
Finance	4000		
Communications	2500		
Printing / postage / admin	850		
Meeting costs	1250		
Training / conferences	950		
Expenses - independent members	400		
Special responsibility allowances for Chair and two Vice Chairs (based on 2012/13 figures for NYCC overview and scrutiny committees)	7720		<u>£64,370</u>