

MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF MEETING

**SOUTH WALES POLICE AND  
CRIME PANEL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Councillor R Young (Bridgend CBC) (Chair)

**Councillors:**

B Bowen-Thomson (Cardiff Council), R Lewis (Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC), P Rees (Neath Port Talbot CBC), C Richards (City and County of Swansea), S Jago (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council) and J Cowan (Cardiff Council)

**Outside Bodies:**

Alun Michael (Police and Crime Commissioner)  
Peter Curran (Chief Finance Officer)  
Lee Jones (Interim Chief Executive)  
Sergeant Sarah Nagle

**Officers:**

S Jones (Senior Solicitor)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
1	Briefing Session	<p>The Chair welcomed Councillor Jayne Cowan to her first Panel Meeting.</p> <p>Simon Jones then advised the Panel of the Resignation of Mr Martyn Jones Independent Co-opted Member and outlined the procedure that would need to be undertaken in relation to a replacement Independent Member.</p>

		The Panel then considered in detail the issues that were to be considered at the Meeting.
2	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Mr Mel Jehu Co-opted Member and Councillor Erika Kirchner.
3	Declarations of Interest	Councillor J Cowan referred to Item 8 – Automated Facial Recognition Technology and advised that she and Edward Bridges had been a Councillor at the same time.
4	Minutes of Previous Meeting - Tuesday, 4th June 2019	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Meeting held 4 June 2019 be accepted as a correct record.
5	Appointment of Panel Champions - (Simon Jones)	Simon Jones referred the Panel to the 'Appointment of Panel Champions' report and suggested that the Panel consider the twelve concerns as outlined within the report and for the Panel Members to communicate to him which concern they were interested in becoming a Champion for. He also advised that this issue would be discussed at the next Lead Officers Meeting and he would therefore have further information by the next Panel Meeting.  Alun Michael then advised that Champions could sit in and observe in appropriate forums and it would offer a richness of information to support the Champion role.  The Chair then suggested that the Panel consider the concerns as listed in the report and the areas in which they had an interest and after liaising with Simon Jones that this matter be brought to the next Panel Meeting.
6	Annual Report - (Alun Michael/Lee Jones)	Alun Michael referred the Panel to the 'Annual Report 2018/19 – Summary of our Impact April 2018 to March 2019' and gave details in relation to:  <b>Progress against Police and Crime Plan 2018 – 2021</b> Priorities One to Six  <b>Grants and Funding:</b> Victim Services, Community Safety, Diversionary Schemes, Youth Offending, Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Harassment and Sexual Violence Services, Dyfodol, Court Independent Domestic Violence Advocates and Independent Sexual Violence Advocates Provision  <b>Statutory Responsibilities and Corporate Governance:</b> Independent Custody Visiting, Governance and Decision Making,  <b>Accountability and Scrutiny:</b> Police and Crime Panel, Joint Audit Committee, Internal Audit, External Audit, Independent Joint Ethics Committee Police Accountability and Legitimacy Group Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services, Complaints

		<p>The following questions were then raised by the Panel and were responded to in detail by Mr Michael:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2 – Consultation 2018 – Further details requested on the number of responses and the Engagement Strategy</li> <li>• Priority 6 – Is there a difference being seen – Is this reflected in the Community</li> <li>• Priority 1 – Partnership Working and the opportunity for the two way flow of information</li> <li>• Opportunity to engage with the Third Sector</li> <li>• Public Trust and Confidence</li> <li>• Stop and Search</li> <li>• Becoming a 'Dementia Friend'</li> <li>• Enhancement of the role of the PCSO</li> <li>• Opportunity to accompany a Police Officer on Duty</li> <li>• PACT Meetings</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update requested on Capital City Funding</li> </ul> <p>The Chair then suggested that the Panel Members request that their individual Councils send the appropriate letter supporting the South Wales Police in respect of Capital City Funding.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Annual Report for the Financial Year 2018/19 be approved without any recommendations.</p>
7	Partnership Update - (Alun Michael)	<p>Alun Michael referred the Panel to the 'Policing and Partnerships Update' report and responded in detail to questions raised on the report.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report be noted.</p> <p>Councillor R Lewis left the Meeting at 12.25 pm and returned at 12.30 pm.</p> <p>Councillor C Richards left the Meeting at 12.25 pm and returned at 12.30 pm.</p>
8	Automated Facial Recognition Technology ("AFR") - (Alun Michael)	<p>Alun Michael referred the Panel to the 'Findings of the Judicial Review into the use of Facial Recognition Technology by South Wales Police' report and responded in detail to questions raised on the review.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
9	Finance Update - (Peter Curran)	<p>Peter Curran gave a brief summary of Finances at the present time giving details of:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational Uplift</li> <li>• September Statement</li> <li>• Issues that should go into Formula Funding</li> <li>• Recruitment</li> <li>• Ministry of Justice – Prison Places</li> <li>• Capital City Funding</li> <li>• Apprenticeship Levy</li> <li>• Tri Force Joint Firearms Unit</li> <li>• Formula Funding</li> <li>• Pensions Review</li> <li>• Capital</li> </ul> <p>Mr Curran further advised that this was a brief resume and that a further update would be given at the next Panel Meeting when details on Finances had been received.</p> <p>A Member stated that it would have been useful to have had a written summary prior to the Meeting and also requested an update on the current budget.</p> <p>Alun Michael then suggested that if the Panel wished to have a half year update on the budget then this could be provided.</p> <p>The Panel then agreed a standing agenda item on Finance with reporting on the budget to be on a half yearly basis.</p>
10	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	<p><b><i>Tackling Violence – Women and Girls</i></b></p> <p>Alun Michael referred to a launch taking place on 3 October 2019 in Cardiff in relation to the above and extended an invitation to the Panel to attend.</p>