

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

Lincolnshire Police and the

Lincolnshire Independent Advisory Group (IAG)





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1. Background

- 1.1** Lincolnshire Police and Lincolnshire Independent Advisory Group have formed this partnership to encourage the active involvement of people from diverse groups within the community to provide independent advice on the development and review of policing policy, procedure and practices across Lincolnshire.
- 1.2** It is an equal partnership for the mutual benefit of the Police, its partner agencies and communities across the County.

2. Partnership aims and objectives

- 2.1** The aim of this partnership is to provide for a number of individuals who are independent of the police and drawn from within the community who will provide feedback, information and advice to Lincolnshire Police [the Force] and to act as ‘critical friends’ in the delivery and development of effective policing across the county. The IAG’s role is not one of formal scrutiny but will serve to:

- 2.1.1** Ensure the policies, procedures and practices of the Force meet the strategic aims of the Equality, Diversity and Human Rights (EDHR) strategy.
- 2.1.2** Provide a safeguard against the Force disadvantaging any section of the community through lack of understanding, ignorance or mistaken beliefs¹.

- 2.2** Specific objectives of the partnership are:

- 2.2.1** to help the Force build insight into the needs, wants and assets of under-represented groups within the community in normal decision making processes.
- 2.2.2** to use this insight to shape service for the benefit of all communities and engender trust and confidence in policing.
- 2.2.3** to provide advice on the development of Force policy and strategy, including the conduct of major investigations and proposed operations.
- 2.2.4** to anticipate and advise on community responses to police actions.

3. Partnership framework and principles

- 3.1** The IAG is established to meet the expectations and requirements of the Force in supporting its endeavours to “empower and involve communities working to prevent and reduce harm”². To achieve this, a framework around which the IAG will be structured and operate (Appendix 1) will include the following principles:

- 3.1.1** Active engagement by Chief Officers and senior leadership with the IAG.
- 3.1.2** Timely and regular dialogue and feedback between the Force and IAG.
- 3.1.3** Ongoing evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of the IAG.

¹ Macpherson Report (1999)

² Distinctly Lincolnshire (2017)

3.2 In supporting the IAG and its members, the Force will commit to:

- 3.2.1** Understand the significance of the IAG and embed insights gained from members into the design and delivery of the Force's service and ways of working.
- 3.2.2** Be receptive to views (IAG members are not there to agree with the police and are encouraged to constructively challenge).
- 3.2.3** Listen to and act on advice given by IAG members and where this is not possible, explain why not.
- 3.2.4** Provide appropriate administrative and specialist support.
- 3.2.5** Ensure IAG members have the right level of security clearance, information and training necessary for them to fulfil their role effectively.
- 3.2.6** Raise the profile of the IAG within the Force and with external partners.
- 3.2.7** Act in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Policing

3.3 In supporting the work of Lincolnshire Police, IAG members will commit to:

- 3.3.1** Be present at/contribute to meetings, forums or consultations (as agreed).
- 3.3.2** Contribute by challenging the way the Force thinks and sharing its beliefs.
- 3.3.3** Attend training where applicable to the tasks/functions they are involved in.
- 3.3.4** Act in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Policing.

4. Membership and impact evaluation

4.1 Membership of the IAG should evolve to reflect local demography and changing circumstances which impact on policing so that the Group is made up of the best mix of people capable of being consulted on and influencing decisions on emerging topics or themes. Members should:

- 4.1.1** Have a good understanding of Police business and the needs, wants and assets of the communities they speak on behalf of.
- 4.1.2** Be motivated by a desire to improve services for all.
- 4.1.3** Be an effective communicator with an ability to contribute constructively to discussions.
- 4.1.4** Feel comfortable speaking out and capable of expressing views clearly.

4.2 Partners will commit to ongoing monitoring of the IAG with the aim of ensuring it remains effective and representative and is having the intended impact. Monitoring will be undertaken through an annual Impact Evaluation, overseen by a Strategic IAG (SIAG), which will include:

- 4.2.1** Input from across the IAG and Force to determine the impact and value of the IAG.
- 4.2.2** A review of the allocation of roles and allocations of individual IAG members and their effectiveness.

5. Designated partnership leads

5.1 Each partner will appoint a representative to lead on the work of the partnership.

5.2 The designated lead representative for each partner will be:

5.2.1 Lincolnshire Police:

5.2.2 IAG:

5.3 The partnership, including designated leads, will be reviewed annually by SIAG in conjunction with the Annual Impact and Evaluation.

6. Partnership governance and oversight

6.1 Governance structure is summarised at Appendix 2 ... [to be agreed]

7. Financial

7.1 No specific budgetary allocation will be made in respect of IAG activities. However, the Force commits to reimbursement of:

7.1.1 Individual IAG members reasonable travel and subsistence expenses

7.1.2 Other costs incurred in the performance or delivery of IAG tasks provided they have been pre-authorised by the Force designated lead.

8. Disclaimer

8.1 By signing this document or by participating in the Partnership, the partners are not committing to legally binding obligations. It is intended that the partners remain independent of each other and that their collaboration and use of the term ‘partner’ does not constitute the creation of a legal entity, nor authorise the entry into a commitment for or on behalf of each other. Moreover, it is agreed that where decisions are made during the course of the partnership which are based on or informed by advice or information provided, neither the IAG nor any individual member will be held accountable.

Signed on behalf of Lincolnshire Police	
.....	Date
Deputy Chief Constable	
Signed on behalf of Lincolnshire Independent Advisory Group	
.....	Date
IAG Chair	

IAG Structure



IAG Governance

Strategic IAG

- Contribute to the development and effectiveness of Force strategic priorities
- Oversight of the effectiveness and impact of the IAG
- Triannual

Neighbourhood Policing and Community Engagement Group

- Independent feedback, advice and critique of Neighbourhood Policing and community engagement
- Bi-monthly

Board and Committee Advisors

- Independent advice and critique
- Individuals may be allocated to more than one forum
- As required

Policy and proposals consultation

- Response to papers and proposals
- Mainly by correspondence, could be workshops
- Either cross IAG consultation or selected individuals/groups where specific knowledge or skills are desirable
- As required

Principles

- The model will meet Force expectations and requirements
- Consultation protocols including feedback and responsiveness will be agreed
- Appropriate administrative support will be provided by the IAG
- IAG membership will aim to reflect community diversity
- IAG model will ensure appropriate interaction at COG level
- IAG effectiveness and impact will be monitored
- IAG membership, roles and allocations will be reviewed annually
- IAG activities will be reflected through an annual report and conference

