



POLICE & CRIME PANEL – 6 FEBRUARY 2014

DORSET POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2013/17 – ANNUAL REFRESH

REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

PURPOSE OF THE PAPER

This paper is intended to update members of the Police and Crime Panel on the refresh of the Police and Crime Plan 2013/17 for the 2014/15 financial year.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Police and Crime Plans are a statutory requirement for all police force areas as defined in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. They must be issued as soon as practicable after the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) takes office and cover the period up to the end of the financial year in which the next Police and Crime Commissioner election is expected to take place.
- 1.2 The Police and Crime Plan was presented to the Panel on 7 February 2013 for their consideration and recommendations. Feedback from Panel members was incorporated into the final four year Plan which was published on 28 March 2013.
- 1.3 By way of context, the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires PCC's to hold their Chief Constables to account for the operational delivery of policing and secure and maintain efficient and effective local policing services. How they plan to do this, the resources they will make available to the police and others and what the PCC's local objectives and priorities will be, are the subject of the Police and Crime Plan.
- 1.4 Quarterly performance reports are submitted to the Panel on performance and progress against the Police and Crime Plan. The statutory Annual Report, which will be presented to the Panel in June 2014, will provide a detailed review of the first year of the Plan (financial year 2013/14).

2. PLAN REFRESH FOR 2014/15 AND CONTEXTUALISATION OF ACTIVITY

- 2.1 The Police and Crime Plan is a four year Plan, covering the duration of the Commissioner's term of office and beyond (2013-2017). Under the terms of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the PCC is required to keep the Plan under review and to report any variations to the Plan to the Police and Crime Panel. Much can change year-on-year, particularly given the short window provided to produce the Plan following the election in November 2012. The Plan is a living document that is at the heart of delivery. It is therefore considered important to review the Plan annually in order to review progress against the priorities and to update any contextual information.
- 2.2 The established structure and content of the Plan, including the six key priorities at its heart, remain unchanged. This report summarises the draft amendments and updates made to the Plan for 2014/15. A copy of the full draft document is also attached at Appendix A for reference. The final version of the refreshed Plan will be published in April 2014, which will incorporate feedback from the Panel and further editorial changes.

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2.3 Importantly, the revisions to the Plan seek to contextualise all that the PCC is involved in so that the six priorities drive the focus for scrutiny, commissioning, influencing and delivery. For example, the scoping of a strategic alliance with Devon and Cornwall Police is being explored to safeguard locally delivered Neighbourhood Policing within these difficult financial times, therefore the PCC is minded to place this under Priority 5. Another example would be the extensive work undertaken by the PCC around tackling those issues relating to mental health and the criminal justice system, placed under Priority 2 to reflect the vulnerability and risk of harm to those in crisis through mental health issues. There are numerous other examples which will be cross-referenced across the priorities to increase transparency of the work underway.

2.4 Supporting measures and outcomes have also been enhanced to ensure more appropriate relevance and to avoid duplication.

3. SUMMARY OF CHANGES

3.1 The opening sections of the Plan, including the PCCs vision, values and key priorities remain unchanged and are the key drivers in informing work during the term of office. The introduction will be updated to reflect the position 18 months into the first term of office, rather than the context of the first few months after the election.

3.2 Under Priority 1, as with all of the priorities where appropriate, key facts have been updated. There is also a focus on the progress that has been made so far, particularly in relation to the establishment and launch of the Victims Bureau. The introduction of PCC Victims Forums has also been mentioned, with feedback from these Forums to be incorporated into the final refresh document. The PCCs support for Early Intervention initiatives locally and his drive for Dorset Police to increase the amount of crime that is resolved, is also highlighted.

3.3 Updates in relation to Priority 2 focus on a number of key strands of the PCCs work, including mental health, safeguarding, missing people, alcohol harm reduction and road safety. The PCC is particularly encouraged by the work around mental health that is ongoing both nationally and locally – in Dorset, pilot projects will see the introduction of a street triage service and the further development of liaison and diversion initiatives. Work remains ongoing to establish both a Pan Dorset strategic management system and a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to help protect particularly vulnerable members of the community. The roll-out of the Community Speedwatch initiative which contributes to the road safety element of this priority is also referenced.

3.4 The supporting text for Priority 3 has been updated to include reference to the recently launched National Crime Agency (NCA) and particularly their work in relation to cyber crime. The PCC is also seeking to introduce a locally focused cyber crime awareness campaign to ensure that the public are better placed to protect themselves from such threats. There is also reference made to the threat caused by human trafficking and child sexual exploitation and the PCCs intention to work closely with all relevant partners to ensure that warning signs are identified at the earliest opportunity and appropriate follow up measures taken.

3.5 Priority 4 has been updated to reflect on the work underway to build on successful Restorative Justice approaches in Dorset, particularly with young people, and explains the PCCs intention to expand this to adult offenders where appropriate. Further updates will be made in due course once more information and clarity is known around the governments far-reaching Transforming Rehabilitation reform programme.

3.6 Under Priority 5, the encouraging improvements in victim satisfaction that have been achieved in recent months are mentioned to set the context for the ambition to further improve the victim experience of the criminal justice system. The Victims Bureau referred to under Priority 1 will also play a key role in further improving satisfaction with the police response to those individuals who have unfortunately become a victim of crime. To contextualise further activity within Priority 5, the

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PCC and Chief Constable are determined to consider public confidence and the relationship with satisfaction. For example, the introduction of Body Worn Video (BWV) for frontline officers is one measure that has been driven by a shared desire to improve the securing of evidence for convictions of domestic abuse and public place violence, whilst strengthening public confidence in the police complaint process.

- 3.7 Under Priority 6 the Plan has been updated on a number of relevant issues, including the recruitment of police officers, Special Constables and volunteers; the police response to vehicle crime; improvements to the 101 non-emergency telephone service following public concerns; securing the future of the Dorset Police Marine Section; the 25 annual public PCC Forums that have been introduced to enable the PCC to engage effectively with local people; and the review of Dorset Police's approach to rural crime instigated by the PCC.
- 3.8 The remainder of the Plan has been brought up to date where possible. A review of the internal PCC and Force Governance Structure is currently in process and changes to be introduced for April 2014 will be reflected within the Plan once these have been finalised. The sections relating to emerging threats and pre-election PCC candidate pledges have now been removed as these issues have been mainstreamed within the six key priorities as part of the determined drive to ensure that the Plan steers all activity.

4. SUPPORTING MEASURES AND INDICATORS

- 4.1 Alongside an update of the text of the Plan it is considered appropriate to also review the associated measures and indicators to ensure that these remain fit for purpose in monitoring progress and against the key priorities. The following paragraphs highlight the changes that have been made, along with the rationale behind these decisions.

Priority 1 – Reduce the number of victims of crime and anti-social behaviour

- 4.2 The outcome relating to improved victim satisfaction was previously duplicated here and under Priority 5. It has therefore now been removed from this priority but remains within Priority 5. The outcome relating to the establishment of a Victims Bureau has also been removed as this has now been achieved - the Bureau launched in November 2013.
- 4.3 New outcomes added for this priority relate to reducing the volume of crime and ASB; reducing repeat victimization; and the PCCs target for positive outcomes over the course of the Plan - a third of crimes resolved.
- 4.4 In terms of measures, the 'percentage of people who agree that the police are dealing with community priorities' has been moved to Priority 6 as it is more relevant to that priority. A 'positive outcome rate for crime' measure has been added to complement the outcome of improving the proportion of all offences that are resolved.

Priority 2 – Reduce the number of people seriously harmed in Dorset

- 4.5 The outcome relating to reducing reoffending rates was previously duplicated here and under Priority 4. It has therefore now been removed from this priority.
- 4.6 Two measures have been added. The first measure is the 'number of public place violent crimes' which complements that of alcohol related violent crimes but, by excluding domestic offences, provides a better indication of the levels of violence taking place in public. The second relates to the 'number of domestic abuse crimes', which has been added alongside the existing measure of the number of domestic abuse incidents, in order to monitor all levels of domestic abuse.

Priority 3 – Help protect the public from serious threats (local, regional and national) to their safety including organised crime and terrorism

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- 4.7 The outcome relating to communities being better informed and engaged in reducing risk has been amended to include 'and partners' given the emphasis on partnership working required to tackle terrorism and organised crime.
- 4.8 In terms of measures, those relating to the number of drug related most serious violent crime, kidnaps and aggravated burglaries have been removed as processes have since been developed which allow for more suitable measures of organised criminality to be collected. As a result, the measure 'number of Organised Criminal Groups (OCGs) that have been disrupted' has been added, which is the national standard for measuring police activity in tackling organised criminality. The measure 'collective number of years that OCG members have been sentenced to' has also been added, giving an indication of the prison sentences received by organised criminals operating in Dorset.

Priority 4 – Reduce Reoffending

- 4.9 The outcomes for this priority remain unchanged.
- 4.10 In terms of measuring the effectiveness of mentoring offenders, there are many different agencies involved in this work and it has therefore not been possible to collate all the data from these agencies. The measures relating to the 'percentage of high risk offenders being mentored' and 'reoffending rate of mentored offenders' have therefore been removed. In their place, a measure has been added showing the 'number of high risk offenders being managed through Integrated Offender Management (IOM)' Additionally, the measure 'number of high risk offenders brought to justice' has also been included to show how many serious offenders are being held to account for their criminal activities.

Priority 5 - Increase people's satisfaction with policing in Dorset

- 4.11 The outcomes for this priority remain unchanged.
- 4.12 The 'visibility of frontline policing' measure has been removed. There is now a view nationally that, in the context of reducing budgets, focus has shifted away from measuring simple visibility to focusing on the effectiveness of any police activity.

Priority 6 - Support neighbourhood policing that is appropriate for both rural and urban communities in Dorset

- 4.13 The outcome 'fewer victims of crime and ASB' was previously duplicated here and under Priority 1. It has therefore been removed from this priority. The outcome of 'fewer repeat victims' has also been moved to Priority 1 where it sits more appropriately. The outcome relating to 'improved progress updates to the public' was previously duplicated here and under Priority 5 and has therefore been removed from this priority. Similarly, the measures relating to the number of crimes and ASB incidents recorded have been removed as these were duplicated from Priority 1.
- 4.14 Given that measures already existed under this priority in relation to numbers of Special Constables and Volunteers, an associated outcome has now been added to reflect the PCC's desire to increase both the actual numbers of Specials and Volunteers and the number of hours worked by Specials. A new outcome relating to 'increased agreement that local community priorities are being dealt with' has also been added.

5. BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2014/15

- 5.1 The budget and precept proposal for Dorset Police is a separate item for discussion and consideration on the meeting agenda. Once this has been agreed, the financial information contained within the Plan will be updated accordingly.

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6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 In conclusion, this refreshed Police and Crime Plan 2013/17 that was supported by the Panel in February 2013 continues to describe the activity that will take place throughout the PCCs term in office. It lays out the strategic objectives and key priorities alongside the financial and other resources that will be provided to the Chief Constable to achieve them. It also shows how performance against the priorities will be monitored to enable the PCC, on behalf of the public, to hold the Chief Constable to account for operational policing and ensure that the highest standards of local policing are consistently delivered.
- 6.2 The Plan also continues to describe how the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) will ensure better coordination between Dorset Police and other criminal justice and community safety partners to improve outcomes for the whole community of Dorset. It remains informed by a comprehensive understanding of local needs and the views of the public, partners, other stakeholders and victims. Key achievements and areas of progress are reflected in the update, alongside any wider developments or changes in context since the Plan was first developed and published.
- 6.3 The PCC welcomes any feedback from the Panel prior to publication of the refreshed Plan in April 2014. The OPCC will distribute a final draft to Panel members by the end of February to allow for further comments to be incorporated prior to publication of the refreshed Police and Crime Plan 2013/17 in April 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Panel is asked to note the updates made to the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2013/17 summarised in this report.

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