

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CLEVELAND POLICE & CRIME PANEL

7 DECEMBER 2012

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF LAW AND DEMOCRACY

RECIPROCAL OBSERVER ARRANGEMENTS WITH DURHAM AND DARLINGTON POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

SUMMARY

To update the Panel regarding potential reciprocal observer arrangements with Durham and Darlington Police and Crime Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

DETAIL

1. Members will recall that, at its meeting held on 6 August 2012, the Panel agreed to extend an invitation to the Durham and Darlington Police and Crime Panel to set up reciprocal observer arrangements.
2. This Panel agreed to appoint its Chairman and Vice Chairman to act as observers, under any arrangements that might be developed.
3. Subsequently, Durham and Darlington PCP was contacted with a view to considering whether any such arrangements could be put in place.
4. The following response has been received from Durham and Darlington PCP:
 - the principle of collaboration is extremely important but our PCP needs to settle and embed in its role and function before it engages with other PCPs;
 - Durham and Darlington PCP plans to review its operation by the end of March 2013 to refine its approach ;
 - it would be worth considering an event under the auspice of the regional scrutiny network that could ring a number of PCPs to share practice etc.
5. Clearly, in view of this, it will not be possible to establish any reciprocal observer arrangements at this point in time. However, this Panel's support officers will monitor the work of neighbouring PCPs, via websites, and through informal discussions with colleague support officers and liaise with the Chairman and Vice Chairman should any good practice/development opportunities come to light.

Name of Contact Officer: David Bond
Director of Law and Democracy – Stockton on Tees Borough Council
Telephone No: (01642) 527060
Email Address: david.bond@stockton.gov.uk