

## Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel

**Friday 6 October 2017**

### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Croad, in the Chair.

Councillor Batters, Vice Chair.

Councillors Atherfold, Sam Davey, Downie, Excell, Hackett, Squires, Sutton, Towill, Wakfer and Wright.

Co-opted Representatives: Sarah Wakfer – Independent Member

Apologies for absence: Councillors Philippa Davey, James, Rule and Mathews.

Absent from the meeting: Councillors Barker, Nelhams, Sanders and Wingate.

Also in attendance: Alison Hernandez (Police and Crime Commissioner), Duncan Walton (Interim Chief Executive), Lisa Vango (Strategy and Planning Manager), Dr Karen Mellowdew (Performance Manager), Shaun Sawyer (Chief Constable), Sharon Taylor (Assistant Chief Constable), Jim Colwell (Chief Supt), David Thorne (Chief Supt), Jim Pearce (Chief Supt), Ross Jago (Lead Officer) and Amelia Boulter (Democratic Adviser).

The meeting started at 10.30 am and finished at 1.55 pm.

*Note: At a future meeting, the Panel will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.*

### 16. **Minutes**

Agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 18 August 2017 with an amendment to include after Sarah Wakfer – Independent Member.

### 17. **Declarations of Interest**

The following declaration of interest was made in accordance with the code of conduct –

| Name                  | Minute Number and Item                            | Reason                    | Interest |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------|----------|
| Councillor Greenslade | Minute 20 - Chief Constable's Connectivity Report | Son works for the Police. | Personal |

18. **Public Questions**

There were no questions from members of the public.

19. **Strategic Alliance**

Sharon Taylor (Assistant Chief Constable) provided the Panel with a presentation on the Strategic Alliance between Devon and Cornwall Police and Dorset Police. The Panel were advised that –

- (a) there was a commitment to work together as equal partners and to explore new ways of working to protect frontline workers;
- (b) proper governance and scrutiny would take place around the alliance to ensure that it was fit for purpose and to provide resilience for the future;
- (c) comprehensive risk management would take place at every level;
- (d) Devon and Cornwall Police have to find £8 million a year in savings and maintain every year;
- (e) they would be able to concentrate on growth areas such as child sexual exploitation, human slavery and cyber-crime and by joining together would have the opportunity to invest in these growth areas;
- (f) one of the issues was the culture as the two forces were very different and the work undertaken to address this had been noticed and was being used as best practice nationally.

In response to questions, the Panel were advised that –

- (g) a detailed breakdown on where the savings had been made can be made available to the panel;
- (h) it was important not to affect the day job and they were communicating with staff with a strategic alliance roadshows, guidance on the intranet, regular newsletters and providing support to staff at every stage;
- (i) they were using existing arrangements to engage with the wider community, however there had been little interest with the press;
- (j) it would take a number of years before the two forces catch up to the same level of Council Tax. Talks regarding Council Tax had not yet begun;
- (k) they ensure they support offenders when they return back into the community and was more about making sure we provide a service to

our more vulnerable groups;

- (l) that officers do work cross county lines and the alliance programme would not shift and would continue support colleagues across the borders;
- (m) there would be two Deputy Chief Constables working across both forces and a Joint Delivery Board to hold the new alliance team to account;
- (n) once the alliance has been formed discussions would need to take place on whether to continue with two Offices of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Panel noted the Strategic Alliance Report.

## 20. **Chief Constable's Connectivity Framework**

Shaun Sawyer (Chief Constable), Dave Thorne (BCU Commander for Plymouth), Jim Pearce (BCU Commander for Cornwall and Isles of Scilly), Jim Colwill (BCU Commander for Devon) and Alison Hernandez (Police and Crime Commissioner) were present for this item. Alison Hernandez introduced the item and reported that during past year had undertaken a consultation with the public. It was very clear that connectivity with local police was not as strong as could be and as a result connecting policing and communities would be a clear theme throughout the Police and Crime Plan.

Shaun Sawyer ran through the presentation on the Connectivity Framework. The Panel were advised that -

- (a) a cohort of officers based within stations working for communities but behind closed doors and as part of the connectivity was how we make these officers more visible;
- (b) local policing dealing with local, national and international issues;
- (c) neighbourhood police were the specialists within the community;
- (d) 50 year anniversary celebrations took place within the communities celebrating our history;
- (e) part of the connectivity plan was to obtain greater consistency and to gain more public confidence;
- (f) connectivity builds on neighbourhood policing and this generation stills values PSCOs and a police presence on the streets.

Shaun Sawyer handed over to the BCU Commanders for Plymouth, Devon and Cornwall.

Jim Colwill (BCU Commander for Devon) advised that Panel that –

- (g) the Devon BCU was one of the largest areas in the country;
- (h) they have 1000 staff and 150 PCSO's, police volunteers and supported by an innovative senior support team;
- (i) they need to build the capacity to involve young people such as Police Cadets and the great work they do for us around crime prevention;
- (j) they were working in partnership to respond to issues around the night-time economy;
- (k) the Local Reference Group brings together independent advisors to discuss the delivery of policing and influence their work.

Dave Thorne (BCU Commander for Plymouth) advised the Panel that-

- (l) they have been working strongly alongside to members of the community;
- (m) the key priority for Plymouth was looking after our clients and people that we serve as well as the welfare of our officers to make sure they are supported.

Jim Pearce (BCU Commander for Cornwall) advised the Panel that –

- (n) he covers 9 policing areas in Cornwall including the Isles of Scilly which include just over 500 police officers and 150 support staff and a number of specials and volunteers;
- (o) strong relationship with statutory partners and the local authority;
- (p) the Business Plan was centred around vulnerability, such as CSE missing and domestic abuse and have a good collaboration with partners;

Shaun Sawyer concluded that this work falls under within the Police and Crime Plan and that neighbourhood policing was key. They were aware of the inconsistencies but each BCU had different way of problem solving these issues.

In response to questions, the Panel were advised that –

- (q) they were not able to list all the activities but with regard to CCTV they were in talks with Tav Valley and other areas;
- (r) policing was tasked focussed and feedback to communities was key;
- (s) they were trained and equipped for speed checks as there had been a

number of tragic incidents on major and minor roads this year.

The Panel noted the Chief Constable's Connectivity Framework Report and presentations.

21. **Draft Annual Report 2016/17**

Alison Hernandez (Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner) presented the Draft Annual Report 2016/17. The Panel were advised that –

- (a) they were continuing to focus on the performance of the 101 service;
- (b) they were focussing the Police and Crime Plan;
- (c) helping victims and currently have over 70 organisations within their Victim Care Unit and Victim Services Network. They were also piloting support for young victims of crime;
- (d) they were supporting communities, championing Community Safety Partnerships and Street Pastors;
- (e) they had launched the Pathfinder to prevent reoffending. Investing in CCTV and piloting a virtual remand court, however this was at a high cost and therefore project paused until funding was available;
- (f) they were working on campaigns around modern slavery in which the Chief Constable was the Lead and Alison Hernandez the lead for Police and Crime Commissioners;
- (g) they were investing in drones and looking to lead this across the country.

In response to questions, the Panel were advised that –

- (h) staff numbers as outlined on page 59 of the report include the Victim Care Team Unit. It was confirmed that as at 31.03.17 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner had 19 members of staff and 3 commissioning officers;
- (i) it was confirmed that the Memorandum of Understanding between Devon and Cornwall Police, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue and Cornwall Fire and Rescue was signed in May 2017.

The Panel noted the Draft Annual Report 2016/17.

22. **Police and Crime Commissioner's Performance Report**

Duncan Walton (Interim Chief Executive), Dr Karen Mellodew (Performance Manager) provided the Panel with the Police and Crime Commissioner's

Performance Report which is based on the Police and Crime Plan. The Panel were advised that –

- (a) significant improvements had been made to the 101 performance. Gold Group set up to deal with the 101 issues and to address the sustainability with average wait times coming down to the 3 minute mark;
- (b) included within the report is the volume emails via the 101 non-emergency and there are currently 5,000 email contacts per month;
- (c) the HMRC FRS looked at Crime Data Integrity. A Gold Group was set up to work to a detailed action plan looking at process, technology, training, advice to frontline staff and leadership and quality assurance to deliver Crime Data Integrity;
- (d) overall performance shows that Devon and Cornwall police is first for public confidence and the existing victim survey shows an improvement against the baseline;
- (e) they are undertaking a review looking at Immediate Incident Times and would welcome feedback from Councillors and members of the public. They would be focussing on the public expectation and what to expect when you call 999;
- (f) they looked at the baseline public perception survey results and identified areas for improvement and set that in context against the Connectivity Framework and to measure progress against this framework.

In response to questions, the Panel were advised that –

- (g) the Police and Crime Plan we are reporting against for the period to the end of March 2017 includes the previous performance measures and include crime tracking such as domestic abuse.

The Panel noted the Police and Crime Commissioner's Performance Report.

### 23. **Police and Crime Commissioner's Update**

Alison Hernandez (Police and Crime Commissioner) reported that items within the Police and Crime Commissioner's Update Report have been covered during this meeting. The Panel were also advised that the Essex Police and Crime Commissioner now has the responsibility for the Fire and Rescue Service.

The Panel noted the Police and Crime Commissioner's Update Report.

### 24. **Non-Criminal Complaints Against the Police and Crime Commissioner**

Duncan Walton (Interim Chief Executive) reported that during the last period there were 3 complaints that have been responded to by the panel.

The Panel noted the Non-Criminal Complaints Against the Police and Crime Commissioner Report.

25. **Work Programme**

The Panel noted the work programme.