



**Police and Crime Panel Meeting
9 December 2016
Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE REPORT

This report draws the Police and Crime Panel's attention to a number of matters. The Commissioner would be happy to expand upon any of the issues covered, if helpful to Panel members.

1. Policy developments

Deferred Charge Scheme

The PCC and the Chief Constable are seeking to develop a Delayed Charging and Diversion Scheme which offers some offenders (subject to strict eligibility criteria) the opportunity to undertake victim-led reparation, including the potential for restorative solutions, as well as an agreed programme of rehabilitative work during a four month period. Successful completion of the programme of work would enable the offender to avoid criminal charge. Evidence indicates that the opportunities provided by the scheme can be the watershed which allows the offender to improve their life chances, reducing their negative impact on society and over utilisation of local services.

A joint project has been set up reporting to the Chief Executive of the OPCC and the Deputy Chief Constable and a 2 year pilot is due to be launched by April 2017. The project team are engaging with a wide range of partners and service providers from across the peninsula to engage them in this work. The pilot will create an alternative pathway through which an offender (victim led and subject to strict eligibility criteria) can enter into a contract with the police to address the underlying causes of offending (such as addiction or mental ill health). Successful completion of that contract would provide an alternative to facing a criminal charge. The pilot will run for two years and will be evaluated by the University of Cambridge.

Police Funding Formula Review

The Police and Crime Panel will recall from its 7th October 2016 meeting that the Home Office have recommenced work to review the existing police funding formula. The Commissioner and her team have been continuing to engage closely with the Home Office and with colleagues from across policing to contribute to the review process.

Our understanding remains that the new Policing Minister Brandon Lewis, MP intends to consult on a revised funding formula proposal in spring 2017. The Commissioner's

Team has met with Home Office officials to discuss the approach being taken and the Commissioner is pleased that the Home Office team have taken on board much of the feedback provided following the Home Affairs Select Committee report in December 2015 on process and approach. There is considerable engagement taking place with the policing service and Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and have enlisted the support of a panel of experts to provide advice to the process. Two panels have been convened: a Senior Sector Group comprised of senior stakeholders and a Technical Reference Group comprised of financial, academic and policing experts to advise on the detailed approach to the formula.

The Commissioner welcomes this more consultative approach and has been appointed as a member of the Senior Sector Group as one of the 5 representative for the Association of PCCs. The Minister wrote to all PCCs and Chief Constables in November 2016 seeking their views on the type of risks and challenges that need to be reflected within the formula. A joint response was provided by the Commissioner and the Chief Constable which highlighted in particular the challenges around delivering an effective police service across a large geographic area such as ours and the additional seasonal demand generated every summer by the large volume of tourists that visit the area.

The Commissioner and her team will be working closely over the coming months with other rural PCCs as well as MPs and local authorities to make the strongest case possible on police funding for Devon and Cornwall.

Online safety

The OPCC is trialling a **Cyber Café pilot** initiative to raise awareness of the steps the public can take to improve their online safety. The pilot is being run in partnership with a major retailer - using their stores to host advice and technical help sessions to customers. To date cyber cafés have taken part in Truro and Kingsteignton. These sessions will be evaluated ahead of a decision to develop this approach more widely across Devon and Cornwall.

Policing Response to Modern Slavery

The Government's Modern Slavery Act introduced harsher sentences for slavery offences and over the last year prosecutions and convictions have risen, with 289 modern slavery offences prosecuted in England and Wales in 2015. To further strengthen our response to this horrible crime, the Home Secretary announced in October 2016 that Devon and Cornwall would lead nationally on a new National Modern Slavery Unit – backed by an investment of £8.5 million from the Home Office's police Transformation Fund over the next 2.5 years.

Devon and Cornwall Police will lead a national resource – involving up to 50 dedicated analysts, specialists and investigators. The Unit, being set up by Devon and Cornwall Police, is a national resource. It will help the police service across England and Wales to transform their current response by providing high quality intelligence, an analysis hub to assess the threat at a national and regional level, and an improved operational response throughout the investigative process. The investment includes:

- **Joint Slavery & Trafficking Assessment Centre (JSTAC):** A dedicated analytical team to deliver high quality intelligence and an improved assessment of the modern slavery threat.
- **Regional Co-ordination Teams:** Regional analysts and co-ordinators located in Regional Organised Crime Units to assess the scale and nature of the modern slavery threat regionally and to join up investigative resources.
- **Prevention & Investigation Centre of Excellence (PRICE):** Includes a team of specialist officers and an on-call expert prosecutor to support forces as they investigate, disrupt and prosecute complex modern slavery cases. It will also include a dedicated triage team to manage referrals to the police for criminal investigation, a specialist team to disseminate best practice across law enforcement agencies and the development of accredited training products to improve identification and investigation of modern slavery cases.

Additional Funding for Sexual Assault Referral Centres

Victims of sexual assault and abuse in Devon and Cornwall, including children, will be helped by extra funding from NHS England.

The Commissioner and her OPCC Team have worked closely with NHS England to secure £150,000 additional funding to enhance the services already provided by sexual assault referral centres (SARCs) in the two counties. The funding will increase the SARCs' capacity to offer psychological and medical support to victims of sexual assault over the weekend. Currently, at weekends, this service is only available to people who report an assault to the police. The funding will also pay for three new children and young people's Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ChISVAs). Two will cover East and West Cornwall for the Pool based victim support organisation Skoodhya and third will join the SARC in Plymouth, run by Twelves Company, a Devon and Cornwall sexual violence and domestic abuse support charity

APCC portfolios

The Association of PCCs operates a 'portfolio lead' scheme whereby PCCs take on a national role in specific policy areas on behalf of all PCCs. The scheme has been amended recently to include 'Deputy Leads' and the Commissioner has been appointed as the Deputy Lead for Victims and Witnesses – alongside Vera Baird the PCC for Northumbria who is the Portfolio Lead.

Victim care and the delivery of a true end to end support service for victims of crime is a key priority for the Commissioner under her proposed Police and Crime Plan. Through this appointment the Commissioner will be well-positioned to help shape national thinking on victim and witness services and support over the coming years.

2. Legislative developments

Policing and Crime Bill

The Policing and Crime Bill is continuing on its passage through the House of Lords. The Committee Stage has concluded and the Bill will be considered in Report Stage at the end of November 2016. Current expectations are that the Bill will receive Royal Assent in the new year, although this will be dependent on the business of the house and the level of discussion required between the two Houses in view of the changes

made in the House of Lords. The Bill includes a number of key policy developments, including emergency service collaboration, reforming police complaints and the wider use of police powers.

Investigatory Powers Bill

The Investigatory Powers Bill would overhaul the framework governing the use of surveillance by the intelligence, security agencies and law enforcement agencies to obtain communications data. The remaining issues on the Bill were resolved by the Lords on 16 November 2016. A date for Royal Assent has yet to be set.

3. National Police Reform Programme

Work on the national programme of reform has been slower than expected but is gathering pace. This fundamental piece of work will shape policing structures nationally, locally and regionally is being led jointly by PCCs and Chief Constables through a newly established Police Reform and Transformation Board.

Policing Vision 2025

The National Police Chiefs' Council and Association of Police and Crime Commissioners has jointly published their collective vision for Policing for the coming decade. The Policing Vision describes the ambition for the reform of policing by 2025 and help shape decisions about the service will use resources by informing key strategies and underpinning future programs of work.

The vision sets out the ambition of change categorised under the six themes of

- Local policing
- Specialist capabilities
- Workforce
- Digital policing
- Enabling business delivery
- Governance and accountability

The policing vision 2025 is supported by the PCC and Chief Constable. The document can be viewed at <http://www.npcc.police.uk/documents/Policing%20Vision.pdf>

Specialist Capabilities Review

In October 2016 the first phase report from the Specialist Capabilities Review was published, covering a series of specialist areas including firearms and major crime. The main focus of findings is on the benefits of taking a 'networked' approach across policing areas – sharing expertise, resources and support to ensure an efficient and high quality of service.

<http://www.npcc.police.uk/documents/Specialist%20Capabilities%20Programme%20Phase%20One%20Report.pdf>

Police Transformation Fund

An interim bidding round for the Police Transformation Fund was issued in July 2016 which closed at the start of September 2016. This bidding round relates to in-year

spend with £21million available before the end of 2016/17 but PCCs were able to submit multi-year bids.

The Commissioner supported a number of bids, in line with the criteria for the fund, which relates to the transformation of policing services. This included two national bids: a modern slavery national resourcing bid and a bid to support the work of local resilience forums across the country. Five further bids were submitted – covering ICT investment, service re-design for command, control and public contact and the establishment of a new pilot scheme on better managing offenders at an early stage in the offending cycle. The Home Secretary has announced that the modern slavery national resourcing bid has been successful – delivering £8.5 million over the next 3 years. Decisions on the award of funds under the remaining bids are still awaited.

4. HMIC Reports

There has been one HMIC Report issued since the last Police and Crime Panel meeting.

PEEL: Police Efficiency 2016 - An inspection of Devon and Cornwall Police

As part of the annual assessment of all police forces in England and Wales, HMIC published the second report examining how Devon & Cornwall Police use their resources to keep people safe and reduce crime. The inspection focused on how well the police were able to predict demand for services both now and in the longer term, and how they manage their resources including officers and staff.

The inspection found that Devon & Cornwall Police has some understanding of demand for services from the public and ambitious plans in place to work collaboratively with Dorset Police.

However, inspectors were concerned to find that there was a limited understanding of how current demand for services may change in the future with the growth of new crime trends such as cyber crime. This limited the ability of the force to identify the impact of future demand on the ability of officers and staff to respond raising concern that service to the public may not be as efficient in the future.

Overall the inspection found that planning in Devon & Cornwall Police requires improvement in order to ensure that services can meet future demand. Specifically the force needs to develop its operating model to ensure that it has the right staff with the right skills and equipment to meet the demands of policing in the future

<http://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmic/wp-content/uploads/peel-police-efficiency-2016-devon-and-cornwall.pdf>

Two further reports will be published on 1st and 8th December. The first of these will contain the results of the May 2016 inspection of crime recording in Devon & Cornwall. This was part of the rolling programme of inspections of all police forces in England & Wales to assess progress made against the recommendations from inspections in 2014. The second will contain the outcome of the PEEL: Police Legitimacy and

leadership inspection for Devon & Cornwall Police. An update will be provided to the panel at the meeting.

Contact for further information

Andrew White, Chief Executive

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

chiefexecutivesupport@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

23 November 2016