

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL	Agenda Item No.11
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Report of Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner

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DELIVERY OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER’S POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2021-24 – PROGRESS REPORT

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Police and Crime Panel (the “Panel”) on the approach for successfully delivering the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) Police and Crime Plan 2021-24 (the “Plan”).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Panel is recommended to note the contents of this report.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

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

Item 8 – To support the effective exercise of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 The Panel’s role is to scrutinise and support the Commissioner in the exercise of his statutory functions. Key to this is the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024. This Plan was developed following extensive consultation, endorsed by the Panel in November 2021 and published on 29th November 2021. There have been no changes to the Plan since publication.

- 4.2 The Commissioner's Plan is structured around five themes, developed to tackle crime and keep communities safe. Those themes are;
- Putting Communities First
 - Crime Prevention
 - Supporting Victims and Witnesses
 - Ethical Policing
 - Robust Enforcement

Within the Plan each theme includes a summary of what key activities will be undertaken and delivered during the lifetime of the Plan.

- 4.3 Key deliverables were developed and continue to be developed, designed to progress each of the Commissioner's five themes. Other activities developed to support the effective and efficient running of the Commissioner Office were also incorporated into the Delivery Plan. The Delivery Plan is the mechanism by which shared outputs and outcomes will enable all agencies and partners to support tackling crime and keeping communities safe.
- 4.4 Much of the work contained within the Delivery Plan involves external partners and stakeholders. There is an ongoing risk-based approach to scope and prioritise deliverables. There are interdependencies between activities and upon completion, further work can be identified as being needed. As such timescales for delivery may change over time.
- 4.5 To enable the Panel to scrutinise and support the Commissioner, members asked the Commissioner for an indication of future activity that will be undertaken to deliver the Plan. In accordance with this request, key deliverables, and activities of note as well as completed and new key deliverables for each theme are detailed in Section 5. The key deliverables presented cover activity up to the point of the 2024 Police & Crime Commissioner elections, currently scheduled to take place in May 2024.
- 4.6 It was agreed at the outset that a comprehensive update to the Panel against the delivery of the Plan will be provided, bi-annually (See 6.2 below). This report provides an additional interim progress report on the delivery of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, to compliment the Annual Report 2022/23.

5. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2021-24 THEMES

5.1 Putting Communities First – Priorities for Action

What we will do: We will ensure the police and other partners are listening to the public and working with them to act on their concerns and supporting them to assist themselves. From initial contact to rural and business crime, anti-social behaviour, hate crime and speeding.

Completed deliverables / activities of note:

- The Casually Reduction Officer has supported partners to engage with schools and young people across the county to raise awareness of road safety matters and the work of the Vision Zero Partnership. In the past six months they have;
 - Completed over 100 visits to Schools, Colleges and Businesses across the county, resulting in education through face-to-face engagements of around 5500 young people through road safety workshops and public events for young people.
 - Other engagement activity includes Local Radio Interviews, social media posts to push road safety messages. These have included interviews with BBC which was an online report, several local radio interviews with HEART FM, Black Cat Radio and Huntingdon Community Radio.
 - We will continue to support the county's Vision Zero Partnership

Current Deliverables

- The Implementation of a new and accessible website as part of the Single Online Home (SOH)

Update: In July 2022, the OPCC commenced the development of a new and more accessible website as part of a TriForce project to improve digital accessibility. Support is provided by the national Single Online Home (SOH) project team. It is intended to provide nationally consistent, locally branded services to enhance the user-experience. It is also intended to free up time and budgets, reduce administration and improve efficiency. The website was expected to go live in Q1 2023/24. Technical and migration issues set back the go live date to 12 July 2023.

- Problem Solving Local Issues of Concern

Update: All six CSPs now have the capacity in place to co-ordinate problem solving work to tackle local issues that matter to our communities. Four areas took up the opportunity for additional capacity through OPCC funding for problem solving posts. Support, best practice sharing and grant monitoring is ongoing. These posts are

adding value and now well embedded, with many examples of issues they are dealing with. Notable is being able to engage more directly with the public and resolve issues earlier than in the past, before they escalate. They are also generating many bids into the Commissioner's Safer Communities Fund to tackle local issues of concern, from CCTV and other preventative measures in hot spot areas, to fly tipping clearance and prevention. They have also bids for the Commissioner's Youth Fund where diversionary activity has The OPCC has also provided input on this partnership problem solving capacity for a number of recent training sessions for police. National ASB week has provided a focus on communications activity to promote this partnership work.

- **Review of community remedy framework and role in Community Trigger**

Update: Community Remedy was introduced as part of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to give victims of low-level crime and anti-social behaviour a greater say in how offenders should be dealt with. The Commissioner is responsible for providing a list of actions for victims to choose from. This list is known as the Community Remedy. The current Community Remedy document was put in place when the duty was first enacted so it is timely it is reviewed. Consultation with the Constabulary has taken place. Draft options presented at the Business Coordination Board on 18 May 2023 and agreed. Further consultation with stakeholders has been agreed with consultation to coincide with national ASB week, which takes place w/c 3 July 2023. The list will then be brought back to BCB for final approval in Q2 2023/24. The list of actions within the Community Remedy and the approach the Constabulary will take will be published on both the Commissioner's and the Constabulary's website.

- **Ongoing Business Engagement**

Update: Activity is ongoing to work in partnership with the business community and the Constabulary to gather evidence of concerns; provide opportunities for businesses to have voice heard; and provide crime prevention information to better protect themselves. The Commissioner continues to use 'District Days' to engage with local businesses to better understand their needs. The Commissioner also continues to spend time within the retail sector speaking to store managers about incidents of violence against shop workers most recently visiting Lidl in Peterborough.

Separately a virtual engagement opportunity for businesses to listen to advice from the Eastern Cyber Resilience Centre (ECRC) and Constabulary team during a lunchtime webinar will be held in Q2/Q3, 2023/24.

- **Respond to the Review into the role of Police and Crime Commissioner.**

Update: Part 2 will look at the role of the PCCs in the partnership landscape and assess whether their current set of tools and levers are sufficient to drive and co-ordinate local activity to reduce crime, combat drug misuse and tackle anti-social behaviour. Included in this is a focus on Community Safety Partnerships. Progress is dependent upon the progress of this national Review. Part one of the CSP review is a targeted consultation, aimed at PCCs and CSPs, this was launched in March this year. The outcome of this consultation is awaited. Cambridgeshire is in a good position in relation to the issues which have been consulted upon so far such as information sharing, links between the Police and Crime Plan and local plans.

Four products coming out of Part One on the PCC Review were recently released and are being considered by the OPCC. These include a mediation framework and revised Accountability Guidance, a template letter of appointment for chief constables and schedule of permitted payments.

As part of its regular horizon scanning activity the OPCC continues to maintain a vigilant stance on national developments. It will also help in implementing any announced changes to government policy, decisions or initiatives at a local level.

5.2 **Crime Prevention – Priorities for Action**

What we will do: We will work in partnership to understand and tackle the root causes of crime and serious violence through early intervention and rehabilitating people who have offended, while reducing opportunities for people to commit crime.

Completed deliverables / activities of note:

- **Prevention and Vulnerability Hubs**

Update: The Constabulary's Prevention and Vulnerability Hubs launched at the end of June. They bring together specialists from the Vulnerability Focus Desk, Out of Court Disposal team and Partnerships and Prevention team to embed preventative policing, problem solving and provide a continued focus on vulnerability across the force.

Current Deliverables

- **Police Race Action Plan**

Update: This is linked to the Integrity Assurance Report 2022/23 which provides assurance as to how the Constabulary are progressing the Police Race Action Plan.

- **Drug strategy implementation.**

Update: Partnership oversight takes place through the Drug and Alcohol Delivery Board, with strategic oversight as the Combating Drugs Partnership through the High Harms Board chaired by the Commissioner. The Commissioner is also Senior Responsible Owner for the strategy in Cambridgeshire. Regular updates through the High Harms Board. Recent update in Q1 2023/24 demonstrated Cambridgeshire is meeting the governance expectations set out by the Government as reflected in national reporting. Outcomes are also monitored through these local governance arrangements. The national outcomes framework was published in May and will inform future local performance monitoring. The High Harms Board supported a recent proposal to further develop local arrangements for responding to drug related deaths. The OPCC has also supported partners to maintain a thematic focus on prevention work with young people and those in treatment who also require psychological support.

- **High Harms Board**

Update: The High Harms Board has now been established for one year. With a focus on serious violence, the drug strategy, violence against women and girls and serious

& organised crime the Board has achieved good partnership engagement and providing strategic oversight and direction across these significant themes.

- **Serious Violence Strategy**

Update: Following the Duty commencing at the end of January this year the Constabulary have engaged with strategic partners to inform an initial needs assessment, which will now be developed further and inform the development of the strategy and partnership approach. The OPCC commissioned a youth listening project to enable partners to better understand the views of young people in terms of how safe they feel. The OPCC hosted a partnership workshop in March to enable partners to undertake a gap analysis of services and identify opportunities to fill these gaps. Since the workshop the OPCC, as the recipient of new national serious violence funding, has been working with multiple partners to develop the necessary projects and interventions which will come into place through 2023/24 & 2024/25. A Serious Violence Project Co-ordinator, hosted in the Constabulary, took up post in June. Final strategy to be published on a public-facing website and submitted to the Home Office by 31/01/24.

5.3 **Victims and Witnesses– Priorities for Action**

What we will do: We will protect vulnerable people and ensure victims and witnesses are placed at the heart of the criminal justice system, commissioning services to support them.

We will recognise every victim's experience is different and will provide a quality service which maintains their trust and confidence in the criminal justice system.

Completed deliverables / activities of note:

- **Successful bid to Home Office to manage the risk of domestic abuse perpetrators and stalkers**

Update: An OPCC led bid was successful and secured funding worth £786k over two years to deliver behaviour change programmes and provide support for victims. This includes an innovative Multi Agency Stalking Intervention Programme through which a Consultant Psychologist, police officer and Independent Domestic Violence Advocate work in partnership. This is one of only five such teams in the country. The OPCC is project managing the delivery until March 2025.

- **Mobilisation of several new services**

Update: Staff in the OPCC have supported the mobilisation of **Hourglass** (which raises awareness of and professionalises the support of older victims of domestic abuse); **CPSL MIND** who are delivering mental health wellbeing support for victims and witnesses of crime; a new outreach post based in the **Victim and Witness Hub** supporting victims of serious (non-VAWG) crime; and a **specialist domestic abuse worker supporting men** across the county based in **Peterborough Women's Aid**.

- **Review of provision for victims of crime requiring mental health support**

Update: The OPCC supported the Constabulary to undertake a full review of the IMHT (Integrated Mental Health Team) service to ensure it met the current requirements. Moving forward this service will be considered as part of the Constabulary's response to the national 'Right Care, Right Person' dialogue.

- **Rape Engagement Project**

Update: This 18-month innovative joint Constabulary and OPCC project has now completed. It has enabled real-time feedback to change police processes, guide

ISVA approaches and improve the experiences of rape survivors who have reported to the police. The project is being replicated in other areas following national interest.

Current Deliverables

- **Review of Victim and Witness Hub**

Update: As part of the commissioning cycle, undertake a joint review of the Victim and Witness Hub service. A new data warehouse has been developed to enable the OPCC to directly access monthly data. The independent review specification is being finalised and the OPCC is linking into national work reviewing in-house hub models of delivery.

- **Victim Services Provider Forum**

Update: An event is being organised to bring together local providers to gather best practice and celebrate successes. This will be held in September.

- **Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse**

Update: YMCA Trinity are working in partnership with the OPCC to deliver the Respect Young People Programme to support families experiencing Child and Adolescent to Parent Violence and Abuse (CAPVA). Early evaluation shows this reduces police demand by 94% and improves the lives of families.

New deliverables

- **Monitoring the progress of the Victim and Prisoners Bill through parliament**

This Bill has significant implications for PCCs linked to the commissioning of services and a new responsibility to monitor all agencies' compliance with the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime. The OPCC is actively planning for the changes this Bill proposes and is supporting a new countywide VAWG Needs Assessment which is being commissioned by the Local Authority.

- **Supporting the re-commissioning of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre**

The OPCC has led a month-long period of engagement to ensure the views of service users, support providers and police officers inform the process. This core re-commissioning project will remain a significant workstream for the next 12 months.

5.4 **Ethical Policing– Priorities for Action**

What we will do: We will ensure the police act with integrity and social responsibility, promoting a culture that is inclusive, diverse and takes equality seriously – from how they interact with the public they serve, to environmental sustainability.

Completed deliverables / activities of note:

- **Produce and publish an Integrity Assurance Report 2022/23;**

Update: Integrity Assurance Report 2022/23. Development and publication scheduled for Q1 2023/24. This has been delivered and a comprehensive report on Integrity Assurance has been included as a Report presented to this Panel.

- **Independent Ethics Board**

Update: This is linked to the Integrity Assurance Report 2022/23 which presents the arrangements that are currently in place within the governance frameworks of the Commissioner and the Constabulary against the Code of Ethics. Included in the paper is an evaluation piece which has been carried out in collaboration between the OPCC (on behalf of the Commissioner) and the Constabulary, to identify whether there is sufficient assurance against the College of Policing's (COP) Code of Ethics and the scrutiny of Ethics. It is considered that sufficient assurance is in place at this time, but this will continue to be monitored on behalf of the Commissioner.

- **Annual Review Scrutiny Panels (Stop & Search and Use of Force)**

Update: The AGM took place on 21 March 2023 with a new Chair appointed. Annual review highlighted further opportunities for continuous improvement. There is a recognition that there are further opportunities for independent scrutiny of the use of police powers and the OPCC are working with the Constabulary on these developments. This includes the areas of Custody not necessarily covered by the Independent Custody Visitors Scheme. Further opportunities are being progressed. See new deliverable.

Current Deliverables

- **Review Independent Custody Visitor**

Update: Activities ongoing. Structured self-assessment process is progressing in line with the assessment process agreed by the Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA). Comprehensive update provided Integrity Assurance Annual

Report 2022/23 Submission of assessment against Quality Assurance Framework scheduled for Q2/Q3, 2023/24.

- **Develop plans for the ethical use of biometrics in law enforcement (as APCC national lead)**

Update: Activities ongoing. This is a long-term national project to develop the APCC policy on facial recognition, new biometrics and data analytics.

- **Annual Sustainability Report 2022/23**

Update: In May 2022 the Sustainability Strategy for the Constabulary was approved. The Strategy set out five themes that the Constabulary are working to in pursuit of carbon reduction and achieving carbon net zero by 2035. A transition plan was developed for each theme which sets out the intended actions to be taken within the theme as part of the Constabulary's journey to net carbon zero. Most of the Constabulary's direct carbon emissions are through the built estate and the operation of the fleet. Therefore, these two areas have been the focus of the initial transition plans to begin the move to more reduced carbon arrangements. The Fleet and Estates transition plans were presented to BCB in Q4 2022/23 where they were endorsed. The Commissioner will continue to monitor progress against these plans.

- **Promoting Access to the Complaints System**

Update: Further opportunities to promote access to the complaints system is being progressed. This includes accessibility through the move to Single Online Home, the use of monthly digital newsletters, social media and engagement opportunities.

New Deliverables

- **Custody Detention Scrutiny Panels**

Update: The Custody Detention Scrutiny Panels guidance has been developed to increase transparency, scrutiny and performance within police custody. It's development has been cognisant of recent high-profile incidents of public concern, that have had negative consequences for police confidence and trust, as well as various national recommendations made to policing on both racial disproportionality and custody. The OPCC are working with the Constabulary on governance arrangements. The approach will build upon existing practice in policing, including Stop and Search panels.

5.5 **Robust Enforcement– Priorities for Action**

What we will do: We will ensure the police and other partners such as courts, prosecutors, probation, and local authorities are using criminal justice and other enforcement processes effectively to keep Cambridgeshire and Peterborough safe.

Current Deliverables

- **Ensure Constabulary progress in cutting crime and delivery against the National Crime & Policing Measures;**

Update: The prevention of crime and disorder the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) (Amended) Order 2021 requires the publication a statement on the contribution on the Constabulary to achieve improvements against the National Crime & Policing Measures. This is embedded into business as usual. Progress against these measures is a standing agenda item for the Commissioner’s Business Co-ordination Board (BCB). These meet quarterly. BCB is the primary meeting in which the Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account for the efficiency and effectiveness of the Constabulary. The Chief Constable reports progress its performance against the Police and Crime Plan 2021-24 as well as the National Crime & Policing Measures. Papers and minutes are published on Commissioner’s Website. The most recent meeting occurred on 18 May 2023.

The Director of Governance and Compliance oversees the content of the PCC’s website, in terms of its openness and transparency and its compliance with the government’s Specified Information Order.

- **Strategic Policing Requirement 2023.**

Update: Published on 20 February 2023 the 2023 version introduces Violence Against Women and Girls (“VAWG”) as an additional national threat, and reaffirms the validity of the existing threats. The national threats are set out in the SPR. The inclusion of violence against women and girls as a national threat sets clear expectations for:

- local and regional police capabilities to tackle violence against women and girls
 - how local forces work with others, including collaborating with other agencies
- Other changes include:
- a more detailed description of how threats should be tackled by police forces
 - strengthened governance and assurance arrangements, including a requirement for more distinct references to SPR in police and crime plans

- an enhanced serious and organised crime section, to ensure prominence for crime types such as fraud and organised immigration crime

It is acknowledged that this new deliverable may result in other pieces of work which are being scoped out.

- **Working with partners in the Criminal Justice System**

Update: The Commissioner continues to Chair the Criminal Justice Board. The Board is in the process of refreshing its approach following Covid to ensure it meets the new expectations which have been set out nationally. It continues to monitor delivery and strategic issues within the Criminal Justice System. Recent issues of focus have included court Covid recovery plans and ensuring appropriate rape outcomes within the criminal justice system. In April 2023 the Policing Minister highlighted the strong performance in Cambridgeshire in relation to case file quality performance.

6. MONITORING DELIVERY OF THE PLAN

- 6.1 The Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account for the efficiency and effectiveness of the Constabulary through a range of governance and assurance mechanisms. Quantitative and qualitative reports, such as the Constabulary's quarterly performance reports and individual reports on how the Commissioner's Office and partners are supporting the delivering of the Plan are monitored through these mechanisms.
- 6.2 It was agreed that updates to the Panel against the delivery of the Plan will be provided twice a year. At the end of the financial year, this update will be through the presentation and publication of the Commissioners Annual Report. This additional report has been produce to compliment the Commissioner Annual Report 2022/23, providing an update on key deliverables going forward into 2023/23.

7. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 7.1 Police and Crime Commissioner's 'Police and Crime Plan 2021-24'

<http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/police-crime-plan/>

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