

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 11
30 JULY 2014	Public Report

Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Contact Officer(s) – Dorothy Gregson

Contact Details – cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk 0300 333 3456

OBJECTIVE TWO – DELIVER POLICING WITHIN THE AVAILABLE BUDGET

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Police and Crime Panel (the “Panel”) on the progress made towards Objective Two of the Police and Crime Plan (the “Plan”) – Deliver Policing within the Available Budget.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the report.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 When I took office my intention was for evolution of the former Police Authority’s Local Policing Plan rather than a revolutionary approach and starting from scratch. I have treated the Plan as a ‘live’ document; some aspects of the Plan are still relevant after 18 months and other aspects have been subject to variations. These variations will continue as required.

- 3.2 I have worked to deliver the actions and outcomes specified in the Plan and to deliver my Pledges. I have never been one for targets and have always gone to great lengths not to set any. The Pledges in my Plan are based on what the public have flagged up to me and what they would like to see from Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the “Constabulary”). The overall goal is to reduce crime and improve public confidence.

4. PLEDGE – VISIBLE POLICING

- 4.1 Protecting the front line has remained a priority and we look to do that through innovation as well as collaboration. Cambridgeshire’s innovative root and branch response to the financial challenges we face, Programme Metis, has taken centre stage during the past year and we have been pleased to welcome on board Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Use of modern technology will greatly reduce the time needed to process paperwork and allow the Constabulary to provide visible policing, through allowing officers to spend more time in the community.

- 4.2 I have supported Programme Metis to be established in Cambridgeshire and secured £2m of Home Office Innovation Fund money to roll the programme out to collaboration partners Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. Metis is a root and branch redesign of all force systems, processes and structures which focuses on utilising technology to release officers’ time, allowing them to spend more hours out in their communities. The direction of travel is to reduce the need for officers to return to fixed bases, increasing their availability through the effective use of technology including mobile data devices. The ultimate aim is to allow the public easier contact with the police with the organisation becoming paperless, enabling more efficient sharing of

information across the criminal justice system.

- 4.3 Programme Metis builds on and will help integrate the many other areas of business that the three police and crime commissioners and chief constables are either already, or planning to, collaborate on.
- 4.4 The Chief Constable's leadership of Programme Metis ('Commissioner's Pledges') is one of two interlinked change programmes aimed at improving service efficiency and finding the millions of pounds necessary to balance the budget in the coming years. The scale of this change cannot be underestimated.
- 4.5 As at June 320 mobile working solutions devices have been deployed to frontline operational officers, which has resulted in a headline saving of 65 minutes per officer per day for those on the slate pilot.

5. PLEDGE – INCREASED COLLABORATIVE WORKING

- 5.1 I have continued to lead and support further collaboration opportunities, which will help deliver better services and close the funding gap. Cambridgeshire forms part of a three-way Strategic Alliance with Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. All parties have agreed to work together to identify how collaboration between them can be dramatically increased to include 'Operational Support' and 'Organisational Support' services which include functions such as HR, fleet, ICT, custody and call handling. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the three police and crime commissioners and chief constables and work is progressing rapidly to develop business cases for each of the areas. Cambridgeshire's progress on collaboration, including opportunities to explore 'blue light' collaboration, was something I gave evidence on to the Home Affairs Select Committee and was subsequently highlighted in their report.
- 5.2 I have signed agreements to collaboration on Cameras, Tickets and Collisions; Counter Terrorism; Regional Disaster Victim Identification Unit and Victims and an agreement to begin work on developing business cases to collaborate fully on finance, fleet, estates and facilities, legal services, human resources, training, ICT, firearms licensing, public contact centres, control rooms, custody and crime recording.
- 5.3 As a result of a lot of hard work being put into developing common understanding between the constabularies and the police and crime commissioners, I have agreed to the establishment of the collaboration change team which is now in place to move forward the collaborative work. The first fruits of this has recently to move the ICT function forward across the 3 forces

6. MEASURES OF SUCCESS

6.1 MANAGE SERVICES WITHIN THE APPROVED BUDGET FOR 2013/14 OF £131.579M

- 6.1.1 Services were managed within budget during the financial year and the effective usage of resources during the financial year meant a planned underspend of £3.4m was achieved. This will be used to smooth the impact of future funding reductions. This
- 6.1.2 Additional funding was also successfully secured during 2013/14 from the Home Office to support Metis (as mentioned in para 4.2) and from the Ministry of Justice to build victims services capability and capacity.

6.2 DEMONSTRATE PROGRESS TOWARD MAKING BUDGET SAVINGS OF £7.3 M IN THE PERIOD TO 2016/17

- 6.2.1 Savings of £3.7m were identified in the 2013/14 budget and a further £4.9m in the 2014/15 budget. This is a total of £8.6m over 2 years. Despite this, the government has continued with its austerity programme and further reductions in funding have been predicted until at least 2017/18. This means that as a Police and Crime Commissioner, in conjunction with the Constabulary have to identify a further £12.2m of savings.
- 6.2.2 I have already set the path for the identification of these savings through the approval of programmes such as metis, which enables the constabulary to operate with greater efficiency and free up officer time through the provision of effective technology.

7. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 7.1 Police and Crime Plan <http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/Cambridgeshire-Police-and-Crime-Plan-10-June-2014.pdf>

Medium Term Financial Plan 2104/15 – 2017/18 <http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/MTFP-2014-18-FINAL.pdf>

This page is intentionally left blank