

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No. 9
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Report of the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner

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CYBERCRIME

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Police and Crime Panel (“the Panel”) with an update on the work that is being undertaken to prevent and deal with cybercrime within Cambridgeshire.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1. To note the report.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

3.1 Item 6 – To review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner’s functions.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 The Policing Protocol Order 2011 (“the Protocol”) sets out some key guiding principles for all Police and Crime Commissioners, Chief Constables and Police and Crime Panels.

4.2 Under the Protocol, the Police and Crime Commissioner (“the Commissioner”) has the legal power to scrutinise, support and challenge the overall performance of Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the “Constabulary”) and hold the Chief Constable to account for the performance of the Constabulary’s officers and staff. The Protocol is clear that the Commissioner must not fetter the operational independence of the Constabulary and the Chief Constable. Preventing and tackling reported offences of cybercrime is an operational matter.

4.3 In turn, the Protocol enables the Panel to scrutinise the Commissioner in the exercise of his statutory functions, but does not provide for the Panel to scrutinise the Chief Constable. However, in the spirit of the Protocol to enhance policing for local communities, the Commissioner has provided this report which predominately relates to the actions of the Constabulary.

5. CYBERCRIME

5.1 The nature of large volume crime is changing as criminals continue to exploit technological advances, operating across police force, national and international boundaries. Cybercrime is the changing face of crime and often goes unreported.

5.2 There are many types of cybercrime. Pure cybercrimes, or cyber-dependent crimes are those where a criminal act can only be committed through the use of computers or other information communication technological (ICT) devices. Cyber-enabled crimes are those that can be

committed without ICT devices, but are changed by the use of ICT in terms of scale and reach. These can comprise a wide range of criminal activities, including, online fraud, online theft, online sexual offending and where the devices are used to organise or arrange crimes.

- 5.3 As the capability to deal with cybercrime and public awareness increases there is likely to be an impact on levels of recorded crime. Work is underway nationally to build a better understanding of the nature of the problem, how it is changing and evolving.

6. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S RESPONSE TO CYBERCRIME

- 6.1 Tackling cybercrime is a national priority, and as such large scale cyber incidents is one of the six national threats that police forces must prepare for as set out by the Home Secretary in The Strategic Policing Requirement. Equally, it is a priority of both the Commissioner and the Constabulary and is reflected in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

- 6.2 The Commissioner has held the Chief Constable to account for the Constabulary's work on tackling cybercrime through requesting and considering a paper to his Business Co-ordination Board in March 2015 which set out the work that the Constabulary had undertaken and their future work to tackle cybercrime. Through the Commissioner's Performance Working Group he is able to scrutinise the Constabulary's performance management to tackle crime including cybercrime.

- 6.3 In October 2015, the Commissioner met with senior officers from the Constabulary's Fraud and Cyber Investigation Unit ("the Unit"). The Commissioner explored the Unit's capability to deal with cybercrime including, their capacity, available resources, training and funding.

- 6.4 The information presented in this paper is drawn from the above work.

7. CAMBRIDGESHIRE CONSTABULARY'S RESPONSE TO CYBERCRIME

- 7.1 The Constabulary's obligations to meet The Strategic Policing Requirement with respect to cybercrime are met through a blend of collaborative arrangements in conjunction with local resources. Whilst many threats can be tackled by individual police forces, cybercrime requires a coordinated or aggregated response in which resources are brought together from a number of police forces. These are either collaboratively with national agencies or through national arrangements to ensure such threats are tackled effectively.

- 7.2 The National Crime Agency is responsible for leading the overall response to cybercrime. Across the region, forces and the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit (ERSOU) are developing their capability. Within this context, the Constabulary is developing its own cybercrime capability to ensure it is able to prevent and respond to cybercrime affecting victims, both individuals and businesses, across the county. In terms of prevention, the Constabulary has been focusing on Cambridgeshire businesses and residents who are most likely to become victims of cybercrime and providing online safety advice.

- 7.3 In July 2014 the Constabulary's Force Executive Board supported 'a Strategy for Change' with regard to the development of the Constabulary's cybercrime capability based on the 4P Model.

- **PREVENT** ... our communities from becoming victims of Cybercrime
- **PROTECT** ... vulnerable groups, working in partnership to reduce risk
- **PREPARE** ... our staff and our response to meet the demand
- **PURSUE** ... those engaged in Cybercrime

- 7.4 In addition there was support for:

- The Establishment of the Cybercrime Steering Group
- Roll out of the National Centre for Applied Learning Technologies cybercrime Training
- Recruitment strategy to enhance 'technical skills' capability
- The roll out of Mainstream cybercrime training
- Establishment of a cybercrime unit.

- 7.5 In February 2015, the Constabulary established the Unit, which was officially launched in September 2015. The Unit consists of two teams: a fraud investigation team and a cyber investigation team.
- 7.6 The Unit provides a specialist response in recognition of how technology has changed the way crimes are committed and investigated and complements and builds on the existing fraud investigation capability, recognising the intrinsic links between the two. The Unit works closely with ERSOU to investigate cyber-dependant crimes, as well as serious and/or complex cyber-enabled crimes, and provide advice or assistance in other cyber and fraud related matters.
- 7.7 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) recent report 'PEEL: Police efficiency 2015 – An inspection of Cambridgeshire Constabulary' noted that the Constabulary has targeted extra resources at priority areas such as cybercrime

8. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 8.1 Over 220 police officers have now received cybercrime training, more than any other police force in the country. This has been funded, in part, by the College of Policing.
- 8.2 The Constabulary has undertaken awareness raising targeting businesses and residents. The Constabulary's eCops alert system sends out information and updates regarding crime, many of which relate to cybercrime. Information and advice is available on the Constabulary's website along with sign-posting to organisations and charities that incidents or concerns can be reported to or where support for victims can be provided.
- 8.3 The Constabulary has appointed a Cyber Security Adviser to promote links and initiatives with Local Education Authorities, government departments, businesses, schools and charities and will contribute towards the 'Prevent', 'Prepare' and 'Protect' strands for cyber delivery.
- 8.4 The Constabulary has worked with students from Peterborough Regional College to produce a short film about cyber bullying. The film contains a scenario, created and acted out by the students, and one-to-one interviews with them sharing their views and personal experiences. The aim of creating the video is to demonstrate to young people the risks around sharing personal images online and the effects cyber bullying can have on individuals.
- 8.5 The Commissioner's Outreach Workers already have well established links with partner organisations and voluntary organisations across the county, such as schools, universities, youth groups, elderly people's groups and disability organisations. They currently work with schools and youth groups to find out what the concerns are of young people in their community. Cyber safety and cyber bullying is a particular concern that they raise. In addition they work with local policing teams to encourage the delivery of 'staff briefings' to secondary school staff regarding cyber security and other relevant key priority messages, such as raising the awareness of the support that the Constabulary's Victims' Hub can provide.
- 8.6 They also liaise with the local community safety officers who deliver much of the personal safety and security education across each of their districts. The Outreach Workers will be liaising with the newly appointed Cybercrime Security Advisor.

9. SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS

- 9.1 With the establishment of the Victims' Hub, the Constabulary has a responsibility to provide support to victims of crime. Victims are supported emotionally over the telephone and also signposted to appropriate agencies and support mechanisms such as Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre and Action Fraud. Since the Victims' Hub opened in October 2014 they have received over 80 cases which have the "Online Crime" marker.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The Strategic Policing Requirement, Home Office, March 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategic-policing-requirement>

Police and Crime Plan 2013-16, Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner

<http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/15-09-04-Cambridgeshire-Police-and-Crime-Plan.pdf>

Computer Enabled Crime and Cybercrime, Business Co-ordination Board, March 2015

<http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/15-03-24-BCB-Agenda-Item-14.0-Computer-Enabled-Crime-and-Cyber-Crime.pdf>

'PEEL: Police efficiency 2015 - An inspection of Cambridgeshire Constabulary' HMIC, October 2015

<http://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmic/wp-content/uploads/cambridgeshire-police-efficiency-2015.pdf>