

**Police and Crime Panel Meeting  
3 February 2017  
Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PERFORMANCE  
REPORT**

**1. Introduction**

In response to the feedback from the Police & Crime Panel in October 2016 this Performance Report presents a final update on a limited set of the performance measures set out in the previous Police and Crime Plan 2015/16. Going forward, following the publication at the end of January 2017 of the PCC's Police and Crime Plan "Safe, Resilient and Connected Communities" our reporting approach will be amended (as discussed in para 3 below)

This report is focused on the data in relation to the priority "To make our area a safer place to live work and visit – reducing the likelihood that people will become victims of crime".

As previously it includes the baseline data against each headline measure, plus attainment data unless otherwise stated for the 12 months to end of February 2016. This is followed by a narrative description of the presented data including additional explanatory material. Finally the report sets out the OPCC's judgement on police performance against each measure – using a red/amber/green grading to illustrate how strong or at risk the OPCC considers force performance to be against each measure.

A more detailed narrative about those measures that are currently showing as red against the expected attainment is contained in the following section.

**2. The OPCC's assessment of performance against the headline measures set out in the Police and Crime Plan 2014-2017**

The OPCC's assessment of performance to-date against the headline measures for the performance year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 is contained in Appendix 1.

The latest reported public confidence data indicates that the public of Devon & Cornwall has the highest rate of confidence in the police nationally.

Three performance measures are shown as not meeting the expected attainment level.

## **Domestic Abuse**

The previous Police & Crime Commissioner set an aspiration to increase public confidence to report domestic abuse. This has been monitored historically through the expectation that reported domestic-related crime and incidents would increase. Increases have been observed in relation to recorded domestic violent crime and sexual offences. These represent those domestic incidents that are at the more serious end of the spectrum of incidents and are the most easily recognisable by victims and witnesses as being abuse. The narrative that follows concerning the increase in violent crime equally applies to domestic-related violence. In particular the shift of harassment and intimidation offending into the online environment has driven much of this.

By contrast offences such as burglary and non-crime incidents have reduced. The considerations that drive victims to report and engage with the police or other partners are complex. Over the last two years we have sought to increase our understanding of this in collaboration with other stakeholders and by the introduction of victim surveys. Despite this it remains difficult to explain the differences in trends, especially in relation to non-crime incidents. This is an area which would benefit from further scrutiny from the Police & Crime Panel in future.

## **Other Violent Crime**

*Violence with injury* has increased against an expectation that the offending rate would reduce. A significant proportion of this increase is attributed to a focus on the recording of dangerous dogs act (1991) offences within this category. Violence with injury offences have increased by 2% in Devon and Cornwall compared with a national increase of 12%. This might indicate that further increases can be expected.

*Violence without injury* offences have increased by 17% in Devon and Cornwall compared to 30% in England and Wales overall. The increase in Devon & Cornwall is due to the addition of four new categories of offending that relate to online harassment to the home office counting rules. Offences recorded under these new categories almost entirely account for the increase in Devon & Cornwall.

Considerable work has been undertaken over the last two years to understand the nature, extent and changes taking place in violent crime in Devon & Cornwall. This has highlighted a number of significant emerging themes including violence among young people, neighbour disputes and non-domestic violence within the home. Alcohol remains a prominent theme throughout. The new Police and Crime Plan recognises the impact of alcohol, and the PCC will continue to work with partners to improve safety in the night time economies across our towns and cities.

### **3. Future performance reporting**

A new suite of performance measures are being published to compliment the new Police and Crime Plan. Initially these will be reported to the Police and Crime Panel using the existing format although new and more publicly accessible formats are being explored. The performance management framework will see a shift towards using more qualitative data with a stronger emphasis on the views of the public. This is consistent with the feedback received from the public concerning the importance of ensuring that they feel more connected to local policing.

In addition, under the Police and Crime Plan, a greater range of information on performance will be available publicly.

Following the setting of clear public standards on 101, email, feedback to victims and witnesses etc we will be reporting regularly on performance against these standards. We will also move towards publishing more usable information on crime and other issues affecting local areas. We will consult with the Panel over the coming weeks to agree a reporting format for future meetings.

#### **Contact for further information**

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