



Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire and
Luton Borough Council

working together

Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel

For Immediate Release
Attn: Newsdesk

Thursday 6th December 2012

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Panel met the newly-elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire, Olly Martins, for the first time at its meeting on Tuesday.

The Panel's role is to scrutinise the work of the Commissioner, and is made up of 10 elected members from the three councils in the Bedfordshire police force area alongside two independent lay members.

The Panel heard from Commissioner Martins about his work to develop the Police and Crime Plan, and discussed the importance of partnership working, policing in rural and urban areas as well as the Commissioner's role in crime prevention.

The Panel also appointed its first Chair, Cllr Fiona Chapman of Central Bedfordshire Council, and Vice Chair, Cllr Colleen Atkins, of Bedford Borough Council.

The Panel's next meeting will be a confirmation hearing for the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, Cllr Tafheen Sharif. This is a public meeting and will be held on 17th December 2012 at 3pm, at Borough Hall, Bedford.

The Panel Chair, Cllr Fiona Chapman, said "The Panel is looking forward to working together as a 'critical friend' to hold the Commissioner to account, ensuring that crime and the fear of crime is reduced across the whole of the county of Bedfordshire".

ENDS

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