

MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF MEETING

**SOUTH WALES POLICE AND  
CRIME PANEL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 8TH DECEMBER, 2020**

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

**Councillors:**

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

**Co-optees:**

M Jehu (Vice-Chair)  
I Fox (Independent Co-optee)

**Outside Bodies:**

A Michael, South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner  
E Wools, Deputy South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner  
Jenny Gilmer, Deputy Chief Constable  
L Jones, Chief Executive, SWP  
Umar Hussain, Chief Finance Officer, SWP  
Peter Curran, Chief Finance Officer, SWP

**Officers:**

S Jones (Senior Solicitor)  
M Edmunds (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
42	Briefing Session	The Panel discussed the items that were to be considered at the meeting.
43	Apologies for Absence	No apologies for absence were received.
44	Declarations of Interest	<p>Councillor Bernie Bowen-Thompson declared a personal interest as Chief Executive for Safer Wales as they receive funding from the Commissioner's Office.</p> <p>Mel Jehu declared a personal interest as a non-executive trustee with Safer Merthyr Tydfil as funding is received from the Commissioner's Office.</p>
45	Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 15 September 2020 of South Wales Police and Crime Panel	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 be accepted as a true record.</p>
46	Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 3 November 2020 of South Wales Police and Crime Panel	<p>Amendment to Apologies for Absence. Councillor Rhys Lewis is noted as absent; but had provided his apologies prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 3 November 2020 be accepted as true record subject to the amendment listed above.</p>
47	Police and Crime Plan Refresh	<p>The Chair welcomed the Commissioner and his Team to the meeting.</p> <p>The Commissioner provided an update on the Police and Crime Plan Refresh report.</p> <p>The following comments and questions were raised by Panel Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you considered using the multi agency protection arrangements in the Plan?</li> <li>• How can the Panel measure the performance measurement?</li> <li>• Can the performance management information be segmented into each local authority area?</li> <li>• Observation – Fully supportive of the Plan and the positive outcomes within the communities.</li> <li>• How do we manage to sustain financing of service and continuous increase in precept?</li> <li>• Can an update be provided on the Funding Formula and Capital City Funding?</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment – Welcome that community policing is a priority no. 1.</li> <li>• Clarity on level of Police Support Officers.</li> <li>• Do South Wales Police attend/investigate all reported cases of burglary at dwellings?</li> </ul> <p><b>Resolved that:-</b></p> <p>The Panel approves the South Wales Police and Crime Plan 2021-25.</p>
48	Budget and Demand Presentation	<p>The Commissioner advised this presentation was in two parts and introduced the Deputy Chief Constable, Jenny Gilmer to provide information on the first presentation (operational demands and performance) and Umer Hussain, Chief Finance Officer to present on (current budgetary challenges) for the concluding part of the presentation.</p> <p>Jenny Gilmer in particular highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How we respond to demand</li> <li>• How we work with our partners to deliver justice</li> <li>• Keeping people safe</li> </ul> <p>The following questions and comments were made by the Panel and answered in detail by the Commissioner’s Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whilst noting that section 136 arrests have reduced; is there still the commitment to not introduce those with mental health issues into the criminal justice process where it can be avoided?</li> </ul> <p>Umar Hussain highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumulative impact of central government decisions on police funding</li> <li>• Changes in central government police funding and crime occurrence</li> <li>• Current medium term financial projections 2020-21</li> <li>• £60M VFM savings 2010/11 – 2019/21</li> <li>• Current budget subjective analysis 2020-21</li> <li>• Police staff spend functional analysis after £19M cuts</li> <li>• Standstill – Inflation costs £13M</li> <li>• New Pressures 2021-2022</li> <li>• Budget Implications 2021/22</li> <li>• Estimated Police Grant Required 2021-22</li> <li>• Unresolved Systemic Budget Issues</li> </ul> <p>The following questions and comments were made by the Panel and answered in detail by the Commissioner’s Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification sought on what are the future funding expectations.</li> </ul>

		<p>The Chair thanked the Commissioner's Team for the presentation and requested a copy of the presentations be sent to Panel.</p>
49	Joint Race Equality Action Plan Presentation	<p>The Commissioner introduced Emma Wools, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner who provided a visual and verbal presentation to the Panel with particular reference made to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Race Equality Update</li> <li>• An Overview of the Joint Race Equality Plan</li> <li>• Benchmarking &amp; Review</li> <li>• Race Disproportionality</li> <li>• Community Cohesion</li> <li>• Representative Workforce</li> <li>• Training &amp; Education</li> <li>• Engagement, Communication &amp; Messaging</li> <li>• Partnerships</li> <li>• Scrutiny &amp; Accountability</li> <li>• One Public Section Approach</li> <li>• Criminal Justice in Wales</li> <li>• Issues for Consideration</li> </ul> <p>The following matters were raised by Panel Members and answered in detail by the Commissioner's Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When do you think we will get the baseline information update?</li> <li>• Does this include the gypsy traveller associations?</li> </ul> <p>The Chair thanked the Deputy Commissioner for the presentation.</p>
50	Update on Police Conduct	<p>The Commissioner provided Panel with a brief introduction and asked L Jones, Chief Executive to present a detailed update on the police conduct report.</p> <p>The following questions were raised by Panel and answered in detail by the Commissioner's Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity on who is the appropriate authority with regard to police conduct.</li> <li>• What is the split between 'no wrong doing' and 'complex cases'?</li> </ul> <p>Detailed questions from a member of the public, which were received in writing by S Jones, Senior Solicitor were read out and answered in detailed by the Commissioner's Team.</p> <p>Note - Mel Jehu left the meeting at 1.05 p.m.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>This report be accepted.</p>
51	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	<p>No other business was deemed urgent by the Chair.</p>

