

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel

28th September 2023

Title: Governance Review Report

1. Purpose of Report

The Panel is invited to:

- Note the finalised Panel Operating Arrangements (Appendix A)
- Consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Panel Rules of Procedure (Appendix B)

2. Summary

Panel Operating Arrangements

The Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel operates within a governance framework agreed by the Constituent Authorities in 2012. These arrangements were overseen by a Joint Selection Committee of the Avon and Somerset Council Leaders in 2012. The Panel Operating Arrangements document emerging from these discussions was agreed on 11th June 2012 and adopted by the Panel on 31st October 2012.

Under its terms, there is a requirement for the document to be reviewed every 2 years to ensure the Panel runs as effectively as possible and continues to fulfil its statutory functions. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 states that in the case of a multi-authority Police area, the constituent authorities must agree to the making or modification of the Panel's Operating Arrangements, and that each Panel member must comply with these arrangements.

The 2023 review coincided with the required amendments to membership following Somerset's unitary transition and the local elections on 4th May 2023.

Attached as Appendix 1 is the now finalised Panel Operating Arrangements which has been endorsed by the constituent authorities. The Panel was briefed on the proposed amendments prior to consultation and the final document is submitted for information only. The next review will be March 2025.

Rules of Procedure

Attached as Appendix B to this report are the rules that guide how business is conducted and ensure that the Panel meets its statutory requirements.

Unlike the Operating Arrangements, the Panel can determine and make changes to the Rules of Procedure. They were last reviewed on 31st March 2021.

3. Conclusion

Over time and based on experience in the intervening period, various amendments have been incorporated into these documents. The Panel is invited to note the finalised Panel Operating Arrangements and consider if any further amendments are required to the Rules of Procedure at this time.

Patricia Jones

Governance Specialist
Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel
Patricia.Jones@somerset.gov.uk