

North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel

5 February 2021

Update from Craven District Council Select (Crime & Disorder) Committee

Craven District Council Select Committee

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update the Panel on issues raised by the Craven District Council Select (Crime and Disorder) Committee on 9th December 2020.

2.0 Crime and Disorder Committee meeting – 9th December 2020

- 2.1 Craven District Council invited the Chair and Secretariat officer to attend their Select Committee (“the Committee”) meeting on 9th December 2020 to present an annual update report on Panel business and future plans. The full report can be found at <https://www.cravendc.gov.uk/media/9850/select-crime-and-disorder-committee-agenda-and-reports-9-december-2020.pdf>. No issues were raised for the further attention of the Panel or the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (“the PFCC”). However, a summary of the key discussion points is provided below.
- 2.2 **Impact of Covid-19 on crime and policing.** The Committee were keen to consider the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on policing and crime, and in particular on domestic abuse. The Panel Chair apprised the Committee of the actions taken by the PFCC early in lockdown to secure additional funding to support domestic abuse services and to ensure that these services were widely promoted. The Committee wished to formally note their thanks to the PFCC for taking such action to support victims of domestic abuse. The Committee also praised both the police and P(F)CCs nationally for their adaptability and resilience during ever-changing and difficult circumstances throughout the pandemic.
- 2.3 **Police complaints reform.** The Committee asked about the reform of the police complaints system and how well this has worked in North Yorkshire to date. The Secretariat officer referred to the recent report provided by the PFCC’s office at full Panel, which outlined that although things were working well, demand had well outstripped the forecast around complaints and that it would be difficult to assess the new service when so much focus had been around Covid-19 issues. The Committee were advised that the Panel will review the progress of this service more fully next year.
- 2.4 **Other queries raised.** A variety of other queries were raised by the Committee around:
- Performance reporting on crime at a local (Ward) level and where to source this data from. The Committee were advised to make contact through their area Inspector at North Yorkshire Police.
 - Whether an election is still due to be held for P(F)CCs in 2021. The Committee were advised (at time of meeting) that this is still scheduled for May 2021.

- Whether local government reorganisation would impact on the police force, inasmuch as whether split authorities would entail split constabularies. The Committee were advised that there will be no resulting impact on North Yorkshire Police, regardless of the decisions made by central government.
- How the funds raised from the sale of the AJ1 licence plate had been allocated. Details of the PFCC's press release on this process were subsequently shared with the Committee.

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 That the Panel notes the report provided.

Diane Parsons
Principal Scrutiny Officer
County Hall
Northallerton

27th January 2021

Background Documents: None.