



OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

STRATEGIC SCRUTINY MEETING

THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2013

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UPDATE

Issues for Consideration

This is an update on scrutiny activity since the last meeting in June 2013. The Police and Crime Commissioner (the Commissioner has the responsibility to hold the Chief Constable and the force to account and ensure that they are accountable to local communities. As well as this, the Police and Crime Plan sets out how the Commissioner will work in partnership across a range of agencies at local and national level to protect vulnerable people, champion the rights of victims, promote targeted initiatives to tackle crime and reduce re-offending and defend front line policing . This reports sets out how the OPCC is supporting the Commissioner in discharging these priorities.

Information

1 Strategic consideration

The Commissioner team has had a number of presentations and discussions with the Constabulary as set out below.

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| 19.6.13 | Sustaining Excellence Update
Domestic Abuse and CSE
MASH update |
| 19.7.13 | Force Restructure and Organisational Reviews – final recommendations |
| 12.8.13 | Stage 2 Transfer / Force Restructure and Organisational Review update |

In addition a full programme of strategic planning and scrutiny meetings has been established to enable the Commissioner to set strategic priorities and direction and to hold the Chief Constable to account for efficient and effective policing.

2 CE overview

- 2.1 The new Strategic Planning Board met for the first time on 21 August chaired by the Commissioner. The Board has agreed Terms of Reference and constitution for itself and

the Strategic Scrutiny Meeting and agreed a broad timetable of strategic joint meetings for the year.

- 2.2 The Joint Cumbria and Lancashire Learning and Development Governance Board meets on 16 September. Lancashire is represented on the Board by the ACC People and the Deputy Chief Executive. The collaborative venture is progressing well and there are recommendations before the Board this week on the harmonisation of learning and development programmes, including initial police training.

There is also a proposal to adopt a North West approach to the Foundation Degree in Policing which, if adopted by the NW universities, will result in a larger market of potential pre-trained recruits, substantially reducing the costs of initial training and bringing wider employment opportunities for graduates, thus making the foundation degree more attractive for universities.

2.3 **OPCC**

The OPCC organisational review commenced on 19 August and will be a 45 working day review, with the final report presented to the Commissioner on 28 October.. A Challenge Event is being held on 18 October when OPCC staff and stakeholders will meet to consider the findings.

Stage 2 Transfers

The Commissioner and Chief Constable have agreed the transfer scheme under stage 2 and the Commissioner has submitted the scheme together with the draft memorandum of understanding to the Home Secretary.

Collaboration and Partnership

The PCC is reviewing the asset management strategy and the procurement strategy and in addition to taking account of the Chief Constables operational requirements, he has agreed to work with Preston City Council and Lancashire County Council to review the strategic third party spend in the Preston area. The Procurement Strategy for the North West is being reviewed to ensure that all of the recommendations of the National Audit Office report are identified.

3 Chief Finance Officer overview

- 3.1 The Statements of Accounts 2012/13 have been prepared for the first time under the arrangements set out Police Reform Act. This in effect means that PCCs and CCs are deemed to be separate entities and therefore require a set of accounts for each entity. These are then consolidated into a set of group accounts. The accounts will be formally signed off by the Commissioner and the Chief Constable on 25 September 2013. The majority of the audit work has been concluded and the findings of the review have been presented to the Audit Committee. Only one adjustment has been requested (and actioned) and no major issues identified. An unqualified opinion is anticipated for both sets of accounts.
- 3.2 The Home Office has announced the funding methodology for the victims money that is to transfer to Police and Crime Commissioners from October 2014. Funding is to be allocated on the basis of population and whilst indicative figures won't be announced until October 2013, the % of the funding that will be allocated to Lancashire has been confirmed as 2.59%. Final details of the overall funding pot to be made available have not been released but could be as much as £56m nationally which equates to £1.45m for Lancashire. The

Home Office is hopeful that funding levels will exceed the overall level of commitments currently in place for commissioning victim services. Funding will be mainstreamed from April 2015 and will be protected at 2014/15 (full year) levels.

4 Public engagement activity and case work update

- 4.1 The Commissioner has undertaken road-shows across the whole of Lancashire working alongside local neighbourhood policing teams and community safety partnerships. The events also provided an opportunity to promote the citizens in policing and promotion of neighbourhood watch.
- 4.2. In relation to domestic abuse, the Commissioner's head of communications is working with Lancashire County Council and the DAAG to undertake a piece of research with young people aged 16 – 17 year olds. The research will inform the development of an information campaign and will provide insight into tactics; channels and messaging that resonate with young people.
- Work is ongoing with the White Ribbon organisation to support the aspiration of Lancashire being a White Ribbon County and support has been offered from Kevin Davies (current Preston striker who has previously played for Bolton, Blackburn Rovers, Southampton and England) to help promote any campaign.
- 4.3. Monday 9 September was the launch of Child Sexual Exploitation awareness week. Together with our partners the week saw a range of activities focusing on prevention, awareness, enforcement and community engagement carried out. Partnership buy in, into the communications and promotion of the week was high with over 30,000 campaign materials distributed across Lancashire.
- 4.4 Following the HMIC national thematic review of Stop and Search (S&S) and the launch of a consultation on the use of S&S by the Home Secretary; a copy of the national survey was placed onto the PCC website to ensure we had a 'Lancashire voice' when we provide feedback nationally about the use of S&S.
- 4.5 Research with the Business community is coming to a conclusion and final face to face interviews have been completed. Strong support from the FSB, Institute of Directors, National Farmers Union, Chambers of Commerce, has resulted in a strong piece of research that has been welcomed. The research will feed into the rural crime, CIP and business engagement strategies.
- 4.6 Research is currently being undertaken which will provide the PCC with a clear understanding of the current victim service and through both primary and secondary research provide recommendations for service transformation, which will form the basis of the commissioning framework. The research brings together input from victims data, criminal justice agencies, victim service providers, the Lancashire Criminal Justice Board, the police, the third sector and victims.

5 Casework

- 5.1 The Commissioner continues to be delighted with the response from communities since taking office in November and is keen to ensure that community voices are heard on priorities that people would want to see reflected in the Police and Crime Plan and the Budget.

- 5.2 Since the last Scrutiny meeting at the end of June the Commissioner has undertaken a number of road shows and has received in excess of 100 individual pieces of correspondence on a variety of policing and other issues (highways, road safety, victims and witnesses). The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner is continuing to develop systems in order to assist staff in the effective management of correspondence both between the Public and the Lancashire Constabulary and is currently in the process of purchasing a new Contact Management System.
- 5.3 Work is also underway at the request of the Commissioner to fulfil his duty to oversee and monitor force performance, policies and processes in relation to complaints against rank and file police officers and police staff in relation to professional standards, misconduct, direction and control and quality of service, to consider how they impact on the efficiency and effectiveness of the Constabulary, and to ensure that the expected standards of professionalism and integrity are maintained. This work will continue to be supplemented by additional scrutiny through the joint Audit Committee receiving regular updates around the police integrity agenda at a national and local level. A report will be presented to the March 2014 Scrutiny meeting.

6 Portfolio areas

- 6.1 In line with the Police and Crime Plan the OPCC have established a range of portfolio areas in which senior members of the Commissioner's team are supporting and monitoring delivery against the Commissioner's priorities. The OPCC has agreed that this will be included in the forward plan to be presented to the Police and Crime Panel and also that each of the leads will present a quarterly RAG report into the progress in each of the portfolio areas. The first of these will be presented to the December 2013 Scrutiny meeting.

Decision Required

The report is for noting.

Background Papers

None

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