



**Dan Price**  
Cheshire  
Police & Crime  
Commissioner



**Cheshire  
Constabulary**

## MINUTES OF THE INDEPENDENT ETHICS PANEL HELD ON THURSDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2025 AT CONSTABULARY HEADQUARTERS, WINSFORD

*Present:* Robert Mee (Chair)  
Jonathan Bamford  
Maggie Chen  
Thomas Morris  
Emma Shillabeer

*Also Present:* DCI Dani Knox, Protecting Vulnerable People Command  
David Thomason, Harm Reduction Unit  
Damon Taylor, Chief Executive, OPCC  
Karolina Kardas, Research and Volunteer Support Officer, OPCC

*Apologies:* Kate Jury & Joe Onions

### 06/25 NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the previous meeting held on 3 April 2025, were NOTED.

### 07/25 CHESHIRE YOUTH COMMISSION

Karolina introduced Becca (project co-ordinator) Ads and Mason (Youth Commission members) from the Cheshire Youth Commission, which was a service that the OPCC commissioned to gain insights and views from young people across Cheshire. It was heard that the Cheshire Commission was one of 18 which had been set up across the country and how the issues being looked at in more depth did vary across the country.

Becca gave a presentation to the Panel with comments from the Commission members. It was reported that the Commission each year fixed its priorities for the coming year. For 2025, the priorities were serious violence (knife crime); cyber-crime; sexual/domestic abuse; and drugs (including county lines).

The Panel reflected on the presentation and asked several questions of the Commission, commenting how valuable their work was and how important it was for the police to hear about how young people viewed the interaction with the police and how they could offer suggestions on how things could be improved.

Becca discussed the Annual Conference which will be held this year on 6 November and invited the Panel to attend.

On behalf of the Panel, the Chair thanked Becca, Ads, Mason and Karolina for the presentation on the excellent work undertaken by the Commission.

*ACTION: The Panel to be invited to the Commission's annual conference on 6 November 2025.*

## 08/25 DEVELOPMENT OF AI TOOL TO IDENTIFY STALKING BEHAVIOUR

Detective Chief Inspector Dani Knox and Dave Thomason of the Protecting Vulnerable People department gave a presentation on the development of an AI tool for the Harm Reduction Unit to help identify patterns of stalking behaviour in crime reporting, following the receipt of £300k of funding secured by the OPCC from the Home Office STAR fund. The work had been commissioned on the back of a national recommendation arising from a super complaint from the Lucy Lamplugh Trust.

The Panel asked a number of questions including why stalking was identified as the focus of this work; what is the actual data which is being inputted; how the Constabulary will know if this works in a real (non test) environment; and what the level of stalking perpetrators are known to their victims to which the officers responded.

The Panel then discussed the ethical issues arising from the use of such data and were reassured to hear of the robust governance frameworks that were in place to ensure the integrity of the process and complete anonymisation of personal data. The Panel requested that a further report be made back to them near to the conclusion of the work in June 2026 to identify any further areas that they may wish to review.

*ACTION: Further report to be submitted to the Panel in June 2026 at the conclusion of the project's work*

## 09/25 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 4 September
- 11 December

## ACTIONS MATRIX

Ref.	Action	Action taken
1. [3-23]	To help inform the Panel's work, it would find it helpful to better understand how both organisations (PCC/Constabulary) gain the views of people in Cheshire on policing.	Feedback to be given at future meeting
2. [6-23] & [9-23]	Develop an induction programme for new members of the Panel	Agreed at meeting on 05/09/23 that CEO to provide list of relevant information to aid Panel's wider understanding of policing
3. [6-23]	Provide an update on other training events which the Panel may wish to consider attending in line with their work programme	

4. [9-23]	RCRP post implementation issues to be discussed at a future Panel meeting	
14.[01-24]	<p>Future agenda items discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Body Worn Video (BWV)</li> <li>• How officers deal with young people (including youth Commission work)</li> <li>• National Stop and Search S60 Report</li> <li>• New members to undertake training already given to RM and ES</li> <li>• Presentation from the Special Constabulary</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLOSED</li>   <li>• CLOSED</li> </ul>
16.[01-24]	A.I. as a future deployment tool for the Constabulary	
17.[01-24]	Facial Recognition review for new members	• CLOSED
18.[09-24]	<p>Possible future agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of Ethics Panels as governance in NPCC Covenant.</li> <li>• Tasers – training of and the impact on the officers who use them</li> <li>• PCC’s Police and Crime Plan – is there a piece of work for the EP to consult on this?</li> <li>• Future agenda item on Code of Ethics</li> <li>• Use of NICE (retail)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLOSED</li>   <li>• CLOSED</li> </ul>
19. [04-25]	Find out more about Regional Ethics Committee	
20. [05-25]	Panel to be invited to the Youth Commission’s annual conference	
21. [05-25]	Panel to receive an update on the AI Stalking Project	• June 2026