

**DERBYSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**26 JANUARY 2017**

**Report of the Director of Legal Services of Derbyshire County Council**

**RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE EAST MIDLANDS POLICE AND  
CRIME PANEL NETWORK**

**Purpose of Report**

To consider the proposal to renew the subscription to the support network for East Midlands Police and Crime Panels for 2017/18.

**Information and Analysis**

In 2014, East Midlands Councils supported Frontline Consulting in the establishment of an East Midlands Police and Crime Panel Network. The aim of the network is to give representatives of the Panels the opportunity to link up on a regional basis with other Police and Crime Panels and explore issues of common interest, exchange information and share good practice.

In January 2014, the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel (PCP) agreed to join the network at a cost of £500 and review its membership on an annual basis. Since then, Derbyshire PCP Members have benefited from the national conferences each year and the ability to share good practice. Additionally, Frontline Consulting facilitated a development session for Members in November 2015 and has carried out a national survey on the effectiveness of PCPs in 2016. The consensus from subscribing Panels is that the Network is very helpful and useful, with some participants noting particularly that Frontline Consulting's nationwide experience and knowledge of PCPs was very valuable.

Furthermore, due to the success of the East Midlands Network, there are plans for other regional networks to form and also a national Police and Crime Panel. It is anticipated this will take place in 2017/18 and being part of the network will enable the Derbyshire PCP to contribute to these developments.

**Financial Considerations**

Frontline Consulting's proposal for operating the network in 2017/18 is in Appendix One and is the same as the current model of working and at the same rate of £500 for the year. The cost will be met by the Police and Crime Panel Grant, funded by the Home Office.

### **Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health and transport considerations.

### **Background Papers**

Files held by the Improvement and Scrutiny Officer.

### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

That the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel renews its membership of the East Midlands Police and Crime Panel for 2017/18.

**John McElvaney**  
**Director of Legal Services**  
**Derbyshire County Council**

### SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

Two meetings a year for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and support officer (substitutes allowable) of each Panel to share information and experience, to problem-solve and to collaborate as appropriate; agendas would be devised by the participants and would include a regional update based upon information provided in a common template and 'hot topics' of challenges to address across the five Force areas as identified by participants

A 'helpline' facility (by telephone, e-mail and online) supported by Tim Young, Frontline Consulting's Lead on Policing and Crime, to answer queries and provide advice.

A website [www.pcps-direct.net](http://www.pcps-direct.net), which all PCP members and support officers can sign up for, for free, to share their experiences and good practice, including:

- an Information section: open-access pages that include a digest of news covering issues around Police and Crime Panels that will interest councillors, Independent Members and support officers, plus occasional features. There will be provision for Panels to post films, articles and more in-depth pieces about latest PCP developments; and
- an Exchange section, offering scope for you to network with each other across PCPs by setting up personal circles or engaging in broader networks by theme, role, activity or Force area. One of the Networks is Ask Tim, where you can post your queries

In addition, we would offer:

- Three places for the price of two for Network members who want to attend our annual PCP conference (equivalent to a £99 discount) – single offer rather than for multiples
- a 10% discount on any learning and development sessions that PCPs might want to engage Frontline Consulting to deliver – can apply to more than one session

### Costs

We are very aware of the limited budget available for Police and Crime Panels. We are therefore pegging the subscription rate at a modest annual

rate of £500 per Panel. As with any subscription, this does not presuppose automatic annual renewal.