



2021 PCC Election Candidate Briefing

Notes

Date: Monday 12 April 2021

Time: 13:00

Venue: Via MS Teams

Attendees:

Name	Role
Rachelle Kipling	Temporary Assistant Chief Executive – OPCC
Simon Dennis	Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer - OPCC
Lisa Oldroyd	Acting Police and Crime Commissioner
Hannah Smith	Commissioner's Officer for Communications and Information – OPCC
Michael Porter	Chief Finance Officer - OPCC
Richard Lewis	Chief Constable – Cleveland Police
Lisa Theaker	Chief Superintendent, Chief of Staff – Cleveland Police

No.	Discussed	Outcome/Decision/ Attachment
1	<p>Recap on previous briefing and Chief Executive arrangements</p> <p>Candidates in attendance received a short recap on the previous briefing session and were given a briefing on the arrangements for Chief Executive up to and beyond the election in May.</p>	
2	<p>Cleveland Police briefing</p> <p>Chief Constable Richard Lewis provided an update on Cleveland Police's progress against the causes of concerns raised by HMICFRS in their 2019 inspection of the force. An update was also provided on RL's plans to address the force's cultural issues. RL took a number of questions from candidates.</p> <p>A query was raised about whether RL planned to remain as Chief Constable in Cleveland for a prolonged period of time, following a number of shorter terms served by previous Chief Constables. RL confirmed that he has several years remaining on his contract at Cleveland and is not seeking out employment with any other forces. He plans to retire as the Chief Constable of Cleveland Police.</p>	

<p>3</p>	<p>Information was sought about the make up of Cleveland Police’s Service Improvement Team, who are tasked with driving forward improvements recommended by HMICFRS. LT gave an update about the team, including their structure and the key areas of policing they are focusing on.</p> <p>A query was raised about the levels of sickness and levels of performance issues of police officers immediately below the senior officer rank. RL confirmed that Cleveland Police has a historical cultural issue of putting the self before the needs of the organisation. He is working to establish a ‘collective mindset’ throughout the organisation which prioritises the needs of the public and the organisation as whole.</p> <p>Further information was sought about what the force is doing to support the wellbeing and health of police officers and staff, considering the challenging work they do. RL advised the candidate that the force has a strong occupational health and wellbeing department, and an array of services to support officers and staff. Cleveland is one of the only forces in the country to offer ‘in-house’ counselling services. The force has a number of Blue Light Champions led by an Inspector, who give informal pee-to-peer support on mental health.</p> <p>Lightning talks from commissioned services and partners</p> <p>Candidates received five minute ‘lightning talks’ from a range of services commissioned by the OPCC and organisations the Commissioner will work closely with when elected.</p> <p>A full agenda will be published on the PCC website and candidates will be furnished with contact details for all speakers.</p> <p>There were no further questions from candidates.</p>	
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