

Update on the work of the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel

The Police and Crime Panel has met once this council year with the Annual General business meeting in Blackpool. There wasn't a performance report from the Commissioner.

New Chief Constable Andy Rhodes attended the meeting and gave a short presentation.

The following issues were touched upon during the meeting:

- Fracking was currently a major issue and a significant drain on resources, with the costs of officers being deployed to deal with demonstrations on Preston New Road predicted to be costing £450,000 a month going forwards, which was a major strain for the force. A joint letter with the Chief Constable would be sent to the Home Office and it was predicted that the threshold for financial support from the Government would be triggered.
- Issues were continuing with the increase in 999 calls received and the increased time required for operators to deal with the calls; problems continue with 101 response times.
- Andy Rhodes referred to a review of the Neighbourhood Policing model.
- Concern was expressed about the review of front counters.
- Scrutiny themes were agreed; I'm leading on a review of the Commissioner's oversight of Frontline Policing.

I'm aware through monitoring carried out by the Community Safety Partnership that recorded crime has increased in the county, and particularly in Pendle.

Councillor D. Whipp
Pendle Council's representative on the Lancashire Police and Crime Panel