

Responsibility for Joint Functions

The Council will appoint 1 member to the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire, a formal Joint Committee of the 15 local authorities for the Lancashire Police force area, established under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

The Terms of Reference, operating arrangements and Procedure Rules of the Panel are set out below.

Lancashire Police and Crime Panel Terms of Reference

The Panel will exercise the following powers under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, and all other enabling powers, discharging its functions in accordance with the Policing Protocol Order 2011.

- 1) To review and make a report or recommendation(s) on the draft police and crime plan, or draft variation, given to the Panel by the Police and Crime Commissioner (the Commissioner).
- 2) To review, put questions to the Commissioner at a public meeting, and make a report or recommendation (as necessary) on the Commissioner's annual report.
- 3) To hold a confirmation hearing in public and review, make a report and recommendation (as necessary) in respect of proposed appointments by the Commissioner of Chief Constable, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer, and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 4) To hold a scrutiny meeting in private and make a recommendation to the Commissioner on a proposal by the Commissioner to call upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign.
- 5) To review and make a report and recommendation (as necessary) on the proposed precept.
- 6) To review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Commissioner in connection with the discharge of his/her functions.
- 7) To make reports or recommendations to the Commissioner with respect to the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.
- 8) To support the effective exercise of the Commissioner's functions.
- 9) To fulfil functions in relation to complaints about conduct matters, in accordance with the Panel's responsibilities as provided for by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
- 10) To appoint, if necessary, an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 11) To suspend the Commissioner if it appears to the Panel that the Commissioner has been charged in the United Kingdom or Isle of Man with an offence which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years

Lancashire Police and Crime Panel

Panel Arrangements

1. General Principles

- 1.1 Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council ['BWDBC'] shall act as the host authority for the Police and Crime Panel. BWDBC will act as Secretary to the Panel and shall be responsible for ensuring that the necessary officer support is provided and that any necessary arrangements are made to promote the role of the Panel.
- 1.2 The Panel must be made up of a minimum of 15 councillors and 2 co-opted independent members.
- 1.3 The constitution of the Panel should take account of, as far as is practical, both political and geographical proportionality, as well as the necessary knowledge, skills and experience to discharge its functions effectively – “the balanced appointment” objective.
- 1.4 Additional members may be co-opted on to the Panel to enable the balanced appointment objective to be met, as long as the size does not exceed 20 and the Secretary of State approves the co-options. Additional Members may or may not be councillors.

2. Membership

- 2.1 The constituent councils on the Panel are the County Council, the two unitary authority councils and the twelve district councils in Lancashire.
- 2.2 The Panel's membership will be made up of one councillor from each constituent Council and 2 independent co-opted members, plus any additional Councillors from specific authorities in order to achieve the balanced appointment” objective.
- 2.3 All County Councillors and District Councillors are eligible to be members of the Panel.
- 2.4 All Councillors on the Panel will serve a term of 12 months.
- 2.5 Each constituent council may send a substitute member to meetings, as notified to the Secretary to the Panel, and this substitute member will be permitted to act as a substitute member with full voting rights at meetings of the Panel and any Task Groups appointed by the Panel. A substitute member must be from the same party as the member appointed by the constituent council. If the panel member is an independent councillor then any substitute must also be an independent councillor.

Independent Members

- 3.1 The Panel has previously agreed to co-opt two independent members onto the Panel for a term of four years.
- 3.2 The lead authority will undertake the appointment process on behalf of the Panel for co-opting independent members which will include a reasonable

period of public advertisement for the positions. The closing date for the receipt of applications will not be less than two weeks from the date the advertisement is first placed.

- 3.3 Information packs will be prepared and sent to those requesting application forms.
- 3.4 The Panel will determine and agree its Selection Panel in accordance with the “balance appointment objective”.
- 3.5 Following the interviews, the five members will make recommendations to the Panel about the appointments.
- 3.6 The Selection Panel may recommend appointment of additional Independent co-opted members to the Panel who may act as substitutes at meetings in the event of the absence of one or both of the term appointed (see 3.1 above) independent members of the Panel”.

4. Vacancies

- 4.1 A vacancy on the panel arises when a county councillor, a district councillor or an independent member ceases to be a member of the Panel for any reason.
- 4.2 Each council will fill vacancies for elected members in accordance with the arrangements in their constitution. Vacancies for independent members will be filled in accordance with the selection process outlined in section 3.

5. Removal of, or resignation of, appointed and co-opted Members

- 5.1 Co-opted members will cease membership of the Lancashire Police & Crime Panel after a maximum of 8 years (2 x 4 year terms).
- 5.2 Any co-opted member who fails to attend three consecutive meet of the Lancashire Police & Crime Panel shall cease to be a member unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the Lancashire Police & Crime Panel.
- 5.3 A person may resign as a co-opted member of the Lancashire Police & Crime Panel by written notice served on the Secretary and the resignation shall take effect on the date specified in the notice.
- 5.4 Where a co-opted member ceases to be a member for any reason, the Lancashire Police & Crime Panel shall appoint a replacement for a term of 4 years.

6. Conditions for reappointment of members

- 6.1 Councillors may serve more than one 12 month term.
- 6.2 Co-opted members may be eligible to apply for a subsequent four year term but may not serve more than two consecutive four year terms.

7. Costs of the Panel

7.1 The costs of the Panel will be borne by the constituent councils. The Home Office has agreed to provide funding for administrative costs.

7.2 Subject to Grant Funding being received the following single annual payments (based on 4 ordinary meetings per year) are payable:

- The Chair of the Panel £600.00
- The Vice Chair of the Panel £480.00
- Task and Finish Group Lead £400.00
- Task and Finish Group Members £300.00

These payments also cover expenses and are subject to regular attendance at all meetings. The other members of the Panel can claim expenses for attendance at the panel as and when they arise on proof of expenditure.

7.3 The lead authority will have responsibility for the financial arrangements to support the operation of the Panel, including the receipt of funds (whether paid by the Home secretary or otherwise) and the making of payments between the constituent councils and to panel members.

Lancashire Police and Crime Panel Operational Procedure Rules

1. Chairman of the Police and Crime Panel

- 1.1** The Chairman of the Panel will be appointed by the Panel at its Annual meeting each year and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.
- 1.2** The Deputy Chairman will be appointed by the Panel at its Annual meeting each year and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.
- 1.3** In the event of the resignation of the Chairman or Deputy Chairman or the removal of the Chairman/Deputy Chairman, a new Chairman/Deputy Chairman will be appointed at the next meeting and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.
- 1.4** The Panel will elect a councillor member to preside at a meeting if the Chairman and Deputy Chairman are not present.
- 1.5** The Panel may consider the removal of the Chairman during the year if it is satisfied that he/she:
 - a) has, without reasonable excuse, failed to carry out the duties for a continuous period of six months;
 - b) has acted improperly, recklessly or negligently in relation to his/her duties;
 - c) is otherwise unable or unfit to perform his/her duties;
 - d) or that the circumstances are such that they are exceptional and would warrant the removal of the chair eg. a conviction or caution in respect of a relevant criminal offence.

2. Meetings of the Police and Crime Panel

- 2.1** There shall be a minimum of four ordinary meetings of the Panel held in public in each municipal year to carry out the functions of the Panel. The Panel will determine the schedule of dates and times of its ordinary meetings each year including a date for its Annual Meeting.
- 2.2** Extraordinary meetings of the Panel may also be called from time to time by the Chairman or by four members of the Panel giving notice to the Secretary to the Panel.
- 2.3** An extraordinary meeting may also be called by the Secretary to the Panel if he/she considers that to be necessary.
- 2.4** Ordinary meetings of the Panel will:

- (i) receive any declarations of interest from members
- (ii) approve the minutes of the last meeting
- (iii) consider reports from officers and panel members

2.5 The Secretary to the Panel will give notice to the public of the time and place of any meeting in accordance with Access to Information requirements. At least five clear working days before a meeting, the Secretary shall send notice of the meeting to every Panel member. The notice shall give the date, time and place of each meeting and specify the business to be transacted, and shall be accompanied by such reports as are available.

2.6 The publication of reports or recommendations is subject to the exclusion of any exempt or confidential information as defined in the rules on access to information in the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

3. Quorum

3.1 A meeting of the Panel cannot take place unless not less than one third of the whole number of its members is present.

3.2 In the event of a meeting being inquorate, it shall stand temporarily adjourned for 15 minutes and if, thereafter, there is still not a quorum the meeting shall stand finally adjourned. At the point of adjournment, or subsequently, the Chairman may agree arrangements for the meeting to be reconvened.

4. Work Programme

4.1 The Panel will set its own work programme and, in doing so, may wish to take into account the priorities defined by the Commissioner and the wishes of its members.

4.2 The work programme must include the functions described in the terms of reference for the Panel.

5. Agenda Items

5.1 Any member of the Panel shall be entitled to give notice to the Secretary of the Panel that he or she wishes an item relevant to the functions of the Panel to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting.

6. Reports from Police and Crime Panel

6.1 Where the Panel makes a report to the Commissioner on the discharge of its functions, it must choose to publish the report or recommendations .

6.2 The Panel must by notice in writing require the Commissioner, as appropriate, within one month of the date on which the Commissioner receives the report or recommendations to:

- a) Consider the report or recommendations;

- b) Respond to the Panel indicating what (if any) action the Commissioner proposes to take;
- c) Where the Panel has published the report or recommendations, publish the response;
- d) Where the Panel has provided a copy of the report; or recommendations to a member, provide a copy of the response to the member.

6.3 If the Panel cannot unanimously agree on the terms of any report to the Commissioner then a report agreed by the majority of the Panel will be submitted for consideration together with a separate report prepared by the minority.

7. Police and Crime Commissioner and Officers Giving Account

7.1 The Panel may scrutinise and review decisions made or actions taken in connection with the Commissioner's role.

As well as reviewing documentation, in fulfilling its scrutiny role it may require the Commissioner, and members of the Commissioner's staff, to attend before the Panel (at reasonable notice) to answer any questions which appear to the Panel to be necessary in order to carry out its functions.

7.2 Where the Commissioner, or a member of the Commissioner's staff, is required to attend the Panel under this provision the Secretary will inform them in writing giving, where practicable, reasonable notice of the meeting. The notice will state the nature of the item on which he or she is required to attend to give account and whether any papers are required for production for the Panel. Where it is necessary to produce a report, sufficient time will be given to allow preparation of that report.

7.3 Where, in exceptional circumstances, the Commissioner is unable to attend on the required date, then an alternative date for attendance may be arranged following consultation with the chairman of the Panel.

7.4 If the Panel require the Commissioner to attend before the Panel, the Panel may (at reasonable notice) request the Chief Constable to attend on the same occasion to answer any questions which appear to the Panel to be necessary in order for it to carry out its functions.

8. Attendance by Others

8.1 The Panel may invite people other than those referred to in Paragraph 7 above to address it, discuss issues of local concern and/or answer questions. It may, for example, wish to hear from residents, stakeholders, councillors who are not members of the Panel and officers in other parts of the public sector.

9. Sub Committees and Task Groups

- 9.1** Time limited task groups may be established from time to time by the Police and Crime Panel to undertake specific, task-based work.
- 9.2** Task groups may not co-opt other persons.
- 9.3** The special functions of the Panel specified in paragraph 9.4 below may not be discharged by a task group of the Panel.
- 9.4** In this paragraph 'special functions' means the functions conferred on the Panel by:
- a) Section 28(3) of Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (the Act) (scrutiny of Police and Crime Plan).
 - b) Section 28 (4) of the Act (scrutiny of annual report).
 - c) Paragraphs 10 and 11 of Schedule 1 of the Act (review of senior appointments).
 - d) Schedule 5 of the Act (issuing precepts) Part 1 of Schedule 8 of the Act (scrutiny of appointment of the Chief Constable).
- 9.5** The work undertaken by a task group will be scoped and defined by the Panel beforehand, together with the timeframe within which the work is to be completed and the reporting time for the outcome of the work.

10 Carrying out 'Special Functions'

Reports and recommendations made in relation to the functions outlined in the terms of reference will be carried out in accordance with the procedure outlined at section 7 above.

10.1 Senior appointments

- 10.1.1** Where the Panel exercises its powers to review the Commissioner's proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, the meetings held to confirm these appointments must be held in public.
- 10.1.2** The Panel will be notified by the Commissioner of the need for a confirmatory hearing in respect of proposed senior appointments. This will be held at the next available meeting of the Panel unless the appointment timescale requires an earlier hearing, in which case an extraordinary meeting will be arranged.
- 10.1.3** In relation to the appointment of the Chief Constable, the Panel is required to hold a hearing within the period of three weeks from the day on which it receives notification from the Commissioner.

- 10.1.4** At a confirmatory hearing the candidate is requested to appear for the purpose of answering questions relating to the appointment. Following this hearing, the Panel is required to review the proposed appointment and make a report to the Commissioner.
- 10.1.5** For a confirmatory hearing for the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable, in addition to the requirement to review and report, the Panel must make a recommendation on the appointment and has the power to veto the appointment.
- 10.1.6** Having considered the appointment, the Panel will be asked to either:
- a) support the appointment without qualification or comment;
 - b) support the appointment with associated recommendations, or
 - c) veto the appointment of the Chief Constable (by the required majority of at least two thirds of the persons who are members of the Panel at the time when the decision is made).
- 10.1.7** If the Panel vetoes the appointment of the candidate, the report to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed the appointment with reasons.

10.2 Appointment of an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner

- 10.2.1** The Panel must appoint a person to act as Commissioner if:
- a) no person holds the office of Commissioner;
 - b) the Commissioner is incapacitated; or
 - c) the Commissioner is suspended.
- 10.2.2** The person appointed as acting Commissioner must at the time of the appointment be a member of the Commissioner's staff.
- 10.2.3** In appointing a person as acting Commissioner in a case where the Commissioner is incapacitated, the Panel must have regard to any representations made by the Commissioner in relation to the appointment.
- 10.2.4** The appointment of an acting Commissioner ceases to have effect upon the occurrence of the earliest of these events:
- a) the election of a person as Commissioner;
 - b) the termination by the Panel, or by the acting Commissioner, of the appointment of the acting Commissioner;

- c) in a case where the acting Commissioner is appointed because the Commissioner is incapacitated, the Commissioner ceasing to be incapacitated, or
- d) in a case where the acting Commissioner is appointed because the Commissioner is suspended, the Commissioner ceasing to be suspended.

10.3 Proposed precept

10.3.1 The Commissioner will notify the Panel of the precept which he/she is proposing to issue for the financial year. The Panel must review the proposed precept and make a report to the Commissioner including recommendations.

10.3.2 Having considered the precept, the Panel will either:

- a) support the precept without qualification or comment;
- b) support the precept and make recommendations, or
- c) veto the proposed precept (by the required majority of at least two thirds of the persons who are members of the Panel at the time when the decision is made).

10.3.3 If the Panel vetoes the proposed precept the report to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed the proposed precept with reason and the Panel will require a response to the report and any such recommendations.

10.4 Complaints

10.4.1 Non-criminal complaints in relation to the Commissioner or other office holders should be dealt with and/or delegated in accordance with the Act and the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012.

10.5 Suspension of the Police and Crime Commissioner

10.5.1 The Panel may suspend the Commissioner if it appears to the Panel that:

- a) the Commissioner has been charged in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man with an offence, and
- b) the offence is one which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years.

10.5.2 The suspension of the Commissioner ceases to have effect upon the occurrence of the earliest of these events:

- a) the charge being dropped;

- b) the Commissioner being acquitted of the offence;
- c) the Commissioner being convicted of the offence but not being disqualified under Section 66 of the Act by virtue of the conviction; or
- d) the termination of the suspension by the Panel.

10.5.3 In this section references to an offence which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years are references to:

- a) an offence which carries such a maximum term in the case of a person who has attained the age of 18 years, or
- b) an offence for which, in the case of such a person, the sentence is fixed by law as life imprisonment.

10.6 Suspension and Removal of the Chief Constable

10.6.1 The Panel will receive notification from the Commissioner if he/she suspends the Chief Constable.

10.6.2 The Commissioner must notify the Panel in writing of his/her proposal to call upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign together with a copy of the reasons given to the Chief Constable in relation to that proposal.

10.6.3 The Commissioner must provide the Panel with a copy of any representations from the Chief Constable about the proposal to call for his/her resignation or retirement.

10.6.4 If the Commissioner is still proposing to call upon the Chief Constable to resign, he/she must notify the panel accordingly (the 'further notification').

10.6.5 Within six weeks from the date of receiving the further notification the Panel must make a recommendation in writing to the Commissioner as to whether or not he/she should call for the retirement or resignation. Before making any recommendation the Panel may consult Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary and must hold a scrutiny hearing.

10.6.6 The scrutiny hearing is a Panel meeting held in private to which the Commissioner and Chief Constable are entitled to attend to make representations in relation to the proposal to call upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign. Appearance at the scrutiny hearing can be by attending in person, or participating by telephone or video link.

10.6.7 The Panel must publish the recommendation it makes at 10.6.5 by any means the Panel considers appropriate and must send a copy to each of the constituent councils.

11. Rules of debate

The Panel has adopted the County Councils Standing Orders insofar as they relate to the rules of debate at Committees.

12. Public participation

The procedure for public questions was agreed by the Panel at their meeting on 15th October 2013 and full details are set out on the Police and Crime Panel Website <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/about-council/police-and-crime-panel-lancashire/police-and-crime-panel-procedure-public-questions> and via the Secretary to the Panel.

At the Full Council meeting held on 7 December 2017 members agreed that the Leader of the Council be authorised, in his role as ‘member’ of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company Limited (Company No: 05001989) (EDC), to dissolve the aforementioned company. Therefore, it was agreed by Cabinet that a Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) in the form of a Joint Committee be established and the Procedure Rules for that Board be approved.

The Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Prosperity Board Procedure Rules

1. Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of the Economic Prosperity Board (‘EPB’) will be to bring together local authority partners in a robust, formally constituted arrangement which will help shape and drive economic development across the Fylde Coast. This will be undertaken by collaboration and mutual co-operation. The fact that some functions will be discharged jointly by way of these procedure rules does not prohibit any of the constituent authorities from promoting economic wellbeing in their own areas, independent of the Board.

2. Governance

- 2.1** The EPB will act as a Joint Committee pursuant to powers under the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000 and under the Local Authorities (Arrangement for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 2.2** The EPB will comprise of Blackpool Borough Council, Fylde Borough Council and Wyre Borough Council (“constituent authorities”) and three co-opted members, one each from each constituent area. Any reference to ‘executive’, ‘executive arrangements’, ‘executive function’ or ‘committee system’ has the meaning given by Part 1A of the Local Government Act 2000.
- 2.3** The EPB is not a self-standing legal entity but is part of its constituent authorities. Any legal commitment entered into pursuant of a decision of the EPB must be made by all constituent authorities.
- 2.4** Political Proportionality rules will not apply to the EPB as so constituted.
- 2.5** The EPB may establish sub-committees or advisory groups, to undertake elements of its work, if required.
- 2.6** The EPB has powers delegated to it by the constituent authorities in the following areas:
- a) to review future governance requirements and delivery arrangements and how these can be best achieved on the Fylde Coast;
 - b) to have direct oversight of key economic growth focussed projects and initiatives that the EPB has influence over the funding of;
 - c) to have strategic oversight of other key growth focussed projects and initiatives across the Fylde Coast, and;
 - d) to lobby and carry out other activities that help achieve the promotion or improvement of economic wellbeing on the Fylde coast.

The EPB will not hold funds or monies on behalf of the constituent authorities.

- 2.7** Each constituent authority operating executive arrangements will be responsible for considering whether it is necessary [in order to comply with Access to Information legislation regarding the publication of agendas including Forward Plan requirements] to treat prospective decisions as 'key decisions' and/ or have them included in their Forward Plan. A constituent authority operating a committee system will apply its own local statutory procedures.

3. Remit

- 3.1** The remit of the EPB will be to provide political and democratic accountability and in doing so:

- a) act as the key strategic forum for economic development issues on the Fylde coast and to make recommendations to the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and other bodies on economic development investments and other priorities;
- b) have insight and the opportunity to review the LEP Board's activities and consider any further measures necessary to strengthen the relationship with the LEP Board;
- c) co-ordinate and monitor investment plans of the constituent authorities pertaining to economic growth at the discretion of the individual authorities;
- d) act as the Programme Board for Hillhouse Technology and Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zones (EZ's) and report into the LEP and its EZ Governance Committee as appropriate;
- e) seek to ensure that adequate resources are made available to enable the delivery of Hillhouse Technology and Blackpool Airport EZs and other key Fylde coast economic development priorities and projects;
- f) actively engage with a range of businesses on the Fylde coast in relation to economic development decision making and to engage with other stakeholders where appropriate;
- g) consider and advise on the appropriateness and viability of alternative, successor economic governance arrangements, and;
- h) co-ordinate and agree wider place-making policy within the Fylde coast economic footprint, wherever possible.

4. Membership

- 4.1** Membership will consist of one member from each constituent authority. Such member to be the Leader of the Council or other executive member, in an authority operating executive arrangements (or Leader of the Council or committee chairman, or vice chairman from a council operating committee system arrangements) and for the purposes of these procedure rules, this member will be known as the 'principal member'.

- 4.2** Each principal member to have a named substitute member who must be an executive member where the authority operates executive arrangements. Where governance in a constituent authority is by a committee system form of governance, that substitute member shall be as per that authority's rules

of substitution. All constituent authorities must provide no less than twenty four hours' notice to the Secretary where a substitute member will be attending in place of the principal member. Regardless of any such notification, where both the principal member and the substitute member attends a meeting of the EPB, the principal member shall be deemed as representing their authority.

- 4.3** In the event of any principal member of the EPB ceasing to be a member of the constituent authority which appointed him/her, the relevant constituent authority shall as soon as reasonably practicable appoint another principal member in his/her place.
- 4.4** Each constituent authority may remove its principal member or substitute member and appoint a different member or substitute as per that authority's rules of substitution and by providing twenty-four hours' notice to the Secretary.
- 4.5** There will be co-opted members appointed to the Board, with the number of co-opted members being the same as the number of constituent authorities. Each co-opted member will represent their relevant constituent area and the appointment and term of office of these co-opted members will be determined by formal decision of the Board. There are no substitute arrangements for co-opted members.
- 4.6** Each constituent authority may individually terminate its membership of the EPB by providing six months' written notice of its intent to leave the EPB to the Secretary. At the end of these six months, but not before, the authority will be deemed to no longer be a member of the EPB.
- 4.7** Where an authority has previously terminated its membership of the EPB it may re-join the EPB with immediate effect on the same terms as existed prior to its departure, where the EPB agrees to that authority re-joining via a majority vote.
- 4.8** Any other qualifying authority seeking to be a constituent member, may join the Board with immediate effect on the terms set out in these procedure rules, where the EPB agrees to that authority joining via a majority vote.

5. Quorum

- 5.1** The quorum shall be two constituent authority members and one co-opted member with a requirement that each of the three authority areas be represented (either an authority member or co-opted member from each constituent area must be present). Should the constituent authorities change in number the quorum will be increased to reflect the change, the precise arrangements to be determined by agreement. No business will be transacted at a meeting unless a quorum exists at the beginning of a meeting. If at the beginning of any meeting, the Chairman or Secretary after counting the members present declares that a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned.

6. Chairman and Vice Chairman

- 6.1** The chairmanship of the EPC will rotate annually between each of the principal members. The Chairman or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairman (if one is appointed) or in his/her absence the member of the EPB elected for this purpose, shall preside at any meeting of the EPB.
- 6.2** Appointments will be made for a maximum period not extending beyond each principal member's remaining term of office as a councillor.
- 6.3** Where, at any meeting or part of a meeting of the EPB both the Chairman and Vice Chairman (if appointed) are either absent or unable to act as Chairman or Vice Chairman, the EPB shall elect one of the principal members of the EPB present at the meeting to preside for the balance of that meeting or part of the meeting, as appropriate. For the avoidance of doubt, the role of Chairman and Vice- Chairman (if appointed) vests in the principal member concerned and in their absence the role of Chairman or Vice-Chairman (if appointed) will not automatically fall to the relevant constituent Authority's substitute member.

7. Voting

- 7.1** The EPB's decision making will operate on the basis of mutual co-operation and consent and will take into account the views of the co-opted members. It is expected that decisions will be taken on a consensual basis wherever possible. Where a formal vote is required it shall be one vote for each constituent authority, made by the principal member, or in their absence, their nominated substitute. Co-opted members are not permitted to have a vote.
- 7.2** All questions shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present, the Chairman having the casting vote in addition to his/her vote as a member of the Committee. Voting at meetings shall be by show of hands.
- 7.3** Where immediately after a vote is taken at a meeting, if any member so requests, there shall be recorded in the minutes of the proceedings of that meeting whether each person cast his/ her vote for or against the matter or whether he/ she abstained from voting.

8. Hosting, Administration and Lead Authority

- 8.1** The EPB will be hosted by each constituent authority in turn, with the rota determined by a formal decision of the Board and the host authority's Monitoring Officer shall be Secretary to the Board ('the Secretary') (the position may be taken by a representative on their behalf). The Host Authority will also identify representatives to provide relevant financial, governance and legal advice to the EPB. For the avoidance of doubt, the Monitoring Officer of the host authority shall be 'Proper Officer' for the purposes of publishing the agendas, background papers and recording decisions. The historic official records of the EPB will pass to each host authority. The administrative costs of supporting the Board will be met equally by the constituent authorities, with each authority being responsible for receiving and paying any travel or subsistence claims from its own

members, or co-opted members representing that area.

8.2 A 'Lead Authority' will be appointed by a formal decision of the EPB to deliver the economic development functions delegated to the Board. This Lead Authority, may be the same as the Host Authority, or may be another constituent authority.

8.3 The functions of the Secretary shall be:

- a) to maintain a record of membership of the EPB and any sub-committees or advisory groups appointed;
- b) to summon meetings of the EPB or any sub-committees or advisory groups;
- c) to prepare and send out the agenda for meetings of the EPB or any subcommittees or advisory groups; in consultation with the Chairman and the Vice Chairman of the Board (or sub-committee/ advisory group);
- d) to keep a record of the proceedings of the EPB or any sub-committees or advisory groups, including those in attendance, declarations of interests and to publish the minutes;
- e) to take such administrative action as may be necessary to give effect to decisions of the EPB or any sub-committees or advisory groups, and;
- f) to perform such other functions as may be determined by the EPB from time to time.

9. Meetings

9.1 The EPB will meet no less than quarterly, unless the EPB formally decides otherwise.

9.2 Meetings will be held at such times, dates and places as may be notified to the members of the EPB by the Secretary, being such time, place and location as the EPB shall from time to time resolve. Meeting papers will be circulated five clear working days in advance of any meeting.

9.3 The Chairman may choose to accept or reject urgent items that are circulated in a shorter timescale or tabled at any meeting. Any such urgent items will be by reason of 'special circumstances' and will be specified in the minutes, as to the reason the Chairman is of the opinion that the item should be considered as a matter of urgency.

9.4 'Special circumstances' justifying an item being considered as a matter of urgency will relate to both why the decision could not be made at a meeting allowing proper time for inspection by the public as well as why the item or report could not have been available five clear days before the meeting.

9.5 Additional ad hoc meetings may be called by the Secretary, after consultation, where practicable, with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee (if one is appointed), in response to receipt of a request in writing, which request sets out an urgent item of business within the functions of the EPB, addressed to the Secretary:

- a) from and signed by two members of the EPB, or

b) from the Chief Executive of any of the constituent authorities.

9.6 The Secretary shall settle the agenda for any meeting of the EPB after consulting, where practicable, the Chairman or in their absence the Vice Chairman (if one is appointed); and shall incorporate in the agenda any items of business and any reports submitted by:

- a) the Chief Executive of any of the constituent authorities;
- b) the officers responsible for legal, governance, finance and economic development at any of the constituent authorities;
- c) any Member of the EPB.

9.7 The EPB shall, unless the person presiding at the meeting or the EPB determines otherwise in respect of that meeting, conduct its business in accordance with these procedure rules.

10. Access to information

10.1 Meetings of the EPB will be held in public except where confidential or exempt information, as defined in the Local Government Act 1972, is being discussed. Only members of the EPB and relevant advising officers from the constituent authorities and any person referred to in paragraph 11.2 below, will be permitted to be present for such items.

10.2 These rules do not affect any more specific rights to information contained elsewhere under the law.

10.3 The Secretary will ensure that the relevant legislation relating to access to information is complied with. Each constituent authority is to co-operate with the Secretary in fulfilling any requirements.

10.4 Any Freedom of Information Act requests received by the EPB should be directed to the relevant constituent authority for that authority to deal with in the usual way, taking account of the relevant legislation. Where the request relates to information held by two or more constituent authorities, they will liaise with each other before replying to the request.

11. Attendance at meetings

11.1 The Chairman may invite any person, whether a member or officer of one of the constituent authorities or a third party, to attend the meeting and speak on any matter before the EPB.

11.2 Where agenda items require independent experts or speakers, the officer or authority proposing the agenda item should indicate this to the Secretary and provide the Secretary with details of who is required to attend and in what capacity. The participation of independent experts or speakers in EPB meetings will be subject to the discretion of the Chairman.

12. Order of Business

12.1 Subject to paragraph 12.2, the order of business at each meeting of the EPB will be:

- i. Apologies for absence

- ii. Declarations of interests
- iii. Approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the last meeting
- iv. Matters set out in the agenda for the meeting which will clearly indicate which are key decisions and which are not and which items are subject to 'call in', in accordance with procedure rule 18.1.
- v. Matters on the agenda for the meeting which, in the opinion of the Secretary are likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public.

12.2 The person presiding at the meeting may vary the order of business at the meeting.

13. Codes of Conduct and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

13.1 Principal members of the EPB (and their substitute members) are governed by the provisions of their own Council's Codes and Protocols including the code of conduct for members and the rules on Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. Co-opted members are governed by the code of conduct for members of the 'Lead Authority'.

14. Minutes

14.1 There will be no discussion or motion made in respect of the minutes, except as to their accuracy. If no such question is raised or if it is raised then as soon as it has been disposed of, the Chairman shall sign the minutes.

15. Role of the Chairman

15.1 A Member wishing to speak shall address the Chairman and direct their comments to the question being discussed. The Chairman shall decide the order in which to take representations from members wishing to speak and shall decide all questions of order. His/her ruling upon all such questions or upon matters arising in debate shall be final and shall not be open to discussion.

15.2 The Chairman shall have the discretion to regulate the behaviour of all individuals present at the meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting, including excluding members of the press and public in the event of a disturbance.

16. Motions/amendments

16.1 A motion or amendment shall not be discussed unless it has been proposed and seconded.

When a motion is under debate no other motion shall be moved except the following:

- i. To amend the motion
- ii. To adjourn the meeting
- iii. To adjourn the debate or consideration of the item
- iv. To proceed to the next business
- v. That the question now be put
- vi. That a member be not further heard or do leave the meeting

vii. To exclude the press and public under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972.

17. Applications to Sub-Committees

17.1 These procedure rules shall apply to meetings of any sub-committees of the EPB.

18. Scrutiny of decisions

18.1 Decisions of the EPB which relate to the executive functions of a constituent authority will be subject to scrutiny and 'call-in' arrangements (or any other arrangements equivalent to 'call-in' that any constituent authority operating a committee system, may have). This would only apply where the decision is one which could have been made locally by that constituent Authority acting alone. No decision in this circumstance shall be implemented until the call-in period has either expired or if 'called-in' the matter concluded, in accordance with the call-in procedures of the relevant constituent Authority.

19. Winding up of the EPB

19.1 The EPB may be wound up immediately by a unanimous vote of all constituent authorities.

20. Amendment of these Procedure Rules

20.1 These Procedure Rules can only be amended by unanimous resolution of the EPB, following the consideration of advice from the Monitoring Officers of each of the constituent authorities.