

Shadow Authority

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Shadow Executive Committee

9

Report Subject	Dorset Police and Crime Panel – Post April 2019 Arrangements
Meeting date	12 th March 2019
Report Author	Mark Taylor (Lead Officer Dorset Police and Crime Panel)
Contributors	Corporate Director of Legal & Democratic Services Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel
Status	Public
Classification	For information for all Members
Key Decision	No
Executive summary	<p>The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to establish a Police and Crime Panel and to maintain it in accordance with these regulations. In the case of Dorset, the Act requires that the Panel must consist of at least 10 local authority appointed councillors, which should achieve the appropriate political balance and must also include 2 Independent members.</p> <p>The Dorset Police and Crime Panel have previously considered the necessary changes to meet the post LGR requirements of the Act. Following the May 2019 elections, the PCP have given its support for a Panel with equal representation of 5 councillors appointed by each of the 2 new unitary councils, to join the 2 existing co-opted independent panel members to provide for continuity. This meets an important guiding principle and concept of Local Government Reorganisation – being lean, but effective.</p> <p>The Police and Crime Panel is currently hosted by Dorset County Council. In accordance with the partnerships sharing</p>

	<p>approach agreed between the two new unitary councils, it is proposed that Dorset Council will act as host authority and provide the necessary advice and support.</p> <p>These proposals have been endorsed by the Home Office and are subsequently being presented to the respective council Executive Committees so that they can be formally adopted into the Constitutions.</p>
Recommendations	<p>The Executive are recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endorse the arrangements for the Dorset Police and Crime Panel to ensure compliance with the Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 post April 2019. 2. Formally adopt these arrangements into the BCP Constitution.
Reason for Recommendations	<p>To ensure safe and legal arrangements are in place for the Dorset Police and Crime Panel following Local Government Reorganisation.</p>

Background detail

1. The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to establish a Police and Crime Panel and to maintain it in accordance with these regulations.
2. The Terms of Reference of the Panel and its Statement of Purpose are included as appendices to this report to provide background and context.
3. The reduction from 9 councils down to 2 in Dorset, as a direct result of Local Government Reorganisation, necessitates some changes to meet the requirements of the Act from April 2019.

Dorset Police and Crime Panel - Post LGR Arrangements

4. The revised local authority structure in Dorset requires that the Panel must consist of at least 10 local authority appointed councillors to meet the requirements of the Act.
5. Nominations made to the Panel from each of the respective councils must also meet the appropriate political balance.
6. The membership of the Panel must also include at least 2 Independent members.

7. At its meeting on 26 June 2018 the Dorset Police and Crime Panel considered the necessary changes in order to ensure it could meet the post LGR requirements of the Act (*link to background report provided to provide further detail*).
8. They decided to support arrangements that, following the May 2019 elections, would provide each of the new unitary councils with equal representation of 5 councillors each. They also agreed that these councillors would join the 2 existing independent panel members to ensure a degree of continuity.
9. In accordance with the partnerships sharing approach which has been agreed between the two new unitary councils, Dorset Council will act as host authority and provide the necessary advice, and support and costs.
10. A Home Office grant is available for the host authority to recognise the cost of the Panel and to ensure it is provided with its necessary support requirements.

Conclusion / Recommendation(s)

11. These proposals have been endorsed by the Home Office and are therefore subsequently being presented to the respective council Executive Committees so that they can be formally adopted into the Constitutions.
12. The Shadow Executive Committees are therefore recommended to:
 - i) Endorse the arrangements for the Dorset Police and Crime Panel to ensure compliance with the Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
 - ii) Formally adopt these arrangements into the Constitution of the respective council.

Summary of finance implications

13. There are not considered to be any significant funding issues associated with this proposal. The Home Office provides a grant funding allocation to the host council to ensure the Police and Crime Panel has its necessary advice and support; all costs in support of the Dorset Police and Crime Panel will therefore fall to and be paid via Dorset Council.

Summary of legal implications

14. The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to establish a Police and Crime Panel and to maintain it in accordance with these regulations.

Summary of human resources implications

15. There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

Summary of environmental impact

16. There are no environmental impacts arising from this report.

Summary of risk assessment

17. Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the LGR approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk: LOW

18. There are no risks or issues to be escalated at this stage.

Background papers

Dorset Police and Crime Panel – LGR Implications and considerations for the Panel.

<https://dorset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s13672/LGR%20Report.pdf>

Dorset Police and Crime Panel minutes - 26 June 2018

<https://dorset.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g1289/Public%20minutes%2026th-Jun2018%2010.00%20Dorset%20Police%20and%20Crime%20Panel.pdf?T=11>

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Panels current Terms of Reference

Appendix 2 – Panels Statement of Purpose