Agenda item:

Dorset Police and Crime Panel





















3 June 2013
Chief Executive, Dorset County Council
Quarterly Reporting against the Police and Crime Plan
The panel is required to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other actions taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the his functions. One important dimension of this is the panel's scrutiny of the Commissioner's delivery of his Police and Crime Plan. Now that this has been published, the panel will need to direct its attention towards this duty.
The Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan came into effect in April 2013 and runs until 2017. Clearly it is too early for the panel to undertake significant or meaningful scrutiny of the plan or draw any conclusions about the Commissioner's success in delivering it at this point in time as the plan has only been live for just over 2 months.
As such, the panel needs to focus on the Commissioner's first progress report from the point of view of the report's format to ensure that future reports, which will contain fuller levels of data, are giving them the tools they need to effectively scrutinise the Commissioner's performance. The panel needs to be satisfied that the proposed format will provide a sufficiently clear means by which they can gauge the extent to which the plan is being delivered.
Panel members are also advised to consider the long term trend data as contextual information to inform their future scrutiny of police and crime data reported to them.
It has been agreed that quarterly reports against the Police and Crime Plan will routinely include a spotlight upon a particular area of interest or concern that the panel wishes to scrutinise in more depth. Members are asked to confirm which area they would like to be 'put under the spotlight' in the next report to the panel.

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	Members of the panel are reminded that scrutiny should be a supportive and constructive activity, carried out on behalf of Dorset's communities to enhance the Commissioner's performance.
Impact Assessment: How have the following contributed to the development of this report?*	Equalities Impact Assessment: It is important that all members are able to access and interpret the data provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner and his office. The progress report provided by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner aims to be accessible to all. Panel members are encouraged to say if any further adjustments to the report are needed.
	Use of Evidence: n/a
	Budget/Risk Assessment: There are strategic, reputational and financial risks if the panel fails to properly scrutinise the Commissioner's delivery of his Police and Crime Plan.
Recommendation	That the panel:
	 Make recommendations with regards to the proposed format and content of Commissioner's reports to the panel on progress against the Police and Crime Plan. Note the long term data trends in crime data as a baseline for interpreting future data. Suggest a specific area of interest or scrutiny to feature as the 'under the spotlight' item in the next report against the Police and Crime Plan.
Reason for Recommendation	To ensure the panel meets its duties to scrutinise decisions made, or other actions taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.
Appendices	None
Background Papers	Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act.
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