

'Open Letter' from the Chair of Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel to members of the public in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

November 2014

How is the Police and Crime Commissioner Strengthening Relationships and Showing Leadership in Partnership Working

At its meeting on 20th June 2014, the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel (PCP) agreed to conduct a scrutiny review in relation to the ***"How is the Police and Crime Commissioner Strengthening Relationships and Showing Leadership in Partnership Working"***.

The role of the PCP is to provide support and scrutiny challenge to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), to promote openness in the transaction of police business and also to support the PCC in the effective exercise of their functions. The PCP is not responsible for scrutinising the performance of the police force as a whole or the Chief Constable, as this is the responsibility of the PCC. Both the role of the PCC and the PCP were created as part of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, which brought in new structural arrangements for national policing, strategic police decision-making, neighbourhood policing and policing accountability.

The PCP is due to undertake the review at its next meeting on 19 December 2014 and will be adopting a select committee style approach. In order to assist the PCP Members in effectively scrutinising the topic, the Panel is seeking written evidence from stakeholders and members of the public through the provision of responses to the following questions:

- 1) How do you think the Police and Crime Commissioner is strengthening relationships with you?**
- 2) How do you think the Police and Crime Commissioner is showing leadership in partnership working?**

The PCP would be grateful for your written responses to these questions. **The deadline for written responses is Monday 1 December 2014** and responses should be sent to:

Sarah Hopkins
Community Safety & Partnerships Manager
& Lead Officer – Devon & Cornwall Police and Crime Panel
Plymouth City Council
Civic Centre
Plymouth
PL1 2AA

Email: sarah.hopkins@plymouth.gov.uk


Please also let us know if you would be willing and able to attend PCP meeting on 19 December 2014, as a witness, to provide verbal evidence. There will be a limited opportunity to hear from witnesses and those invited will be notified in advance.

Please note that, depending on the level/number of responses received, we may need to summarise responses for presentation to the Panel.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and observe Police and Crime Panel meetings. For more information about when meetings are occurring, and to view archived and live webcasts of Panel Meetings, please visit the Panel's website: <http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/dcpcpmeetingsandminutes.html>

Members of the public can also ask questions in respect of the functions of the Police and Crime Panel at Panel Meetings – to find out more about how to do this, information is available at <http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/dcpcpquestions.html>

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Croad', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Councillor Roger Croad
Chair, Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel