



AGENDA NO: 8

POLICE & CRIME PANEL – 5 FEBRUARY 2015

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 2015/16 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 2015/16 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. 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 2015/16. 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 at the end of April 2015, which will incorporate updated year-end performance data, feedback from the Panel and further editorial changes.

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- 2.3 It is also important to note that the plan is the overarching framework under which a significant amount of non-specified activity takes place, the plans for which are under constant review, and which include lobbying, influencing and responding and adapting to emerging issues from a public or national direction.

3. SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- 3.1 The refreshed Plan still remains a draft working document at this stage, but a summary of the key proposed changes are as follows:

Reversal of Priorities 1 and 2 within the Plan

- 3.2 Whilst it was never intended for the six key priorities within the Plan to be listed in any preferential order, it was felt that the previous format of having the priority to “reduce the number of victims of crime and anti-social behaviour” listed ahead of the priority to “reduce the number of people seriously harmed in Dorset” may be viewed negatively, particularly following the number of high profile national issues that have arisen in the last 12 months (particularly around CSE). These two priorities have therefore been reversed for the 2015/16 update.

Introduction

- 3.3 An updated introduction has been drafted and included in the Plan, but will be reviewed and finalised towards the end of the process.

Priority 1: Reducing the number of people seriously harmed in Dorset

- 3.4 This section of the Plan has been updated to reflect developments and investment around safeguarding, particularly Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), and also now includes specific standalone paragraphs in relation to Domestic Abuse, Hate Crime and Public Place Violence. Previous specific headings on Missing People and Alcohol Harm Reduction have been removed but relevant content remains in place within the new headings.
- 3.5 Specific reference has been made to the PCC’s letter to the Chief Constable following events in Rotherham and the Chief Constable’s response on Dorset Police’s approach to tackling CSE.
- 3.6 The section on Mental Health has also been amended to reflect the PCC’s specific work, both locally and nationally, in supporting victims of crime with Severe Mental Illness (SMI) and the aspiration for enhanced victim services and the liaison and diversion scheme for offenders to work more closely together.
- 3.7 The section relating to road safety has been updated to include reference to the Road Death Overview Panel (RDOP) and the PCC’s request for a review of mobile camera enforcement sites.

Priority 2: Reduce the number of victims of crime and anti-social behaviour

- 3.8 A key update for this priority is the enactment of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and, specifically, the introduction of the Community Trigger and Community Remedy. The ongoing work to support victims has also been updated.
- 3.9 Updates relating to victims services have been made, including the award of the victim support contract and the success of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in securing £300k of additional funding from the Ministry of Justice for additional pilot work around “cope and recover” services. Reference is also made to the street sex outreach worker employed by Bournemouth Borough Council and part-funded by the PCC.

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

- 3.10 New paragraphs have been added to include specific reference to Counter Terrorism and Civil Contingencies. The previous reference to CSE under this priority has been removed given the focus on Safeguarding within Priority 1.
- 3.11 An update on Human Trafficking will be added following the most recent meeting of the Protecting Vulnerable People Board, held in January 2015.

Priority 4: Reducing Reoffending

- 3.12 Updates for this priority focus on the Transforming Rehabilitation agenda and the role of the Restorative Justice Coordinator within the OPCC, funded by specific Ministry of Justice grant.

Priority 5: Increase people's satisfaction with policing and the criminal justice system in Dorset.

- 3.13 References to specific issues that do/may have an impact on public confidence have been added, including Enquiry Offices; Gypsies & Traveller encampments; Smarter Systems/mobile data; Stop and Search; Use of Force; and Complaints Monitoring. These are aimed to reflect areas where the PCC has a direct scrutiny role or has intervened on issues raised as concerns by the public.
- 3.14 The measure relating to recorded complaints has also been changed to reflect IPCC key indicators, rather than focusing on reducing recorded complaints.

Priority 6: Support neighbourhood policing that is appropriate for both rural and urban communities

- 3.15 Information relating to officer recruitment and the Special Constabulary has been updated. A specific paragraph on Business Crime has also been added. The reference to Strategic Alliance was previously included under Priority 5 but has now been considered to sit more appropriately under Priority 6. However, given that SA is also referred to later in the Plan (within the "Opportunities for cross-agency joint working and collaboration" section) there may be a case for removing this completely from Priority 6.

How the Commissioner will monitor performance and hold the Chief Constable to account for operation delivery

- 3.16 Specific references to the Policing Protocol, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) and the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) have been added.

Strategy for engagement with victims, communities and partners

- 3.17 Updated to reflect previous recognition by CoPaCC of the engagement work undertaken by the OPCC and the 'Community Days' approach that has now been adopted, along with the PCC's continued ambition to further improve his engagement activity and reach among local communities.

Opportunities for cross-agency joint working and collaboration

- 3.18 Updates in relation to Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) and the Dorset Criminal Justice Board (DCJB) locally have been included in this part of the Plan. The Strategic Alliance section has also been expanded slightly to provide greater information about the programme.
- 3.19 An update on the OPCC approach to commissioning, the Safer Dorset Fund, and the additional funding secured during 2014/15 have also been added.

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Finance and Resources

- 3.20 This section will need to be completely reviewed and this will be carried out once the budget and precept for 2015/16 has been finalised following the Panel meeting on 5 February 2015.

4. SUPPORTING MEASURES AND INDICATORS

- 4.1 No changes are proposed to the associated measures and indicators supporting the Police and Crime Plan.

5. BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2015/16

- 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.

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 OPCC will play an active role in enhancing coordination between Dorset Police and other criminal justice and community safety partners to improve outcomes for the whole community of Dorset. The Plan 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 by the end of February 2015 via Mr Andy Frost of Dorset County Council prior to final publication of the refreshed Plan at the end of April 2015. A copy of the final update will also be circulated to Panel members for their reference.

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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