

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AUTHORITY AND ITS COMMITTEES AND PANELS

Constitution – Full Authority

17 Members

- 9 Elected Members
- 7 Independent Members
- 1 Lay Justice Member

Terms of Reference

Either directly or through its Committees and Panels:

- a) To ensure that there is an effective and efficient Police Force for the area;
- b) To ensure that local communities receive best value in local policing services;
- c) To oversee the strategic direction for the Force and exercise effective oversight of Force performance;
- d) To represent the interests of all those who live in, work in, or visit the Police Authority area and to ensure that the views of local people are reflected in the nature and style of local policing;
- e) To ensure that policing services are provided fairly and in a way which does not discriminate against any group or individual;
- f) To participate constructively in the good governance of both the Authority and the Force.

Members' Responsibilities

- a) To carry out collectively all statutory and locally determined requirements of a Police Authority Member, including participation in the formulation of policy, decision-making and other activities of the full Authority (such as determining the budget and precept, determining local policing priorities, agreeing the Local Policing Summary and other strategies).
- b) To participate effectively as a member of any committee, panel, taskgroup or other authority forum to which the Member is appointed;
- c) To comply with all relevant codes of conduct and maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics;
- d) To maintain an up-to-date knowledge and awareness of national and local policing issues;
- e) To maintain a good working knowledge of Force policies and practices and to establish good working relationships with officers of both the Authority and the Force;

- f) To rigorously scrutinise, challenge and monitor all aspects of Force performance;
- g) To participate fully in local consultative arrangements and actively engage in communication and dialogue with local people about local policing services;
- h) To represent the views of the Police Authority within local communities and the views of local communities to the Authority;
- i) To participate actively in any outside body or forum on which the Member is appointed to represent the Authority;
- j) To be involved in the appointment, discipline or dismissal of senior officers, as appropriate;
- k) To monitor the way in which complaints are dealt with by the Force and deal with complaints against Chief Officers;
- l) To promote equality of opportunity and work to eliminate unlawful discrimination both internally within the Authority and Force and in the provision of policing services;
- m) To attend local, regional and national conferences/seminars/briefings, if nominated by the Authority;
- n) To answer questions at Council meetings, if nominated to do so by the Authority;
- o) To ensure that an effective Independent Custody Visiting Scheme is maintained;
- p) To participate in inspections and audits of the Force and the Authority;
- q) To agree and set the annual Precept amount;
- r) To agree and Sign off the Annual Statement of Accounts;
- s) To agree and Sign off the Annual Report.