

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CLEVELAND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

30 JULY 2015

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF LAW AND DEMOCRACY

TONE FROM THE TOP – LEADERSHIP, ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN POLICING

SUMMARY

This report provides details of the outcome of the inquiry by the Committee on Standards in Public Life into local policing accountability.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be considered.

DETAIL

1. On the 29 June 2015 the Committee on Standards in Public Life (“CSPL”) published the final report of its inquiry into policing accountability – Tone from the top – leadership, ethics and accountability in policing. Details of the CSPL are attached at **Appendix 1**
2. A copy of the full report is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tone-from-the-top-leadership-ethics-and-accountability-in-policing>
3. A copy of the covering letter to the report from Lord Bew, the Chair of CSPL, is attached at **Appendix 2**.
4. The executive summary to the report is also attached at **Appendix 3**, together with two infographics, highlighting the report’s key findings and recommendations.
5. Recommendations from the report of direct relevance to Police and Crime Panels are as follows:-
 - “9. *Police and Crime Panels should review the PCC’s Annual Report in public session attended by the PCC as part of their annual scrutiny programme and make any recommendations as appropriate.*
 10. *As a matter of good practice:-*
 - *PCCs should publish a forward plan of decisions identifying the subject matter of the decision, why it is key, the meeting at which the decision is due to be taken, who will be consulted before the decision is taken and what reports/papers will be available for inspection; and*

- *Police and Crime Panels should produce a forward plan specifying, as appropriate, the information required from PCCs in order for them to carry out that work.*
19. *The Committee endorses the Home Affairs Committee's recommendations that:-*
- *Police and Crime Panels inquire and report into the circumstances whenever a Chief Constable's service is brought to an end irrespective of whether the schedule 8 scrutiny process is formally engaged.*
 - *The Home Office bring forward proposals to extend the schedule 8 process to include scrutiny by the Police and Crime Panel where a commissioner chooses not to agree to an extension of the chief constable's contract to bring it in line with the process for the removal of a chief constable."*

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