



Lancashire
Constabulary
police and communities together

REPORT TO: Strategic Scrutiny Meeting

DATE: 5 June 2018

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SUBJECT: Lancashire Volunteer Partnership

1. Issue for Consideration

1.1. The purpose of this report is to update the Police and Crime Commissioner of the work of the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership.

2. Recommendation

2.1. The Commissioner is requested to note the contents of the report and make comment.

3. Background

3.1. In late 2015 strategic partners in Lancashire's public services acknowledged that whilst budgets were getting smaller;

- Demand on public services around welfare and public safety was increasing
- Community Support was a critical enabler in prevention and building community resilience
- There was a strong evidence base that early low level interventions prevent escalation of harm and reduce vulnerability
- There was an even stronger evidence base that communities that are engaged, involved and resilient are happier, healthier and make less demands on public services
- Communities could help inform, develop and deliver services that reduce dependency on statutory agencies

3.2. The Lancashire PCC, Chief Police Officers, and strategic partners agreed to the formation of the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership with a vision;

'That Lancashire Public Services have an Integrated, efficient, effective and high quality Public Service Volunteer offer that matches resource with need, supports vulnerable people to get the help they need to become stronger and more resilient whilst reducing the demand on statutory services.'

3.3. With the support of a Police Innovation Fund Grant a two year Programme was approved to bring this vision to reality and the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership was born.

4. Progress over the last two years

4.1. Two years on and the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership has moved into business as usual, with the Program Plan delivered on time, on budget and with some benefits already realised. It is made up of a fully budgeted staffing structure and through Service Level Agreements between partners, generates income to share management on-costs, campaigns and ICT infrastructure etc.

So far partners operating under the LVP framework are;

- ✓ Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner
- ✓ Lancashire Constabulary
- ✓ Lancashire County Council
- ✓ Lancashire Fire and Rescue
- ✓ Blackburn with Darwen Council
- ✓ Blackpool Council
- ✓ Preston City Council
- ✓ Lancashire Adult Learning
- ✓ East Lancashire Hospitals Trust

The LVP delivers for partners in five key outcome areas;

- ✓ Increase Value for Money
- ✓ Increase Capacity
- ✓ Decrease Vulnerability
- ✓ Increase volunteer Confidence
- ✓ Create and maintain Civil Emergency Response

This has been done through a multi-agency strategy concentrating on;

- ✓ Integrated Leadership and Commissioning
- ✓ Integrated Teams and Workforce Development
- ✓ Integrated Data Sharing and ICT Systems
- ✓ Develop Community Resilience
- ✓ Cultural Shift
- ✓ Shared Outcomes and Evaluation

LVP's overall focus is on the delivery of;

- ✓ Early Action and supporting vulnerable people to become stronger
- ✓ Building community resilience and reducing dependency on statutory services
- ✓ Harnessing community assets to build a platform where communities can prosper

4.2. The Lancashire Volunteer Partnership now has coverage across the County and is fully embedded in integrated teams providing a community step down facility or a prevent escalation service. They are constantly reviewing their services to ensure they remain aligned to the objectives and working practices of partners with a view to reducing vulnerability and in turn reducing demand and dependency on statutory services.

4.3. The Partnership has over 30 paid staff and supports over 4,000 volunteers across Lancashire such as;

- ✓ Special Constables
- ✓ Community Support (Befriending)
- ✓ Volunteer Police Cadets
- ✓ Road Safety and casualty prevention
- ✓ Reading and Learning Support
- ✓ Outdoors and Environmental Support
- ✓ CCTV and Cyber Crime Prevention
- ✓ Research and Future Trends
- ✓ Civil Emergency call out
- ✓ Gym and Physical Activity Support
- ✓ Fire Cadet Leaders
- ✓ Patient and Health Support
- ✓ Refugee integration
- ✓ Restorative Justice facilitators

4.4. In just one business area, that of Community Support (Befriending) the Partnership has recruited over 300 Community Support Volunteers across Lancashire that have stepped down over 400 vulnerable people from statutory services.

5. Evaluation

5.1. A formal evaluation of the Partnership will be undertaken in June 2018 by their partners at RSM consulting and will be available in September 2018. This evaluation is anticipated to show significant and positive cost benefits for all the partners involved.

6. Future development areas

6.1. The Lancashire Volunteer Partnership will continue to support vulnerable people and seek out new opportunities to increase their capacity and effectiveness at stepping people down from statutory services.

- 6.2. The LVP are working to expand their young people volunteering offer which will see Police and Fire Cadet Schemes combine to form a new Emergency Services Cadet offer.
- 6.3. During the next 12 months LVP will review and implement changes to how the Special Constabulary operates to ensure increased effectiveness and efficiency.
- 6.4. LVP are also looking to welcome more Heath centred partners to the Partnership and exploring how they can generate greater impact on Public Health and social care.
- 6.5. During the implementation of the LVP a number of further opportunities were identified that would generate further benefits for partners and the communities of Lancashire. One in particular stood out, the creation of a Lancashire Social Action Network.

7. Implications

Financial:	Nil
Legal:	Nil
Equality Impact Assessment:	N/A
Link to Police and Crime Plan:	Supports Core Business across most of the objectives in the PCP

8. List of attachments / appendices: Nil

9. Background Papers: Nil