

**Police and Crime Panel Meeting
6 February 2015
Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT

This report provides an update on the activities of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and progress to deliver the Police and Crime Plan since the last Police and Crime Panel meeting in December 2014.

1. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN DELIVERY UPDATE

This report covers a relatively short period, since the last meeting of the Police and Crime Panel on 19 December 2014.

Key developments and activities to note in this period include:

- ❖ Preparations for the next financial year have been a major focus over the past six weeks. We have carried out work to refresh the Police and Crime Plan 2014-17 to reflect emerging issues and to prepare the budget for 2015/16 and our four year mid-term financial strategy for the next four years
- ❖ We have submitted a number of bids to the Home Office Innovation Fund 2015/16 to support investment in policing in Devon and Cornwall. The primary focus of these bids is our proposed collaborative work with Dorset Police but a number of innovative ideas to help us reduce demand and increase our income are being explored. In particular we are seeking funding from central government to assist us in finding new ways to generate developing our police estate.
- ❖ We are entering the final stage of preparations for the new victim services which will come into effect on 1st April 2015, with recruitment for victim care officers and victim advocates well underway. Agreements are in place with the 50+ members of the directory.
- ❖ The PCC has been working with national colleagues and the newly established Police Chief Constables' Council to drive forward national thinking on alcohol policy, in particular on the key issues that need to be tackled in the legislative environment to assist the police in tackling alcohol related crime. This work will continue over the course of 2015.
- ❖ The #RU2DRUNK campaign which was launched in Torbay in December 2014 is now being evaluated. This is an OPCC funded Police led pilot where doormen at licensed premises will use breathalysers to refuse entry to anyone who is already intoxicated.
- ❖ Significant progress has been made on the redevelopment of the OPCC website which is due to launch in late February 2015. The new website is an important step forward –

providing greater functionality and tools to help us communicate more effectively with the public, for example through online polling.

The third quarterly update of progress against the Police and Crime Plan will be published in the next few weeks. This report will be available on the OPCC website at <http://www.devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk/About-Us/The-Plan.aspx> and will cover activity during the period October-December 2014

Priority 1: Keeping people safe

Performance measures set out in the Police and Crime Plan

Progress against Priority 1 is tracked through the Performance and Accountability Board (PAB). A separate performance report is on the agenda of this meeting which provides a detailed report on performance and sets out the Commissioner's views on performance against the headline measures.

Review of the 101 Service

At the last meeting on 19 December 2014, the Police and Crime Panel were provided with an oral update on how the police are taking forward the recommendations from the Commissioner's review of the 101 service. An action plan has been put in place and work is underway in a number of areas. The Commissioner will keep progress under review and will provide further reports to the Panel throughout 2015 on progress in this important area.

Consultation on local police engagement

Following the closure of a number of front office counters in late 2014 the Commissioner undertook to consult the public and partners on local engagement opportunities and accessibility. Planning for this work is well underway and this will be carried out over the next two months. The Commissioner's findings will be brought back to the Police and Crime Panel.

Priority 2: To reduce the crime and harm caused by the misuse of alcohol

Work has continued over the past six weeks in a number of areas, including:

- ❖ The Torbay breathalyser pilot #RU2Drunk which was held in December 2014 is currently being evaluated by the University of Exeter. The pilot, which was funded by the PCC, saw door-staff at licensed premises using breathalysers to assess levels of intoxication before allowing people into premises and refusing entry to anyone who exceeded a pre-determined limit. Early indications for the pilot are positive but we await the evaluation and will update the Panel in due course on next steps.
- ❖ We have been exploring opportunities to work with drinkaware.co.uk on a number of educational and behavioural change initiatives within the peninsula. This work is at an early stage but we will continue to explore ways in which we can work together to achieve our goals in this area and will report further at the next meeting.
- ❖ The Commissioner continues to lead work nationally on alcohol for PCCs and has been involved in a number of key meetings over the past few weeks, joining with operational policing leads, health professionals and Home Office and Department of Health officials to discuss common issues and to identify priorities for future work. The PCCs across England and Wales are developing a common picture on the legislative changes that we require to help us to better tackle alcohol related crime.

- ❖ We are currently seeking funding from the Home Office to develop and pilot a new online alcohol awareness course. This course is part of our wider work to prevent crime from occurring.
- ❖ Following concerns raised by members of the public and councillors about levels of alcohol related crime and community safety in Bideford Town Centre the Commissioner has convened a meeting of public sector leaders in February 2015. The meeting will bring together councillors (county, district and town), health and community safety colleagues, the police and the local MP's office to explore the issues raised and to pool their evidence and understanding of the issues.
- ❖ Our plans to develop and launch a social media competition for local students are progressing but we have decided to postpone the launch of this competition to await the results of some research we are co-funding with Cornwall Council to better understand the receptiveness of young males to different messages. The competition will now take place later in 2015 to tap into this valuable work.

Priority 3: Efficiency and long term financial security

The Every Penny Counts Strategic Delivery Board met 6-weekly during 2014. The next meeting is due to take place at the end of February. At the time of the creation of this Delivery Board, target savings in the order of £14.1m were required over the 4 year period from 2015/16 to 2018/19. This figure now sits at £9.8m of savings in the latest financial plan that has been submitted to the Police and Crime Panel at this meeting. These savings need to be found in order to balance the budget by 2018/19.

December and January has been focused on development of the revised budget plans in order to inform the precept recommendation to the Panel. Part of this work has involved consolidation of savings into the MTFs. Work is set to continue during 2015 onwards to continue to look for new areas for savings. Work has continued over the past six weeks in the following areas:

- ❖ **Work Package 1 – Funding Streams and Income Generation** Fundraising - In order to take forward the development and delivery of a direct fundraising strategy for Devon and Cornwall Police, the Commissioner has submitted a bid to the Home Office's Police Innovation Fund 2015/16. We wait to hear from the Home Office – with the results of the bidding round expected in the next 6 weeks
- ❖ **Work Package 2 – Collaboration with Dorset (Strategic Alliance)** work to develop a Strategic Alliance with Dorset continues.
- ❖ **Work Package 3 – Review of Police Estates** Legal advice is awaited during January as to whether the Police are able to undertake commercial development of their own sites to generate additional income towards the cost of policing. The Commissioner is currently seeking some funding from the Home Office to assist us in taking this forward. Consideration is also being given within the Estates department to assess the potential for rationalisation plans to be fast-tracked so that savings can be realised much sooner. A more detailed report will be provided to the Panel on this matter in due course.
- ❖ **Work Package 5 – Value for Money in the PCCs Office** Work continues on the planned relocation of the OPCC office from rented space into the Middlemoor Headquarters. As a result of the staff structure review the headcount of OPCC staff will reduce by 4 by the end of the financial year.

Priority 4: To promote an effective Criminal Justice System (CJS) for our area, delivering a high quality service for victims, witnesses and society.

Work has continued over the past six weeks in a number of areas covered by this Priority, with the following updates to note:

Mental Health

- ❖ The latest published numbers for the number of S136 detentions, using police cells as a place of safety, showed a 5.8% reduction (749 people in the rolling 12 months to November 2014 compared to 795 to November 2013). The average detention time for each person was 10 hours 18 minutes.
- ❖ There were 8,097 cases where individuals arrested for a crime, self reported as having a mental illness (rolling year to November 2014). This was an increase of 15% (1,064 cases) on the previous year. All such cases are reviewed through the Liaison and Diversion scheme.
- ❖ Following an extensive consultation period, the revised S136 protocol was circulated to the 17 organisations that contribute to service delivery in December for signature. It is intended that the new protocol will go live with effect from 1 March 2015, but to date a number of signatures remain outstanding.
- ❖ The Ministry of Justice and NHS England have indicated that there will be no central funding for the Street Triage pilot in 2015/16. The pilot taking place in Devon, Plymouth and Torbay has contributed to saving lives in self harm situations and to reducing the number of instances where detention under S136 was necessary. The scheme has also enabled early intervention through the person's GP. A full evaluation report of the nine national street triage schemes is still awaited. Preliminary discussions have started about whether there are any local commissioning opportunities to sustain this service and expand it to cover Cornwall.

Transforming Rehabilitation

- ❖ Working Links has been awarded the Community Rehabilitation contracts for Dorset, Devon and Cornwall (also Avon, Somerset, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire plus the whole of Wales). On 21 January, the Working Links Chief Executive, attended a meeting of the regional Police and Crime Commissioners to outline the priorities for working with their client cohort.
- ❖ This includes working with all short sentence prisoners before their release through Exeter prison (it is estimated there are 1,200 such prisoners for the three counties each year). A 'through the gate' service will be commissioned to ensure their return into local communities is managed through Settlement Plans addressing issues such as accommodation, education and skills and employment.
- ❖ The reduction of reoffending remains a statutory duty for Community Safety Partnerships and both the National Probation Service and the Community Rehabilitation Company will be statutory members.
- ❖ The local Ministry of Justice contract manager, Matt Douglas, is currently contacting local stakeholders including CSP's to see how contract management arrangements can include and respond to the views of partner agencies and the public.

Restorative Justice

- ❖ Work continues to develop the four forums in Plymouth, Torbay, Cornwall and Devon. These forums will be the focal point for ensuring services for victim initiated restorative justice processes are linked to the offender led arrangements managed by the prison service, national probation service and the police. A referral mechanism has been arranged so that any victim can ask to be involved in restorative processes, as required by the Victims Code. The Police and Crime Commissioner has provided funding for part time co-ordinators in each area.

Priority 5: To deliver a high quality victim support service across our area

Work has continued over the past six weeks in a number of areas covered by this Priority as we head towards implementation of the new victims service commissioning arrangements from 1st April 2015.

- ❖ The Victims Care Unit will launch on 30 March 2015. A launch event is being held at Middlemoor to which we have invited a wide range of stakeholders and partners, including the members of the Panel.
- ❖ Recruitment for the staffing of the Victim Care Unit is well advanced, for Victim Care Officers and for the specialist Victim Advocates.
- ❖ We are continuing to work with the new Directory members (over 50 different organisations) to prepare them for the new arrangements. Engagement fees and service level agreements are now in place and training on referral mechanisms and on the wider CJS will be provided in February and March
- ❖ We have been keen to include an accredited tradesmen service (Buy with Confidence) as part of the directory website – identifying local tradesmen who are accredited to work with victims of crime. We have been working with Trading Standards to put this system in place and the arrangements are now being finalised.
- ❖ The new arrangements are focused on all victims of crime and we have been working with the Devon and Cornwall Business Council to better understand the needs of business victims. Following this engagement we are pleased to advise that the Business Council will be joining the Directory – and are recruiting an adviser to work with business victims of crime.

Priority 6: To encourage and enable citizens and communities to play their part in tackling crime and making their communities safer”.

Work is continuing to drive forward progress in this area:

Specials

- ❖ For the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014, 121,500 service hours were recorded. The performance measure within the Police and Crime Plan is to achieve 150,000 service hours annually by the end of the plan period. Discussions are currently

being held to support the achievement of 150,000 annual service hours by the end of the Police and Crime Plan period. This includes an examination of what action is required in areas such as Learning & Development. .

- ❖ An independent review of the Special Constabulary was undertaken by Volunteering Values Ltd. The review explored seven strategic areas and interviewed a number of officers and senior staff within Devon and Cornwall Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The final report is being drafted and a presentation of findings with accompanying recommendations is scheduled for early February 2015.

Volunteer Review

- ❖ Contracts have been agreed between Volunteer Cornwall and Devon and Cornwall Police to deliver a pilot action learning project in East Cornwall. Volunteer Cornwall has committed one member of staff for two days per week for one year to lead on the development of this work. The project commenced 1 December 2014.
- ❖ Phase one of the project is due to be completed at the end of February 2015. A report that will give an understanding of how East Cornwall works with and engages with volunteers in the community which will contain issues, opportunities and recommendations that can be translated into a pilot Model of Engagement.

Citizens in Policing

- ❖ The work of Police Chaplains continues to develop. There are currently 21 volunteer chaplains covering 30 police stations with new recruits being interviewed. Over 1800 hours were contributed by chaplains during the period from January to August 2015. Chaplains are engaging in delivery alongside Police Officers, walking the streets, undertaking home visits and supporting critical / major incidents such as road traffic accidents and flooding.
- ❖ Police Chaplains have delivered the first “Care for the Family” project which offered Officers and staff an opportunity to learn about healthy marriage and parenting skills whilst working for the force. Whilst currently, predominantly Christian in nature Police Chaplains are working to develop multi-faith chaplains which is expected to go live in early 2015.

2. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The following public engagement activities have taken place since December 2014;

- ❖ **Community visit- 22/01/15 Plymouth University Police & Volunteer Students:** The Commissioner visited students of Plymouth University studying Police Studies. These students have previously participated in the PCC’s alcohol focus group and volunteer to assist the local policing team in Plymouth. The PCC attended to find out more about the volunteering work they undertake with the local policing team and their activities on campus to ensure a safer environment for students, staff and members of the public.
- ❖ **Focus Group- 23/01/15 PCC Website Consultative Group:** The first focus group of the PCC Website Consultative Group was held on Friday 23 January 2015. The group provides a suitable forum to discuss proposals for the new OPCC website. Members who sit on the group represent various communities across Devon & Cornwall and include representations from Local Reference Groups across the

area, an independent member of the public, a volunteer representative, a young person representative and a representative from Devon & Cornwall Police.

❖ **Talks**

Talk- 13/12/14 - Yealm Probus Club

Talk- 27/01/15 - Sidmouth Methodist Wesley Guild

❖ **Surgeries**

Thursday 18/12/14 - Public Surgery Honiton

❖ **Events**

Presentation and Q&A with Exmouth Town Council on 12 January

Cornwall Council Community Network Meeting for St Blazey, Lostwithiel and Fowey on 26 January

Monthly phone-in with Laurence Reed on BBC Radio Cornwall on 26 January

Newquay Holocaust Memorial Day events on 27 January

Walking the Beat in Camborne – 16 January 2015

Future Engagement

Engagement activities for 2015 are in the final stage of planning. A full plan of engagement will be made available for the next meeting of the panel. Engagement during 2015 will include traditional forms of engagement including attendance at key community events such as Pride & Respect Festivals as well as public surgeries. We also plan to engage in different ways to improve our contact with the public, including:

- ❖ Development of online engagement opportunities
- ❖ Increasing the number of PCC public meetings and radio phone-ins
- ❖ Programmed regular visits to meet local councillors, for example through the Cornwall Council Community Network

Upcoming events –

29/1/2015 – Meeting with Teignbridge association of Local Councils

9/2/2015 – Attending Bodmin Community Network Meeting

10/2/2015 – Walking the Beat (South Devon)

Correspondence

The PCC has received 228 items of correspondence since the beginning of December 2014.

3. OPCC COMMUNICATIONS

- ❖ We are currently in the process of amalgamating our communication and engagement functions following the OPCC Review in Autumn. Future reports to the Police and Crime Panel will include a forward plan of communications and engagements.
- ❖ During December and into early January the OPCC has issued 10 press releases but there has also been extensive contact with the media in response to national stories.
- ❖ Among the matters covered in recent press releases have been the additional cuts to police budgets, the announcement of a Government consultation into the police complaints process, and the announcement that a police officer and two members of staff had been charged in relation to the death in custody of Thomas Orchard. This work resulted in 59 newspaper articles which reached a total readership alone of over 1,216,000 readers.

- ❖ The OPCC issued 63 tweets and by encouraging conversations with our communities in this way the office increased its number of Twitter followers to over 3,784 (up 124 from the last report).
- ❖ The number of people retweeting OPCC messages increased sharply. The office statement re the budget cuts was retweeted 78 times. The statement re Thomas Orchard was retweeted 329 times.
- ❖ The PCC also made numerous appearances on local TV and radio programmes, mainly news based.
- ❖ At the start of the month the office supported the Force in launching the #RU2DRUNK campaign in Torbay. This is an OPCC funded Police led pilot where doormen at licensed premises use breathalysers to refuse entry to anyone who is already intoxicated. The launch of the pilot received excellent print and broadcast coverage.
- ❖ On 26 January 2015 Mr Hogg will make his second appearance on Laurence Reed's BBC Radio Cornwall phone in.
- ❖ The move to film and broadcast Q&As from the Performance and Accountability Board (PAB), via the website has been well received and continues. You can view this here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/PCCTonyHogg>
- ❖ And finally, in partnership with Dorset OPCC, the office is working towards launching a new website. This collaboration will allow us to replace the current (limited) site which was delivered to all OPCC's after the elections in a timely and cost-effective manner. Total cost to Devon and Cornwall OPCC is £15,000 but the plan is for the developers to market the new site to other OPCCs which will lead to a reduction in our contribution over time.

4. FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE MATTERS

Decisions made

The following decisions and approvals have been made by the PCC in recent weeks:

- ❖ **Action Plans for the Joint Strategic Delivery Boards**
The Action Plans have been agreed and published on the OPCC website
- ❖ **Community Remedy**
Agreement of the list of actions which will form the Community Remedy Menu
- ❖ **Innovation Fund bids**
 - Dorset and Devon and Cornwall PCC led Police Force Strategic Alliance and Collaboration Programme
 - Development and delivery of a direct fundraising strategy for Devon and Cornwall
 - Collaborative response to tackling Domestic Abuse in Cornwall
 - Development and roll-out a digital platform to support the development of the ACPO framework for Volunteer Police Cadets and develop a Youth Social Action project to raise awareness of Modern Slavery.

❖ **Bank Account Renewal**

The present bank account arrangements will be renewed with effect from April 2015.

The full decisions page of the OPCC website can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk/Key-Documents/Decisions.aspx>

c) Financial matters

- ❖ **Budget 2014-15.** Further meetings have been held to consider proposals for the next budget setting round (2014-15). The proposed budget and precept will be brought to the February 2015 meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.
- ❖ **Quarterly Finance update.** The latest projected financial position for 2014-15 was considered and noted.

5. RECENT HMIC INSPECTIONS

There have been no HMIC reports since the last meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.

Contact for further information

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