

Decision No 2014/08



REPORT TO: POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE

REPORT BY: SAIMA AFZAL – Assistant PCC
ROBERT RUSTON – Commissioning Manager

DATE: 4 JUNE 2014

VICTIMS AND WITNESSES STRATEGY

Appendix A refers

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Victims and Witnesses Strategy is to set out the Commissioners ten key outcomes for victims and witnesses which will be supported by the commissioning of victim and witness services and by working with criminal justice partners to deliver a more co-ordinated approach to supporting victims and witnesses.

A copy of the Strategy is attached at Appendix A.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Victims and Witnesses Strategy be approved.

Decision taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire:

Original decision, as set out in the attached report, approved without amendment (please delete as appropriate)	YES	NO
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Original decision required to be amended and decision as detailed below:

N/A

The reasons for the amended decision are as detailed below:

N/A

Police and Crime Commissioner: Comments

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The PCC is asked to consider any personal / prejudicial interests he may have to disclose in relation to the matter under consideration in accordance with the law, the Nolan Principles and the Code of Conduct.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation.

Signed: Police and Crime Commissioner Date:	Signed: Chief Officer: Date:
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Signed: Chief Constable: Date:	Signed: Chief Finance Officer: Date:
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BACKGROUND, ADVICE and CONSULTATION

The Victims and Witnesses Strategy has been developed following a comprehensive review of Victims Services in the pan-Lancashire area undertaken during 2013. The review and draft strategy were presented at a Working with Victims Consultation event in January 2014 and outcomes from the event included in the final version of the Strategy.

The Constabulary have also been consulted on the Strategy and responses from them incorporated into the final attached version of the document.

FINANCIAL COMMENTS

The financial implications of delivering the strategy will be covered by funding provided by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) in relation to services for victims and witnesses. Additional funding for delivery of services that fall outside of the criteria set by the MoJ will need to be funded from Commissioner funding or alternative external funding sought.

EQUALITY COMMENTS

The ten key outcomes in the Strategy will apply to all victims and witnesses irrespective of any protected characteristics that may apply.

The Commissioner will ensure that any services commissioned for victims and witnesses and work with criminal justice partners to provide a more coordinated process will comply with all current equality legislation and monitoring of this will be included in any performance monitoring framework set up by the Commissioner.