

North Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

19 July 2018

National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To seek the agreement of the Panel to become a member of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Members will recall giving consideration earlier this year to the work underway to help give Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) a more coherent collective voice nationally. Further to discussions at the annual Frontline conference last year, agreement was reached among PCPs that a national representative body for PCPs would be created. This was with a view to helping to further and support PCP interests nationally and provide an influential voice with government departments and other partners, at a crucial point in the development of PCP remit and responsibilities.
- 2.2 PCPs voted in the majority to achieve this through setting up an LGA Special Interest Group, whereby the LGA will be able to provide a limited amount of resource and support to get things up and running. The first meeting of the National Association for Police, Fire and Crime Panels (NAPFCP) was held on 19th April 2018. John Gili-Ross, Independent Member for the Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel, was elected Chair and consequently secretariat support for the NAPFCP will be provided by Essex County Council. The North Yorkshire PCP sent its apologies to this meeting as it coincided with our own PCP meeting.
- 2.3 The Chair subsequently circulated an introductory letter on 22nd May 2018, including the Terms of Reference for the NAPFCP – see Appendix A for information. A Constitution for the NAPFCP is currently being drafted courtesy of a Member from Norfolk Police and Crime Panel.
- 2.4 The Chair has completed an application to form a Special Interest Group of the LGA and it is hoped this will be considered at the June LGA Board meeting. You will note from the appendix to the attached letter that nearly half of all PCPs and PFCPs have already joined the Association. The Chair would like to invite as many PCPs as possible to join the NAPFCP.
- 2.5 Key benefits of joining the NAPFCP will centre around strengthening the Panel voice through greater collaboration and being able to prepare PCPs for future developments. The NAPFCP will also be able to take forward discussions with the Home Office, APCC and APACE as needed on issues of interest or concern.

ITEM 13(a)

- 2.6 Further details on the work programme and meeting schedule/frequency are yet to be determined. Having spoken to the Chair recently he is keen to focus on encouraging a high membership (around half of all PCPs/PFCPs have already agreed to join) in the first instance and get some of the governance arrangements in place. The cost of the subscription for the first twelve months of the NAPFCP will be £500 and the Chair has advised that this is an estimated figure for helping to get the NAPFCP up and running. Once the work programme has been agreed and the NAPFCP is clearer about the resources needed to function effectively, this figure may change in Year 2. Finance and auditing support has been offered via Bedfordshire County Council and the Chair is keen that the NAPFCP is directing the subscriptions received towards achieving its key aims within the terms of reference.
- 2.7 Membership of the NAPFCP requires attendance at / participation in the meetings themselves. As the LGA will be providing resource for at least a couple of the meetings, it is anticipated that some will therefore be held in London. The issue of geography and cost for the North Yorkshire PCP (in addition to paying the annual subscription) in engaging at meetings has been raised with the Chair of the NAPFCP and the suggestion made that perhaps Skype could be used to assist North Yorkshire Members in taking part. The Chair is supportive of this suggestion and is keen that this is explored further. He has also indicated his willingness to attend Panel meetings where needed (and time permitting) or regional Panel network meetings, if this assists Members in ensuring they can actively contribute views and suggestions to the developing NAPFCP.
- 2.8 The first AGM of the NAPFCP will take place at the Annual PCP Conference organised by Frontline Consulting at the Warwick Conference Centre on 12th November 2018. A joint letter from Frontline Consulting and the Chair of the NAPFCP has been sent to the new Home Secretary inviting him to attend. The Chair of the NAPFCP will also be speaking at the annual LGA workshop for PCPs on 11th July (see Item 14).
- 2.9 Members are invited to give their formal agreement to joining the NAPFCP, providing that engagement can be conducted remotely and/or via regional network meetings where needed. It is recommended that the Panel review their membership of the NAPFCP after the first twelve months of operation.

3.0 Recommendation

- 3.1 That the Panel agrees to become a member of the NAPFCP and to subscribe at a cost of £500 for the first twelve months, to be reviewed thereafter.

Diane Parsons
Principal Scrutiny Officer
North Yorkshire County Council

10th July 2018

ITEM 13(a)

Background Documents:

Appendix A - NAPFCP introduction letter from the Chair, John Gili-Ross;
22nd May 2018.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANELS

Essex Police Fire and Crime Panel
Essex County Council
Chelmsford
Essex

Dear Chairman,

National Association of Police Fire and Crime Panels - NAPFCP

Please allow me to introduce myself as the Chairman of the newly formed National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels for England and Wales. An inaugural meeting took place on 19th April 2018 at the LGA offices in London to review the formation of the Association, agree its outline terms of reference and initial work programmes and to elect a Chair and Vice Chair(s).

Invitations to the inaugural meeting were sent to all Panels asking each to send a representative to help ensure decisions made at the meeting were truly representative of all PCP's / PFCP's. A list of those panels that were represented at the meeting appears at the end of this letter. Whilst not all representatives had delegated powers for their panels, out of the 21 panels that were represented, 16 (40%) of the total number of panels in England and Wales confirmed they would become association members at the inaugural meeting. Whilst an additional 5 panel representatives were also in favour of the formation of a national association, they were not in a position to confirm their panel membership.

It is hoped that membership will increase as the NAPFCP becomes established and include all PCP/PFCP's to provide a common voice when interfacing with the Home Office, the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners, the Association of Policing & Crime Chief Executives (APACE) and the LGA as appropriate.

The NAPFCP membership subscription for the first year was agreed at £500. The Essex PFCP, as the lead authority for the NAPFCP Chairman will handle the associations operating accounts and be responsible for the generation of subscription invoices as appropriate. The Association has a Treasurer, Paul Cain who was appointed at the inaugural meeting.

The NAPFCP Terms of Reference were agreed as:

- ❖ To provide a forum for collaborative discussion of issues relating to and impacting on Police and Crime Panels and Police, Fire and Crime Panels (PCPs / PFCPs)
- ❖ To share ideas and experience in response to the expanding role of PCCs and PFCCs and thereby PCPs / PFCPs

NAPFCP Senior Democratic Services Officer – Robert Fox - T - 033301 34585 robert.fox@essex.gov.uk
postal address - Essex County Council, County Hall, Market Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH
NAPFCP Chairman - John Gili-Ross - 07957804621 e-mail - john.giliross@gmail.com

- ❖ To create a mechanism for direct liaison between PCPs / PFCPs and the Home Office
- ❖ To provide an opportunity for dialogue with relevant bodies such as the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, Association of Police and Crime Chief Executives and others
- ❖ To support the development of joint PCP /PFCP responses to relevant consultations
- ❖ To promote professional standards
- ❖ To share good practice and create guidance and other supporting materials for PCPs /PFCPs
- ❖ To ensure stability and collective memory in a landscape where PCPs / PFCPs can have significant changes in membership
- ❖ To provide capacity for horizon scanning across all PCPs / PFCPs.
- ❖ To promote better public understanding of the role of PCPs / PFCPs.

Production of a NAPFCP constitution document will be undertaken by Dr Christopher Kemp, Norfolk PCP and supported by Carla Thomas, Merseyside PCP ready for the Frontline Consulting Annual Meeting of PCP / PFCP's in November 2018.

A subscription invoice will be sent to you shortly in the hope that your panel will agree to become a member. Should you have any questions relating to the formation of the Association or specific areas of interest that you believe should be addressed by the Association then feel free to contact Robert Fox or I, using the contact details given within this letter.

Thank you and I look forward to meeting with many of you as time permits during the year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Gili-Ross". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

John Gili-Ross

Chairman - National Association of Police Fire and Crime Panels

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL - MEMBERSHIP

The following PCP's / PFCP's confirmed their commitment to become NAPFCP members at the inaugural meeting held on 19th April 2018:

Bedfordshire – NAPFCP Treasurer Paul Cain

Cleveland

Derbyshire

Dorset – NAPFCP Vice Chair John Adams

Essex – NAPFCP Chairman John Gili-Ross

Hertfordshire

Kent and Medway

Merseyside

Norfolk

Northamptonshire

Northumbria

Nottinghamshire

South Yorkshire

Sussex

West Midlands

West Yorkshire – NAPFCP Vice Chair Alison Lowe

The following panels also sent representatives to the meeting but at that time they did not have the delegated powers to commit their panel to membership of the Association.

Lancashire

Leicestershire

North Wales

Staffordshire

Warwickshire