

## DEVON AND CORNWALL POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

**Subject:** Consideration of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Draft Refresh of the Police and Crime Plan 2014--17

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### Executive Summary:

Section 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011<sup>1</sup> requires that the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) must issue a Police and Crime Plan within the financial year in which each ordinary election is held or as soon as practical after taking up office. In preparing the Plan, the PCC is required to consult with the Chief Constable. The PCC and Community Safety Partnerships have a reciprocal duty to have regard to each other's priorities.

The Police and Crime Panel (PCP) agreed the existing version of the Plan<sup>2</sup> at its meeting on 8 February 2013 subject to the PCC reviewing the webcast and taking account of the feedback provided at that meeting.

The Act also requires the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) to review the PCC's draft Police and Crime Plan, or any variation and give a response to any report or recommendations and publish that response. The PCC is required to have regard to any report or recommendations made by the PCP in relation to the draft plan or any variation.

The plan is both a core planning tool for PCCs and an important mechanism for communicating their intentions to the public, police, partners, panel and other stakeholders.

The Draft Refresh of the Police and Crime Plan, before the Panel today (Appendix 1), is for the PCP to discuss, review and compile a report with any recommendations which the PCC must take into consideration before the final document is published on the Host authority's website by 31 March 2014.

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### Recommendations & Reasons for recommended action:

It is recommended that:

- the PCP reviews the Draft Refresh of the Police and Crime Plan and considers whether it wishes to make any comments or recommendations to the PCC; and
  - any recommendations are taken into account by the PCC before publication of the draft refresh of the plan on the host authority's web site by 31 March 2014.
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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents/enacted>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk/Document-Library/Police-and-Crime-Plan-2013-17-130408.pdf>

### **Alternative options considered, and reasons for recommended action:**

The Panel can decide not to endorse or make recommendations to the PCC on the Police and Crime Plan or any variation. However in doing so, this will ensure that the PCP has met its statutory functions as stated in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

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### **Background Papers:**

- Draft Refresh of the Police and Crime Plan 2014 – 2017 (Appendix I)
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## **1. Background**

- 1.1 Members will recall that the final version of the Police and Crime Plan was agreed at its meeting on 8 February 2013 subject to the PCC reviewing the webcast and taking account the feedback provided at that meeting.
- 1.2 In line with legislation, the final version was published on 31 March 2013 on the host authority's web site.

## **2. Police and Crime Plan**

- 2.1 The PCC may vary a Police and Crime Plan at any time and has a duty to keep the Plan under review particularly in light of any recommendations made by the PCP.
- 2.2 The frequency that plans are reviewed should be determined on the basis of local need, and an annual refresh, the draft of which has been presented to the Panel today, in conjunction with wider business and planning processes is considered good practice, in order to align the existing plan with budgetary cycles and the precept.
- 2.3 When reviewing the draft refresh of the plan, the PCC will need to ensure that
  - the Chief Constable is consulted on any changes.
  - the PCP are given a reasonable amount of time to exercise its functions when considering and make any recommendations to the PCC.
  - that the PCC and Community Safety Partnerships ensure their reciprocal duty in having regard to each other's priorities.