

LGA Special Interest Group Annual Report to LGA Board

SIG Name:	National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels
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Membership

Membership is open to all Police, (Fire), and Crime Panels in England and Wales. Of the 41 constituted Panels, 37 have confirmed their membership of the NAPFCP including the 4 Panels in Wales.

Aim

The NAPFCP is a body that supports Police, (Fire) and Crime Panels in England and Wales and aims to be nationally recognised as representing and promoting their views and best interests and so influence change for the better.

The following are the NAPFCP terms of reference:

- 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 PFCs and thereby PCPs / PFCPs
- 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

The membership of the National Association's Executive Committee was confirmed at the AGM that took place in November 2020. Since that time, local elections have had an impact, with two Executive Committee members either choosing not to stand or losing their seat, resulting in ineligibility to sit on the Executive Committee. A co-option process was recently undertaken to fill these two vacancies, pending the next full election / appointment process to take place in November 2021.

Key Activities / Outcomes of work undertaken

The Executive Committee meets each month by remote means, to update progress on work streams and discuss and agree any written response to events affecting the sector.

The agreed work stream topics currently include:

- Promotion of Best Practice for Panels & Scrutiny of Commissioners
- Technology Changes & Impact on Budgets
- Promotion of the Panels Role within Police and FRS to the public
- Commissioner & Chief Constable Senior Appointments
- Complaints Handling – PCC and Policing

Other Activities Undertaken during the Year

In addition to the above workstreams the Executive Committee has responded to numerous information and call for evidence documents providing a collective view from panel members. Many of these responses are shared with panel support officers and chairman as appropriate.

Other activities that were undertaken by the NAPFCP during the year include:

- The Emergency Services Network project. – “Over Budget and Under Delivery”. The tangible effect of this project and the financial implications to police areas and PCC budgets.
- Impact of ESN delays and the Airwave network on budgets – The impact of top slice budget expenditure and the net effect of the police force interim solutions and dual running of the Airwave network.
- Addressing the Public Accounts Committee on ESN delay – A private session with the PAC to explain the NAPFCP findings of ESN delays
- Police Foundation - Call for Evidence Part 1 & 2 – Submissions produced and delivered reflecting the sectors findings
- Home Office PCC Review - Call for Evidence Part 1 – Submission of the NAPFCP report with many of its findings and recommendations being reflected in the Part 1 review report. The Chairman had written to the PCC Review team requesting PFCP representation on the Advisory Group.

- College of Policing Review – Submission of NAPFCP findings using exec member experiences of the college, updated by input from serving officers. A copy is available for the LGA if required.
- Panels Remote Working Survey- Survey carried out in Dec 20 / Jan 21 to record Panel impact on remote working practices during lockdown
- Government Remote Meetings - Call for Evidence – NAPFCP submitted a response to this CoE which included references and evidence discovered by to the survey undertaken by the NAPFCP in December 2021
- Quarterly meetings with the LGA – Lucy Ellender
- Quarterly meetings with the APCC – Chairman & CEO
- Advising Panel Chairs and Support Officers – On average 3 sessions per month.