

Police and Crime Panel

28th October 2016

Police, Crime and Victims' Plan

Report of Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner



Purpose

1. To provide the Police and Crime Panel with the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2016-21, following amendments that have been made after the conclusion of the public consultation period. In line with the title change to Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner, the Plan will be known as the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan.

Background

2. Section 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides the Police and Crime Commissioner with the duty to issue a Police and Crime Plan for the area within the financial year in which each election is held.
3. Prior to publication, the Police and Crime Panel must, under Section 28(3) of the same Act, review the draft Plan and make a report or recommendations to the Commissioner on its content.
4. The Commissioner must then, under Section 5(6), have regard to such recommendations and issue a response to the panel. Both the Panel's report and the Commissioner's response must be published.

Consultation

5. The Police, Crime and Victims' Plan was open for public consultation from 22nd July to 30th September 2016. The consultation was split into three main methods: a survey, focus groups and public/partner events and meetings.
6. **541** surveys were completed, covering all Neighbourhood Policing Teams and age groups.
7. An average rating of **over 4 out of 5** was given to all three aims via the survey.
8. Between **93.2% and 97.5%** of survey respondents agreed with the proposed objectives. 'Understand and tackle emerging threats' and 'understand the issues facing our rural communities and provide an appropriate response' received the lowest level of agreement.
9. Between **93.9% and 97.7%** of survey respondents agreed with the proposed approaches. 'Problem solving' received the lowest level of agreement.

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10. Survey respondents gave an average rating of **greater than 4 out of 5** for the overall draft Police, Crime and Victims' Plan.
11. It was found through the survey, focus groups, meetings and events that **police visibility and neighbourhood policing** was an area that people felt was missing from the Plan.
12. Some respondents voiced concerns that some of the objectives were areas that are the responsibility of partner agencies rather than solely of the police. Responsibilities of the wider criminal justice system, which the police do not have influence over, were also discussed. This suggested that **partnership working** needed a greater prominence in the Plan.
13. A full report of the consultation can be read in **Appendix Two**.

Police, Crime and Victims' Plan

14. The vision is: 'County Durham and Darlington are areas where people have confidence in policing and the criminal justice system, victims and vulnerable people feel supported, and all our communities are safe.' The three aims have remained the same: '**inspire confidence in the police and criminal justice system**', '**support victims and the vulnerable**' and '**tackle crime and keep our communities safe**'.
15. There are now 10 objectives. The objective about rural communities has been reworded to make the intention clearer, and the objective about emerging threats has been amended and moved to the approaches section.
 - **Address the incidence and impact of domestic abuse and sexual violence in all its forms;**
 - **Ensure that victims are supported at all stages of the criminal justice system;**
 - **Safeguard vulnerable people;**
 - **Tackle anti-social behaviour;**
 - **Reduce the impact of hate crime;**
 - **Tackle cybercrime;**
 - **Reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs;**
 - **Improve road safety;**
 - **Reduce reoffending; and**
 - **Tackle the issues facing our rural communities.**
16. The approaches have been amended slightly to strengthen the importance given to engagement with communities (including visibility) and partnership working. The need to need to understand demand alongside emerging threats has also been incorporated and 'problem solving' has been removed due to the overlap with other approaches. Therefore, the 7 approaches are now:
 - **Communicating and engaging with our communities;** (this includes visibility)
 - **Collaborating and working with partners;**
 - **Delivering efficient services;**
 - **Operating strong governance and accountability arrangements;**
 - **Campaigning for change;**

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- **Being innovative;** and
- **Understanding demand and tackling emerging threats.**

17. The full amended Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2016-21 is available to read in Appendix Three.

Recommendation

18. The Police and Crime Panel are requested to consider the Consultation Findings Report and raise any questions in the meeting.

19. The Panel are also recommended to consider the amended Police, Crime and Victims' Plan 2016-21, provide any questions in the meeting and follow up with a response report.

Ron Hogg

Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

n/a

Staffing

n/a

Equality and Diversity

n/a

Accommodation

n/a

Crime and Disorder

The plan is intended to have a positive impact on crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

Children's Act 2004

n/a

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

Community engagement is proposed as an approach in the plan.

Environment

n/a

Collaboration and Partnerships

Collaboration and partnership working are proposed as approaches in the plan.

Value for Money and Productivity

n/a

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

This sets out the proposed priority areas for 2016-21.

Commissioning

n/a

Other risks

n/a

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