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Dear DCI Powley

IOM/TURNAROUND - OPTIONS FOR FUTURE MODEL ACROSS DEVON/CORNWALL AND DORSET

Thank you very much indeed for forwarding to Safer Plymouth (Plymouth's Community Safety Partnership) a copy of your PowerPoint presentation and your options appraisal in respect of the above, for which you have kindly invited comment from Safer Plymouth.

It was only at our last Safer Plymouth Partnership Board, held on 23 January 2015, where concerns were raised about the options by the CRC representative and in particular concerned that:

“All but one of the options will result in a reduction in the scheme from an option that all IOM police work would go out to neighbourhood which in effect would be the end of the scheme to reductions in the number of PPO's managed from 200 to approx 50 in each locality - this latter seems the most likely with a move for the strategic responsibility from Crime to a newly created prevention directorate.”

At this point, Safer Plymouth had not had sight of the options. As a result I tasked Sarah Hopkins, Safer Plymouth's Community Safety & Partnerships Manager, to find out more about what options were being considered as part of the Strategic Alliance. I understand she has already had a conversation with you and also Superintendent Keith Perkin, the Devon and Cornwall Force Lead for IOM/Turnaround, to find out more.

We understand that the review is ongoing and is due to report to the Strategic Alliance board in March when a decision will be made. We are pleased to be invited to comment on the options and influence the outcome particularly where Plymouth are concerned.

We totally appreciate, like any other organisation, the need to review services, in the current financial climate, in order to deliver the most effective and targeted services and to drive out efficiencies, and we recognise that this is no different for managing Prolific and other Priority Offenders.

It would be our strong recommendation, however, that you preserve IOM/Turnaround resources at the current level in Plymouth, especially given that Plymouth accounts for nearly a quarter of the crime out of the whole Devon and Cornwall Police Force area. Our main concerns are in respect of:

- the continuation of relevant agencies being co-located,
- retention of dedicated officers who are skilled in this area of business which is complex, and
- that there is flexibility amongst the teams to provide a joint approach to prolific offenders categorised as 'super prolific' and also those emerging as potential threats.

Sarah has advised me, that in respect of her discussions with yourself and Superintendent Perkin, your preferred option is option 3 in your presentation, which seeks to ensure continued co-location of police resources with and key partners focussing on reducing crime and reoffending – which we welcome and support.

We would be in support of Option 3 as long as we can be assured that for Plymouth:

1. There is a continued joint approach to identifying and targeting appropriate offenders, whilst recognising the police service, as with other agencies, have to reflect on their core business without resulting in a withdrawal within a partnership environment as Turnaround is, and support a review that ensures roles and responsibilities are clear.
2. Any reduction in the numbers of offenders does not erode the sustainability and viability of the scheme in the longer term – and that whilst Option 3 speaks of 'super prolific' and 'red reds' we hope that this will not be at the exclusion of anyone else. We would be reassured if there is a commitment to the Turnaround Team analysing and looking at those individuals who may be classed as 'amber' with intelligence indicating current offending.
3. Any move to a 'strategic prevention directorate' does not denude joined up work with other teams and that Turnaround teams will continue to be located in local policing areas and stations where these teams currently are.

I trust you will find this feedback helpful and are able to include it as part of your review, and we look forward to receiving an update on developments.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Chris Penberthy

Cabinet Member for Cooperatives, Housing and Community Safety

Ward Member for St Peter and the Waterfront Ward

cc: Supt Keith Perkin, Lead for IOM/Turnaround, Devon & Cornwall.