

*NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANELS*



Good Practice Principles – Panels and Commissioners

What's Good

What Works

What Needs Close Attention

*WHAT'S GOOD*  
*SCRUTINY OR "CHALLENGE & SUPPORT"*

- ✓ What works for the Police also applies to the Fire & Rescue Service
- ✓ Panel member training New & Experienced - Induction and ongoing.
- ✓ PCC / Panel relationship - Respect & Understanding of Position
- ✓ Scrutinise what is important to residents - not necessarily the detail
- ✓ Challenge what the Precept will provide - not the budget number matrix
- ✓ Sound Policies in Place - Only works prior to any disagreement
  - Constitution - Panel Ownership
  - Terms of Reference - Panel Ownership
  - Good Practice or MOU - Shared Ownership
- ✓ New members guidance documents - LGA Policing & Fire Governance

## *WHAT WORKS*

### *SCRUTINY OR “CHALLENGE & SUPPORT”*

- ✓ Experienced members provide stability and collective memory
- ✓ Regular informal panel member sessions - not just pre-meetings
- ✓ New Members provide a fresh perspective
- ✓ Openness to new ideas - evaluate before adoption or rejection
- ✓ Early Commissioner Engagement with;
  - ❖ Police & Crime and Fire & Rescue Plans
  - ❖ Budget Outline and Precept Expectations
  - ❖ Reserve levels and how these are to be used
  - ❖ Integrated Risk Management Plan
- ✓ Attend PCC public forums - understand common concerns & trends
- ✓ Shared learning with other panels - regional and national

*WHAT NEEDS CLOSE ATTENTION  
SCRUTINY OR “CHALLENGE & SUPPORT”*

- ✓ PCC / Panel relationship - Trust and Openness, Hostility is counterproductive
- ✓ **Broken relationships - remedy must be a priority**
- ✓ The PCC decides - the Panel Challenges on non-operational matters
- ✓ Appropriate Challenge of Decision Logic
- ✓ Challenge the Commissioner - Not necessarily the CC or CFO
- ✓ Panel Support Officers - It can be isolating
- ✓ Panel Chairs and Commissioner informal meetings
- ✓ Party Politics - Challenge bias
- ✓ Remember plans need CC/CFO agreement before Panel approval

## *THANK YOU*

- If we are not meeting Panel needs then please tell me. - [chair.NAPFCP@gmail.com](mailto:chair.NAPFCP@gmail.com) or 07957804621
- If we are helping to make Panels more efficient then please tell everyone
- **CHALLENGE** the NAPFCP to **SUPPORT** Panels more effectively