



Police and Crime Panel

Date Monday 7 March 2022
Time 9.30 am
Venue Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham

Business

Part A

**[Items during which the Press and Public are welcome to attend.
Members of the Public can ask questions with the Chairman's
agreement]**

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Substitute Members
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2022 (Pages 3 - 10)
4. Declarations of interest, if any
5. Media Report - Report of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 11 - 14)
6. PCC Commissioning Report - Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner (Pages 15 - 16)
7. PCC Decision Records - Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner (Pages 17 - 20)
8. HMICFRS publications - Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 21 - 26)
9. Revenue and Capital Budgets - Report of Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 27 - 48)
10. Neighbourhood Problem Solving Approach - Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner (Pages 49 - 52)
11. Appointment of Victim Champions - Report of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 53 - 58)
12. Complaints Update - Report of Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel (Pages 59 - 62)
13. Such other business, as in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

14. Any resolution relating to the exclusion of the public during the discussion of items containing exempt information

Part B

Items during which it is considered the meeting will not be open to the public (consideration of exempt or confidential information)

15. Independent co-opted member Appointment - Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 63 - 70)
16. Such other business, as in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Helen Lynch
Monitoring Officer

County Hall
Durham
25 February 2022

To: **The Members of the Police and Crime Panel**

Durham County Council

Councillors D Boyes, L Hovvells, D Nicholls, J Nicholson (Vice-Chair), R Potts, A Savory and M Simmons

Darlington Borough Council

Councillors J Dulston, B Jones (Chair) and Wallis

Independent Co-opted Members

Mr N J H Cooke and Mr D K G Dodwell

Contact: Martin Tindle

Tel: 03000 269 713

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Thursday 3 February 2022 at 9.30 am**

Present:

Councillor J Nicholson (Chair)

Durham County Council:

Councillors D Boyes, L Hovvels, D Nicholls, R Potts and M Simmons

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillors Mr D K G Dodwell and Culley (Substitute) (substitute for B Jones)

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr D K G Dodwell

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors J Dulston, B Jones, A Savory and Mr N Cooke.

2 Substitute Members

Councillor P Culley substituted for Councillor B Jones.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held 10 January 2022 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

4 Declarations of interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Precept Consultation

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the process for setting the Policing precept for 2022/23 and sought the Panel's support for an increase of £10 per household per year for properties in Band D, and commensurate increases for other properties (for copy see file of minutes).

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) highlighted key pressures on the budget and explained that the ability to raise funding was limited due to the number of properties which were in Band A. The government funding, which was reviewed every 12 months by government, provided for a Police Grant increase of 5.7% to £106.1m, allowing for an additional 90 Police Officers to be employed within Durham and Darlington. She went on to explain that in order to achieve a balanced budget for 2022/23 (£146.8m), it would be necessary to increase the precept by the maximum permitted; £10 per household, per year (Band D).

She expressed her thanks to the residents for taking the time to complete the on-line survey and share their views and stated their feedback was valued and would help the Police Force going forward.

The Chief Finance Officer gave a presentation on the Policing Precept 2022/23 (for copy see file of minutes).

In terms of deliverables, he explained that recruitment was positive but that it was a significant challenge for the force to get all new officers trained and up to speed. He referred to the new custody build and advised that work had commenced on this. In relation to the fleet replacement, he advised that the Force was moving towards an electric fleet with the expectation of moving to a green fleet by 2030.

With regards to finance, he explained that there was a £0.4m collaboration reserve for Durham and Cleveland special ops unit and the Regional Organised Crime Unit led by Northumberland and a £0.9m capital and revenue grant which will be used during 2024/25.

Councillor Boyes raised his concerns regarding the £10 increase and explained that this would be in addition to the increase in council tax, the increase in the cost of food bill which would further impact on the cost of living. He advised that people would be willing to accept the increase providing that they felt it was justified. He described the lawlessness behaviour that was present in his area of Easington and gave examples of open drug dealing, theft and the riding of off-road bikes. He explained that there had been a major deterioration in police services over the last two years and that more PCSOs were needed on the streets.

The PCC highlighted that Durham was top of the league table at the recent inspection conducted by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire Rescue Services (HMICFRS), being outstanding in 9 out of 12 areas, but explained that the data was difficult to compare with other forces. As the regime had recently changed, she offered to provide an update of the comparative data at the next meeting. She advised that despite this there was still a lot of work to do and stressed the need for police officers to come forward for training. She assured Members that she would deliver on what mattered to the public and would work with members regarding this.

Councillor Boyes accepted that Durham was doing well in comparison to other forces but that there was a marked deterioration in his area of Easington Colliery, and that the people in this area were not seeing the great service.

Mr Dodwell applauded the recruitment process but asked for clarification on the number of officers that would be taken out of their role to provide training and what the impact of this would be on the front-line.

The Chief Finance Officer confirmed that there was a dedicated training team and therefore no front-line officers would be withdrawn. He explained that before independent patrol status could be given to a new recruit, a six-month training course would be undertaken which involved a combination of classroom and patrol training. He advised that timescales for training were lengthened when an individual joined without a degree as they needed to study part time at university for three years which affected their ability to be on the streets.

Councillor Hovvels welcomed the extra police officers that were going to be recruited. She went on to raise her concerns regarding the long lens cameras and expressed that her community would like to see an increase in CCTV and that this would give residents re-assurance due to the high volume of crime that had taken place.

The PCC advised it was important to provide members and residents with an update on funding and what this had achieved, including ANPR cameras. She went on to explain that she was keen to push area-based problem-solving partnership approach down to neighbourhood policing levels to tackle crime and disorder so that issues and problems could be better identified and targeted.

In relation to off road bikes, Councillor Hovvels asked how much from this budget would be spent on addressing this problem and how this compared to last year's budget, and further asked how much was allocated from this precept. The Chief Executive agreed to report back to members on this matter.

Councillor Nicholls praised the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office for their transparency regarding the precept and commended them for putting themselves out there and engaging with residents. He went on to ask how much of the allocated precept would go towards tackling violence against women and girls.

The Chief Finance Officer confirmed that all front-line police officers dealt with issues relating to domestic abuse which included violence against women and girls and that it was difficult to put a cost on it. He advised that this was signposted as a priority, and he was happy to contact Councillor Nicholls directly to expand on this.

Further to this, the PCC highlighted the importance of the upcoming public accountability meeting and recommended members promoted this. She advised that there was a domestic abuse and survivors champion that were able to attend future meetings to further discuss this issue. She also noted that a strategy was being developed for violence against women and girls, and this would identify the areas where money spent would have the biggest impact.

Councillor Potts quoted the rise in precept figures for the last four years and stated this equated to 32.1% and believed it was wrong to increase the precept by the maximum level, particularly when for some residents it was a choice between eating or heating due to the rising costs of living. He noted the deliverables in the

report but stated it did not include the victims champion, anti-social behaviour champion, domestic abuse survivors champion or the safer streets co-ordinator.

Councillor Potts suggested the plan for the new custody suite be withdrawn which would save £21m. He recommended that £5m of the savings should be used to improve the existing custody suite with the remainder used to protect against future precept rises in the coming years. He confirmed that he rejected the proposed increase.

In response, the Chief Finance Officer accepted the figures quoted. He advised that there were 42 PCC precepts in total and that 34 of these had proposed the maximum increase. In terms of future capital costs, he highlighted that these had not been included and that new vehicles would be needed for the increase in staff and pointed out that no money would be received for this. In answer to the question regarding the new custody suite, he explained that the contract for this had already been signed and added that it was not possible to make the current suite home office compliant.

Further to this, the PCC advised that she had viewed all the custody suites and met the custody sergeants and officers who were on duty and that they had all supported the new suite. She explained that it was not just about saving money, it was about providing the correct environment for staff and detainees and suggested that Councillor Potts speak with custody sergeants and officers regarding this.

In terms of the victim's champion, anti-social behaviour champion, domestic abuse survivors champion, the PCC explained that these were all part of the strategy and that there were two and half years left to deliver the plan. She explained that these roles were all grant funded as was the safer streets co-ordinator which was a time limited role.

Councillor Culley raised an issue relating to Cockerton Station, the Chief Finance Officer agreed to come back to her with a response.

Councillor Culley went on to ask whether additional police officers would be recruited if the precept was vetoed. The Chief Finance Officer confirmed that £1.6m had been requested for this in the precept. He advised that recruitment would continue but explained that it would jeopardise PCSOs, call handlers and new IT.

Mr Dodwell commented that from experience where charges had been frozen for 12 months, that this had created future problems, and he was therefore in support of the increase and stated it was critical to keep moving forward.

The PCC stressed the importance of supporting the front line and explained she intended to deliver on the priorities of the public.

Councillor Hovvells **moved** the precept for recommendation. Mr Dodwell **seconded** this.

The Chair invited the Clerk to the Panel to set out the procedure and process when considering the precept report. The Clerk to the Panel confirmed the timescales to

consider the proposed precept in accordance with the Regulations. The Clerk outlined the option of the Panel to veto the proposal and that this would require agreement by two thirds of the full membership to veto.

Upon a vote being taken it was

Resolved:

- (i) That the current position of the consultation and the outcome be noted;
- (ii) That the proposal for a £10 precept increase at Band D be approved;
- (iii) That there be no veto to the proposal; and,
- (iv) That a report be produced.

6 Performance Progress Report

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which updated the panel regarding the current work strands associated with developing performance management of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved: That the content of the report be noted and to await the new iteration of the Quarterly Performance Report.

7 Media Report

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update of press and social media coverage concerning the work of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner since the previous meeting (for copy see file of minutes).

The Chief Executive advised that there had been significant activity since the last meeting and explained that they were running short in terms of media capacity.

Councillor Nicholls expressed his gratitude to the Police and Crime Commissioner for their work with the media. He observed that they had been in touch with the public about violence against women and girls and thanked them for bringing this issue to the forefront.

Councillor Boyes echoed the comments from Councillor Nicholls and appreciated the PCC's answers to the difficult questions raised.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

8 PCC Commissioning Update

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which updated the panel on decisions taken at the Commissioning Board in December 2021 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved: That the report be noted.

9 HMICFRS Inspections

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which outlined the findings of the recent report by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) that had required a PCC comment, listed below:

- National Child Protection Inspection- Post-inspection Review (for copy see file of minutes).

In reference to the sex offenders register, Councillor Boyes asked whether this had been updated. The Accountability and Scrutiny Officer confirmed that the Force engaged well with Visor and were compliant with its requirements.

Councillor Boyes raised an additional question regarding the protection of children who moved into the area, the Finance Officer confirmed he would report back to Members at the next meeting with regards to this.

Councillor Hovvells asked if a further report could be produced which identified the progress. The Accountability & Scrutiny Officer agreed to this.

Councillor Potts disputed the summary given of the Post Inspection Review and believed it did not accurately reflect the findings within the full report. He referred to the National Child Protection Inspection October 2019 and highlighted some of the concerns raised regarding the constabulary's response to the incidents of children at risk of sexual exploitation, stating that police were not deployed straight away, recording and supervision were inconsistent and that the national child abuse image database was not used efficiently. He stated that out of the 20 child abuse cases that were audited, 9 were good, 16 required improvement and 4 were inadequate. He asked why no one had been held accountable for this and whether it was possible for an investigation to be requested to address these issues.

The Chief Executive explained that an investigation would be an operational issue for the force.

The PCC clarified that accountability and executive meetings were to take place where the findings of the report would be raised and addressed.

The Accountability and Scrutiny Officer appreciated the detail surrounding the report but stated that it was difficult to find a balance with the summary.

Councillor Boyes thanked Councillor Potts for his research and agreed that the report needed to accurately reflect the findings.

In response, the Chief Executive advised that full documentation could be attached for future meetings if Members would find this useful but believed the summary of the report was easier to digest due to complexities of the issues.

Resolved: That the report be noted with the addition of an updated report actioned through the Police and Crime Commissioner Office.

10 **Complaints Update**

The Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel which provided an update on complaints relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner or the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (for copy see file of Minutes). It was noted that between 23 December 2021 and 26 January 2022 there have been no formal complaints received in accordance with the procedure.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

This page is intentionally left blank

Police and Crime Panel

7th March 2022

Media Report



Report of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Purpose

This paper provides an update of press and social media coverage concerning the work of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner since the previous meeting.

2. Top press releases published

Press releases published since the last meeting include:

- Public Accountability meeting for public to pose questions to the Chief Constable regarding VAWG

Key publications include Northern Echo, Chronicle Live, Aycliffe Today, Newton News, Darlington & Stockton Times, Sunderland Echo and Teesside Live.

3. Social media activity

- 7754 followers on Twitter
- 6620 followers on Facebook
- 760 followers on the PCC Instagram Account

**As of 18.02.22*

Top social media posts between for 28 days up until 18th Feb 2022

Top tweets:

- 5.2K reach – Safer Streets Coordinator Advert
- 1.3K reach – Public Accountability Questions open to the public on the topic of VAWG

Top Facebook posts:

- 12.9K – Safer Streets Coordinator advert
- 5,2K – Joy met Newton Aycliffe NPT
- 2.9K – Public Accountability Questions open to public on the topic of VWAG
- 1.5K – Operation Tramline in Action
- 1.1K – End of Year Report

Top Instagram posts:

- 178 reach – Budget will boost local policing
- 140 reach – End of Year Report
- 128 reach – End of year report now published

- 84 reach – We want to hear from you if you have experienced DA

You Tube

- The office now have 50 subscribers
-

4. Columns

- One Darlington Magazine March 2022 – Appointment of Champions
- Ferryhill & Chilton Chapter – Jan 2021 - Your Monthly PCC Update
- Bishop Auckland Press – Dec 2021 – Your Monthly PCC Update
- Shildon Town Crier – Nov 2021 – Your Monthly PCC Update
- Newton News – Feb 2022 – Go-ahead for precept from the panel

5. Recommendations

Panel Members are recommended to note the information contained in this report.

Vicki Booth – Community Engagement Officer

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

None

Staffing

None

Equality and Diversity

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Children's Act 2004

None

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

None

Environment

None

Collaboration and Partnerships

None

Value for Money and Productivity

None

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

Positive coverage of activity will help to boost confidence in policing.

Commissioning

None

Other risks

None

Contact Officer:	Stephen White
Job Title:	Chief Executive
Telephone:	0191 375 2001
Email:	stephen.white@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Police and Crime Panel

7th March 2022

PCC Commissioning Update

Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner



Purpose

1. To update Panel Members of decisions taken at the Commissioning Board in January 2022.

Commissioning Board Decisions

2. The following decisions were taken at the Commissioning Board held on 31st January 2022:
 - Contribution of 50% towards the Trailblazer Project (Intervention Workers) in equal partnership with Darlington Council costing £69,000 in 2022/23.
 - Engage Robin Brierly, who is the current coordinator of the Cleveland Modern Slavery Network to provide initial support for development of the County Durham & Darlington Modern Slavery Network at a cost of £5,000.
 - Fund Durham Agency against Crime to supply two Community Safety Champions, costing £60,500 for the financial years 2022/23 & 2023/24, commencing 1st April 2022.
 - Fund the Durham Youth Justice & Community Engagement Service to deliver a BTEC qualification in Teamwork and Personal Skills, costing £3,000 to replicate the proposal agreed at the December 2021 Commissioning Board to fund an equivalent project in Darlington.

Recommendation

3. To consider the report and provide any comments and questions.

Charles Oakley
Head of Governance & Finance

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

All funding decisions are reflected in the OPCC 2021/22 budgets.

Staffing

n/a

Equality and Diversity

n/a

Accommodation

n/a

Crime and Disorder

Many of the projects are aimed at reducing crime and disorder.

Children's Act 2004

n/a

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

Information about the PCC's funding streams is set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

Environment

n/a

Collaboration and Partnerships

n/a

Value for Money and Productivity

Value for Money is a key consideration in the allocation of all funding.

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

All funding is expected to have a positive impact on priorities.

Commissioning

As per the report.

Other risks

n/a

Contact Officer:	Charles Oakley
Job Title:	Head of Governance & Finance
Telephone:	0191 375 2001
Email:	charles.oakley@durham-pcc.gov.uk

Police and Crime Panel

7th March 2022

PCC Decision Records

Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner



Purpose

1. To update Panel Members on the Police and Crime Commissioner's decision register for 2022 and address the forward plan.

Background

2. Key decisions are made at an Executive Board comprising the PCC, the PCC's Chief Executive, the Chief Constable, and the Joint Chief Finance Officer. Other officers of the PCC or the Chief Constable will attend as and when required. On occasion it is necessary to take decisions outside of this process for reasons of expediency, but all relevant parties are consulted and informed.

Decision Making Process

3. All key decisions are supported by a report setting out the decision required, all relevant factors to be considered, the outcome of any consultation undertaken and the risks and implications of the course of action being recommended.
4. An online record is maintained of all key decisions taken by the OPCC. This includes a link to any documents which are disclosable under FOI. This record includes decisions taken by the PCC or any person to whom delegated powers have been granted.
5. The PCC will consider holding public meetings when this will provide a means of consultation on decisions (i.e. precept consultation) where there is a clear interest in actively seeking views of the community.
6. The PCC may choose to delegate powers to any deputy appointed, her statutory officers or a senior member of police staff.
7. A record is kept of all decisions made under delegated powers detailing the factors taken into consideration, including any consultation carried out.
8. Decisions to be made by the PCC will relate in the main to his statutory functions and financial responsibilities. A Forward Plan for key decisions to be taken over a 3 month period will be published on the PCC's website.
9. Generally Key decisions are likely to include:

- The preparation, drafting and issuing of the Police and Crime Plan
- Issuing the precept
- Adopting a Medium-Term Financial Plan
- Commissioning of Services
- Preparation and issue of the Annual Report
- Any decision which is of significant public interest or impact either generally or on a particular locality
- Any decision which will incur revenue expenditure in excess of £100,000
- Any decision which will incur capital expenditure in excess of £100,000
- The approval of or adoption of strategies/policies
- Key procurement decisions
- Significant changes to the police estate
- Allocation of grants

10. Details of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Decision Register 2022 can be found in Appendix 2.

Recommendation

11. That Panel Members note the contents of the report and ask any questions.

Joy Allen

Police and Crime Commissioner

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

All decisions with financial implications are made with value for money as a key consideration and are affordable within budgets.

Staffing

n/a

Equality and Diversity

n/a

Accommodation

n/a

Crime and Disorder

n/a

Children's Act 2004

n/a

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

Consultation with key stakeholders is carried out as appropriate to each decision.

Environment

n/a

Collaboration and Partnerships

Consultation with key partners is carried out as appropriate to each decision.

Value for Money and Productivity

n/a

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

Decisions will impact directly or indirectly on the pursuit of Police and Crime Plan priorities.

Commissioning

Several decisions relate to commissioning of services.

Other risks

n/a

Contact Officer:	Charles Oakley
Job Title:	Head of Governance and Finance
Telephone:	0191 3752001
Email:	General.EnquiriesPCC@durham.police.uk

Key Decisions

(Links to more detailed reports are available on the website)

Decision Number	Decision Taker	Details
2022-001	PCC	The Police and Crime panel voted in favour of the recommendation from the Durham PCC that the council tax requirement be set at a level that resulted in a £10 increase in Band D Council Tax for the year ending 31 st March 2023 for County Durham and Darlington.
2022-002	PCC	Stanhope Section Office approval to a lease renewal of accommodation at 44 Front Street Stanhope for the Stanhope Neighbourhood Police Team.
2022-003	PCC	The PCC agreed at the commissioning board held on 31 st January 2022 to fund the following: 700 Club £69,000, the Cleveland Anti-Slavery network £5,000 for initial support for development of the network, Durham Agency against Crime £60,500 (2022/23) and £60,500 (2023/24) to employ community safety champions, and Youth Justice and Community Engagement Service £3,000 to replicate the funding agreed (at December 2021 Commissioning Board) to allow development in the Durham area of delivering a BTEC qualification in Teamwork and Personal Skills.
2022-004	PCC	The PCC considered and approved the prudential borrowing and treasury management arrangements and affirmed them as the basis on which such business will be conducted in 2022/23 in order to facilitate the major capital programme outlined in the Medium-Term financial plan. The PCC agreed the carry forward of underspends on the 2021/22 capital programme. The PCC acknowledged the strength of the risk management processes, the adequacy of reserves and the robustness of the financial estimates which give sufficient reassurance and confidence which allowed the PCC to approve the annual budget.

Forward Plan

- Covid-19 Recovery
- Commissioning and Grant Funding for 2022/23

Police and Crime Panel

7th March 2022

HMICFRS publications



Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Purpose

1.1. To brief the Police and Crime Panel on the findings/ comments of recent Durham related publications by Her Majesties' Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS), listed below¹:

- Terms of reference: Inspection of the police's handling of serious youth violence
- Policing inspection programme and framework commencing April 2022: For consultation
- Responses to 'Safe to Share? Report on Liberty and Southall Black Sisters' super-complaint on policing and immigration status'

2. Terms of reference: Inspection of the police's handling of serious youth violence²

2.1. HMICFRS will carry out thematic inspections of all local police forces in England and Wales of 'how well police address serious youth violence to reduce crime involving young people (particularly between the ages of 16 to 24)'. The link to HMICFRS' pre-publication article can be found here: [Terms of reference: Inspection of the police's handling of serious youth violence - HMICFRS \(justiceinspectrates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/terms-of-reference-inspection-of-the-police-s-handling-of-serious-youth-violence)

2.2. A summary of the terms of reference is as follows:

- How well the police address serious youth violence, investigate and support victims including where racial disproportionality may be a factor;
- How effectively and efficiently the police work with partners to implement the serious violence strategy, including a public health approach;
- How police-led enforcement activities are supportive of partnership activities; and
- How efficiently and effectively violence reduction units reduce serious youth violent crime.

2.3. The findings of this inspection will be released in due course. There is no public timeline attached for this.

¹ Please note not all publications require a bespoke PCC response/ comment.

3. Policing inspection programme and framework commencing April 2022: For consultation

- 3.1. The document provides an overview of HMICFRS' proposed inspection programme which will commence in April 2022. The link to the article can be found here: [Policing inspection programme and framework commencing April 2022: For consultation - HMICFRS \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/policing-inspection-programme-and-framework-commencing-april-2022-for-consultation/)
- 3.2. HMICFRS are consulting on three overarching questions pertaining to the forthcoming inspection programme in 2022 and beyond, listed below:
- Do the proposed thematic inspections cover the areas that are of most concern to you at the moment? Which do you believe are of greatest importance or urgency?
 - Are there any significant new or emerging problems in policing that HMICFRS should consider when it inspects individual police forces?
 - How else could HMICFRS adapt the way in which it acquires information to take account of current circumstances and risks to public safety?
- 3.3. HMICFRS list a series of current and proposed thematic inspection areas. These are reflective of the responses given by Durham Constabulary and the PCC when the original consultation took place.
- 3.4. HMICFRS consider the PCC's Police and Crime Plan 'in the design of each inspection, and before carrying out fieldwork in each force' which enables the inspectorate 'to be clear on its established local priorities. The police and crime plan is also used as a source of information about the local circumstances and characteristics of the force, the police area in question, and the factors that affect considerations of public protection, crime and disorder, including demand – latent and patent – for police services.' This approach facilitates a direct link between police forces, PCCs, and HMICFRS, enabling the PCC and force to relay the most current localised issues which supports the inspectorate to consider bespoke approaches to inspection. This approach also results in HMICFRS taking into account strategic documentation, and thus direction, when developing their inspection programme.
- 3.5. Current arrangements prove effective in supplying HMICFRS with appropriate information and enabling them to sufficiently consider current circumstances and risks to public safety, as displayed by the proposed inspection topics. It will be important moving forward that regular liaison between HMICFRS and the OPCC is further embedded to augment current working practices.
- 3.6. It is worth noting that the [link](#) to this document contains a summary explanation of the new PEEL approach and several sub-links within the document which provide greater clarity on grading and rationale.

4. Responses to ‘Safe to Share? Report on Liberty and Southall Black Sisters’ super-complaint on policing and immigration status’

- 4.1. HMICFRS have published the responses they have received from all local police forces in England and Wales pertaining to their inspection published in December 2020. Durham Constabulary and the OPCC submitted responses to the Liberty and Southall Black Sisters’ super complaint in February 2021 which the Panel were made aware of on 12/03/2021, the OPCC response can be found here: [HMICFRS Inspections | DDurham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/hmicfrs-inspections).
- 4.2. There was an updated joint Durham Constabulary and PCC response submitted which has subsequently been published by HMICFRS. This contained no new information from a PCC comment perspective and can be found here: [Safe-to-Share-Durham-Response-031221.pdf](#).
- 4.3. As per comments in the HMICFRS overview report provided to the Police and Crime Panel (12/03/2021) the PCC is currently assured that the Force continue to adhere to updated national guidance alongside an effective and continually maturing THRIVE³ process used by the Force. There is clear evidence of the Force adapting to updated national guidance in terms of literature and policy implementation. This type of information is routinely considered by the OPCC when developing wider narratives to hold the Chief Constable to account, however, in isolation these are operational policies under the remit of the Chief Constable.

5. Additional Items for information

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) Report

- 5.1. The Force are reviewing the recommendations held within the IICSA report, following this the Deputy Chief Constable will provide a further update to the OPCC.

Comparing pre and post 2021 PEEL inspections

- 5.2. The table below displays the **mode** grading allocated to each force under the pre and post PEEL grading systems. Only five forces have been graded under the new system, therefore only five are comparable in this fashion.

³ Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation, Vulnerability, Engagement (THRIVE).

Force	2018/ 2019 PEEL grade ⁴	2021/22 PEEL grade ⁵
Durham	Outstanding (2/3)	Good (7/10)
Gloucestershire	Good (3/3)	Inadequate (6/11)
Northampton	Requires Improvement (2/3)	Requires Improvement (6/10)
West Midlands	Good (3/3)	Good (5/11)
West Yorkshire	Good (2/3)	Outstanding/ Good (4 of each from 10) ⁶

5.3. There are caveats within the 2021/22 data as well as those mentioned in the footnotes. For example, while West Yorkshire have received a split grading and ostensibly an improvement to grading, they also received two “Adequate”. Compared to Durham who had one “Adequate”, two “Outstanding”, and seven “Good”. Breakdowns of each of the five forces PEEL question gradings can be found in *Appendix 1*.

5.4. HMICFRS have also stressed that while the new continuous assessment approach is more precise and intelligence-led, the changes also mean that it ‘isn’t possible to make direct comparisons between the grades awarded this year with those from previous PEEL inspections.’ Specifically stressing ‘a reduction in grade, particularly from good to adequate, does not necessarily mean that there has been a reduction in performance, unless we [HMICFRS] say so in the force’s report’.

6. Recommendations

6.1. It is recommended that the Panel notes the content of the report and considers items as required.

Joy Allen
Police and Crime Commissioner

⁴ The breakdown is on the three pillars – Effectiveness, Efficiency, Legitimacy. While there were individual questions in the pre-2021 system the overall gradings were allocated on the three pillars.

⁵ Please note the total number of questions varies from force to force as not all forces were inspected on crime data. While there are twelve questions, grading is only attributed to ten of those questions (with the SPR and armed response ungraded). The additional data question is currently considered atypical. Please find a link to more detail on each question and what HMICFRS consider to be “Good”: [PEEL Assessment Framework 2021/22 - HMICFRS \(justiceinspectors.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/2021/22-peel-assessment-framework).

⁶ In HMICFRS’ press release West Yorkshire’s performance was identified as “Excellent” in light of a 50/50 split between “Good” and “Outstanding”.

Appendix 1: Post 2021 Question grading breakdown by force

	Providing a service to the victims of crime	Recording data about crime	Engaging with and treating the public with fairness and respect	Preventing crime and anti-social behaviour	Responding to the public	Investigating crime	Protecting vulnerable people	Managing offenders and suspects	Disrupting serious organised crime	Building, supporting and protecting the workforce	Strategic planning, organisational management and value for money
Durham	Orange	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Dark Green	Green	Dark Green
Gloucester	Dark Red	Dark Red	Green	Green	Dark Red	Dark Red	Dark Red	Orange	Green	Green	Dark Red
Northampto.	Orange	Grey	Red	Orange	Red	Orange	Red	Red	Orange	Red	Red
West Midla.	Red	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Red	Red	Orange	Green	Orange	Green
West Yorks.	Orange	Grey	Dark Green	Dark Green	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Dark Green	Green	Dark Green

Appendix 2: Risks and Implications

Finance

N/A

Staffing

N/A

Equality and Diversity

N/A

Accommodation

N/A

Crime and Disorder

N/A

Children's Act 2004

N/A

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

N/A

Environment

N/A

Collaboration and Partnerships

N/A

Value for Money and Productivity

N/A

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

N/A

Commissioning

N/A

Other risks

N/A

Contact Officer:	James Atkinson
Job Title:	Accountability and Scrutiny Officer
Telephone:	0191-375-2001
Email:	James.atkinson@durham-pcc.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank



Report to Police and Crime Panel

07 March 2022

Report of Police and Crime Commissioner

2022/23 Revenue and Capital Budgets

Purpose of Report

1. To present to Panel the revenue and capital budgets for 2022/23 and medium-term financial plan.

Background

2. The PCC has set the budget for 2022/23 which is underpinned by a £10 Band D precept rise, which has been agreed by the Panel at the meeting held on 3 February 2022.
3. The appendix to this report shows detailed budget papers, and these will be discussed at the meeting. Within the detail of the budget, a number of key points to share with the panel, which were discussed on the last meeting when the precept increase was agreed.

These are as follows:

- a) The police officer uplift programme has provided funding for an addition 90 additional officers during 2022/23.
- b) The Force normally recruits PCSO's in December each year. In 2022/23 this will be brought forward to April, with an estimated intake of up to 20 new recruits. A further PCSO intake is scheduled for November 2022 to ensure that numbers remain constant where possible.

PROTECT

- c) The Force will recruit an additional 8 to 12 call handlers to improve service delivery. This will complement investment in the control room in terms of increased capacity regarding telephone investigation.
- d) The Force has commenced recruitment of additional posts to manage demand in ICT and corporate development.
- e) The Force has procured additional technology for officers, i.e., new body worn devices to replace existing devices which are now approaching end of life. The new devices offer additional functionality in terms of the quality of video footage, the ability to download footage simply to attach to case files and also increase the storage of video footage to allow for expected growth in digital evidence. Investment is also planned for the Force Control Room with a new telephone system.
- f) Appendix 3 and 4 shows the medium-term financial plan and adequacy of reserves.

Recommendation

- 4. The Panel is recommended to consider the report.

Gary Ridley

Chief Finance Officer

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

As outlined in the report.

Staffing

As outlined in the report, with recruitment being dependent on suitable applicants being recruited.

Equality and Diversity

n/a

Accommodation

n/a

Crime and Disorder

n/a

Children's Act 2004

n/a

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

n/a

Environment

n/a

Collaboration and Partnerships

n/a

Value for Money and Productivity

Work is ongoing to measure and monitor productivity gains on the additional officers.

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

n/a

Commissioning

n/a

Other risks

Contact Officer:	Gary Ridley
Job Title:	Assistant Chief Officer
Telephone:	0191 375 2207
Email:	Gary.Ridley@durham.police.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

2022/23 GRANT SETTLEMENT AND MAIN FINANCIAL DETAILS

Key Points

- The financial settlement for 2022/23 (received December 2021), includes :
 - a further increase in Government funding to Police Forces to compensate for the uplift in Police Officer numbers.
 - Increased funding to cover costs associated with the introduction of the national care levy employers national insurance contributions
 - Indicative grant levels for 2023/24 and 2024/25
 - Precept flexibility of £10 per year at Band D for 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.
- The Medium Term Financial Plan and adequacy of reserves in Appendix 3 and 4, outlines estimated future year's funding levels. Whilst a balanced budget is presented for 2022/23, future years give rise to rapidly rising deficits inclusive of funding the capital programme.
- The settlement allowed a Council Tax increase of £10 for Band D for 2022/23. Whilst recognising the impact of any increase in Council Tax on the finances of households in County Durham and Darlington, in view of the future budgetary challenges referred to later, it is the view of officers that it is more important than ever, so far as is possible, to protect the base budget by increasing the Council Tax.
- The Government have announced that they intend to review the police funding formula allocation between Forces for future years. Durham could potentially lose significant sums of grant from any changes, based on previous formula reviews. In terms of timing, any new formula could be introduced in 2023/24 at the earliest.

Grant Settlement

- The final Local Government Finance Settlement, together with the Police Grant Report for 2022/23, has been put before the House of Commons. Central funding for 2022/23 has been set at £105.7m, an increase of £5.4m from 2021/22. This increase is to fund the uplift of police officers and includes £1.5m in ring-fenced grant which will only be released when the target for the officer uplift for the year is reached. This represents a challenge for the Force and a recruitment timetable has been agreed which will be monitored internally and nationally. The grant increase also includes resource to fund the additional employers national insurance increased and an element for a pay award.
- The estimated settlement for future years is based on current best estimates and includes further funding for additional uplift of officers and other service costs. It is not known whether future years will include any portion of ring-fenced grant, although the assumption is that officer numbers will remain static beyond March 2023.
- Capital grant has been rolled into revenue grant to give PCC's more financial flexibility.

- Grant levels, actual for 2022/23 and estimated for future years, is as follows:

	2021/22 £000 actual	2022/23 £000 actual	2023/24 £000 est	2024/25 £000 est	2025/26 £000 est
Police Grant including uplift grant	92,037	98,353	99,253	100,653	100,653
Legacy Council Tax Freeze Grants	6,110	6,110	6,110	6,110	6,110
Pension Grant	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260	1,260
COVID grant	352	353	353	-	-
Central Government Funding	100,469	106,076	106,976	108,023	108,023

- As well as general grant, there will continue to be other specific grants in 2022/23 for example pension admin grant.
- The Ring-fenced grant is specifically used to fund the increase in office numbers and so is already deducted from the PCC's budget requirements.
- Every 1% variation in the Band D Council Tax affects the Council Tax Requirement by £0.4m. A £10 increase in Council Tax, which is the maximum increase recommended to avoid a referendum and is a 4.3% rise, would result in an increase to the base budget of £1.6m for every year in the future. This would increase the Band D precept from £230.24 to £240.24 per annum, an increase of £10 per annum, which is 19p per week. The impact on the majority of households in County Durham and Darlington which are Band A properties, would be an increase of £6.67 from £153.49 to £160.16 per annum, which is equivalent to 13p per week.
- The Government has continued with a number of 'top sliced' funding streams totalling £1.37bn in 2022/23.

Level of Financial Reserves

- To ensure ongoing financial viability it is important that the Police and Crime Commissioner continues to maintain a suitable level of reserves. Whilst there is no specific guidance on what represents a suitable level of reserves in percentage terms, it is important to take into account the various risks to be faced when coming to a view on reserve levels. It is the view of Chief Finance Officer (for the PCC and Chief Constable) that general reserves should not be used to support day to day expenditure given: the level of funding uncertainty in future years (where the grant allocation has not been confirmed by the Home Office) beyond the current spending review period; localisation of council tax benefit; rising costs and council tax capping limits. Reserves should only be used to invest in capital expenditure or invest in expenditure which will lead to clear efficiencies, except where grant related reserves are held for a specific purpose.
- The current policy statement on the level of reserves includes the following:
 - The Police and Crime Commissioner will set aside sufficient sums in earmarked reserves as it considered prudent to do so. The PCC Chief

Finance Officer will be authorised to establish such reserves as are required, will review them for both adequacy and purpose, and report on a regular basis to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

- The Police and Crime Commissioner will aim to maintain, broadly, general reserves of between 4% and 5% of the revenue estimates which are currently about £5.871m and £7.339m respectively (based on 2022/23 revenue funding of £146.786m) subject to an annual review by the PCC Chief Finance Officer as part of the budget process.
- The following tables show the estimated movement in financial reserves over the period to 31st March 2025 assuming a £10 Band D Council Tax increase for 2022/23 and the two following years.

Summary of Total Reserves

Financial Reserves	Balance 31/3/21	Move 2021/22	Est Balance 31/3/22	Move 2022/3	Est Balance 31/3/23	Move 2023/4	Est Balance 31/3/24	Move 2024/5	Est Balance 31/3/25
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General	6,559	0	6,559	0	6,559	0	6,559	0	6,559
Capital Grants Unapplied	2,514	41	2,555	(381)	2,174	(1,695)	479	0	479
Capital Contribut'ns	54	0	54	(54)	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Receipt	16,193	100	16,293	(16,200)	93	(93)	0	0	0
Earmarked	10,918	1,905	12,823	(9,946)	2,877	(353)	2,524	0	2,524
Total Reserves	36,328	2,046	38,284	(26,581)	11,703	(2,141)	9,562	0	9,562

The above usage is to fund the draft capital programme and will be subject to regular review. This usage shows a significant reduction in reserves.

Key Risks and financial resilience

- The following key risks with associated mitigating action and responsible persons are included within the medium term financial plan (see appendices 3 and 4 for more details):
 - Revised allocation formula between Forces,
 - An ageing estate portfolio putting increased pressure on facilities management budgets,
 - Police officer capacity to respond to service demands,
 - Flexibility to move police resources to areas of need,

- Demand continues to rise and change,
- Collaboration may require up-front costs of change,
- Uncertainty about partners' future budget plans,
- The impact of any move to multiyear pay awards,
- Uncertainty in relation to future pension costs,
- Adequate future funding of uplift.
- In relation to financial resilience, the key issues to note are :
 - Reserves will be almost depleted by 2024/25 as a result of funding capital investment
 - There will be revenue deficits from 2023/24 to manage (see appendix 3)
 - There will be a need to plan and deliver savings from 2023/24

Cost Control

Given the continual impact of austerity, cost control is more important than ever. External audit review Value for Money arrangements each year and give the PCC and Chief Constable positive assurance in this regard. Internal audit also review financial controls and financial planning assumptions on a regular basis and their last report gave substantial assurance to the Chief Constable.

Specifically, the following controls are in place:

- Monthly budget reviews are carried out in each Command.
- The Chief Finance Officer reviews the overall Force and PCC budgets each quarter.
- Overtime is reviewed by the Force Executive and each Command monthly.
- Detailed outturn reports are produced for Joint Audit Committee.
- Experienced and qualified Finance staff work closely with the Commanders and Executive officers.
- The Deputy Chief Constable and Assistant Chief Officer chair the Strategic Resource Group which controls overall officer and staff numbers to ensure they remain in line with budget.
- Benchmarking is carried out regularly eg use of the VFM profiles and other external data.
- Commissioning Boards for both the PCC and Chief Constable are in place to ensure planned changes in resources and grants are carefully considered.

Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26

Introduction

The prevailing national financial climate has transformed the way in which we perceive the delivery of public services. The Policing Service has an ongoing imperative to evidence value for money and deliver a consistently high level of services with shrinking financial resources. The austerity measures which have prevailed in recent years will continue to require the delivery of value for money and the bearing down on costs.

This plan demonstrates in financial terms how the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) will strive to achieve his vision for policing in County Durham and Darlington. The plan provides an outline of the demands and consequential revenue resource requirements of the PCC and Constabulary for the four financial years commencing 1st April 2021. The plan also details the proposed five year capital programme and the revenue consequences of that programme.

Durham Constabulary has embraced a corporate scorecard approach called “Plan on a Page”. This strategic financial plan has been compiled in a way which reflects those strategic intentions and has been developed alongside the local Policing Plan.

The plan is owned by both the PCC and Constabulary. Individual and collective responsibility is exercised over the management of performance and resources. Governance arrangements are in place to ensure that the PCC holds the Constabulary to account through regular reporting of issues. Within the Constabulary, internal accountability meetings are regularly held to ensure objectives are met.

Purpose

The purpose of this financial planning document is to provide a basis for determining:

- The level of resources which are likely to be available in the future to deliver national and local priorities;
- The future demands upon the revenue budget;
- The impact of external factors;
- The amount of capital investment which is required to achieve corporate objectives;
- The revenue consequences of such capital investment;
- The future reserve levels of the PCC;
- The impact of additional demands on the level of council tax levied by the Police and Crime Commissioner;
- The main financial risks facing the PCC and Constabulary.

Strategic Planning Principles

In constructing its financial plans the PCC benefits from following the principles below:

- *Ensure that finance contributes to improved outcomes by ensuring finance follows priorities.*
- *To ensure overall financial stability.*
- *Set a comprehensive, timely, balanced and realistic budget;*
- *Take into account pay and price inflation, risk management, and achievability of savings targets;*
- *Follow its treasury management policy;*
- *Follow its reserves policy;*
- *Raise awareness of and communicate key financial messages both internally and externally;*

The medium term financial plan has been compiled following the established principles that have been adopted by the PCC and within the following further conditions:

- *Budgets set will be affordable and not jeopardise the financial stability of the PCC in either the short or long term;*
- *Precept increases will be kept to a minimum consistent with the provision of effective and efficient services;*
- *All spending plans will need to demonstrate that they can achieve value for money and support best value principles;*
- *Spending will be agreed only when the necessary funding is identified and approved;*
- *External funding will be sought wherever it can be used in a sustainable manner that does not lead to unforeseen costs to the PCC;*
- *The PCC's finances will be publicised to stakeholders in an open and transparent manner;*
- *Customers and citizens will be involved in the budget process.*

Key Strategic Areas & Objectives

The approach to strategic planning is now shaped by the prevailing drive to demonstrate value for money in a time of reducing resources. The Constabulary has a strategy map, Plan on a Page, based on a balanced scorecard approach. This has enabled colleagues across the Constabulary to understand how their activities link with and support delivery of the key outcomes required that will help to achieve the PCC and Constabulary's Vision.

The Vision:

“Durham Constabulary will deliver excellent policing, inspiring confidence in victims and our communities by protecting neighbourhoods, tackling criminals and solving problems around the clock, proud to deliver value for money policing across County Durham and Darlington.”

The strategy map is structured into four key areas which enable the Constabulary to identify:

- What we need to be best at (Core Deliverables),
- What we need to help us (Enabling Factors),
- The resources we need (Resources),
- Use the funding efficiently and effectively (Value for Money).

Each key area describes a number of strategic objectives that informs where the PCC and Constabulary need to focus their attention and resources. The process collects each strategic objective and identifies key linkages ensuring alignment to the corporate vision. The strategic objectives supporting each key area are:

- What we need to be best at (Core Deliverables):
 - Protecting Neighbourhoods - ‘Ensure proactive approaches, with partners, to identify & protect vulnerable people and reduce harm’,
 - Tackling Criminals - ‘To have fewer victims and reduce re-offending’,
 - Solving Problems – ‘Empower the people in the organisation to take responsibility to collectively solve problems’.
- What we need to help us (Enabling Factors):
 - Effective Service Provision,
 - Managing our Data and Information – ‘Ensure our information supports our ability to make informed decisions for the benefit of the public’,
 - Futures – ‘Be a learning organisation that can embrace digital transformation, adapt quickly to change with innovative, efficient and effective approaches’,

- Organisational Attitudes and Behaviours – Ensure our attitudes and behaviours generate legitimacy, trust and confidence in the public and colleagues’.
- The resources we need (Resources):
 - Our People – ‘Have the right people, who contribute, with the capacity and capability to deliver, with wellbeing and leadership as our focus’,
 - Our Stuff – ‘Have the right resources to help us do the job’.
- Use the funding efficiently and effectively (Value for Money):
 - Ensure a balance budget and generate income,
 - Identify & consider collaborative opportunities which bring tangible benefits & realise efficiencies,
 - Have a suitable medium term and long term financial plan with identified contingencies,
 - Prepare for future funding changes and austerity and maximise savings from new ways of working,
 - Have a fully costed and funded capital plan with aligned capital investment,
 - Invest wisely.

Revenue Expenditure

Financial Planning Assumptions

The key income planning assumptions have been driven by funding announced in the provisional government figures and have been collated on a table and explained in detail in the previous section on police service funding.

The key expenditure related planning assumptions are reflected in the attached table

	Estimate 2022/23	Estimate 2023/24	Estimate 2024/25	Estimate 2025/26
Officer Pay Inflation (from September each year)	3.5%	2.5%	2%	2%
Officer Pension Contribution Increase	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Staff Pay Inflation	3.5%	2.5%	2%	2%
Police Staff Pension Contribution Increase	0%	0%	0%	0%
Police Officer Vacancy Factor	0%	0%	0%	0%
Police Staff Vacancy Factor (except for pcso's call handlers and detention officers which is set at 0%)	8%	8%	8%	8%
Energy & Fuel Inflation	5%	5%	5%	5%
Other Non-Pay Inflation (except where contractually based)	2%	0%	0%	0%
Council Tax Increase Band D	£10	£10	£10	1.98%
Tax Base Growth	Actual	1%	1%	1%
Other Income Inflation	0%	0%	0%	0%

Work Force Planning

The following table shows expected workforce numbers at the end of each financial year.

	Outturn 2021/22	Estimate 2022/23	Estimate 2023/24	Estimate 2024/24	Estimate 2025/26
Officers	1,275.0	1,365.0	1,365.0	1,365.0	1,365.0
PCSO's	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0	146.0
Staff	1,061.0	1,056.0	1,056.0	1,056.0	1,056.0
Apprentices	54.0	54.0	54.0	54.0	54.0
PCC	17.2	34.4	33.0	32.4	32.4
Total FTE	2,553.2	2,655.4	2,654.0	2,653.4	2,653.4

These figures are kept under continuous review.

This table considers the impact of all the income and revenue assumptions over the medium term.

Budget Heading	Estimate 2021/22	Estimate 2022/23	Estimate 2023/24	Estimate 2024/25	Estimate 2025/26
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Employees	116,442	123,593	130,972	134,539	138,947
Premises	5,296	5,395	6,111	6,303	6,466
Transport	2,372	2,447	2,567	2,605	2,641
Supplies and Services	12,697	13,273	12,011	12,570	12,206
Joint & Other Authorities	3,944	2,654	2,654	2,654	2,654
<u>less</u>					
Income					
Customer & Client Receipts	(4,841)	(2,980)	(3,032)	(3,012)	(2,964)
Collaboration income	(1,233)	(895)	(895)	(895)	(895)
Secondment Income	(878)	(1,026)	(1,026)	(1,026)	(1,026)
Interest	(35)	(85)	(50)	(50)	(50)
Special Grants	(3,382)	(1,942)	(419)	(419)	(419)
<u>plus</u>					
Contribution To/ From (-) Reserve	1,199	0	0	0	0
Capital Financing Costs	5,315	3,547	4,163	7,066	3,721
<i>Police Constabulary</i>					
Costs	136,896	143,981	153,056	160,335	161,281
Victims Commissioning Grant	(870)	(1,304)	(1,304)	(1,304)	(1,304)
PCC commissioning	1,555	2,670	2,648	2,651	2,694
Community Safety Grant	621	239	261	258	264
PCC Costs	1,148	1,199	1,231	1,252	1,283
Net Expenditure	139,350	146,785	155,892	163,192	164,218
<i>Funded by</i>					
DCLG Grant	(42,061)	(42,061)	(42,061)	(42,061)	(42,061)
Police Grant	(49,584)	(54,768)	(57,192)	(58,592)	(58,592)
Council Tax Support Grant	(6,110)	(6,110)	(6,110)	(6,110)	(6,110)
Pension grant	(1,260)	(1,260)	(1,260)	(1,260)	(1,260)
COVID grant	(353)	(353)	(353)	0	0
Council Tax	(39,982)	(42,233)	(44,801)	(47,296)	(48,715)
Total Funding	(139,350)	(146,785)	(151,777)	(155,319)	(156,738)
<i>(Surplus) / Deficit</i>	-	-	4,115	7,873	7,480

Comment:

- The latest HMIC Value for Money Profiles has been used to identify areas for potential efficiency savings.

- A detailed workforce plan has been produced which compliments this plan.

Funding Formula

The Home Office still have plans to review the funding formula allocation between Forces in future years. Our understanding, based on previous exemplifications published in 2015, is that Durham could potentially lose up to £10m per annum from the changes.

Capital Expenditure

The enclosed capital summary sets out proposed expenditure for capital projects for 2022/23 to 2025/26 and the associated funding options. The PCC will no longer receive a capital grant from 2022/23.

There are a number of options open to the PCC to funding capital expenditure and these include capital receipts, use of reserves, revenue contributions to capital or borrowing. Funding generated from borrowing would incur interest charges at prevailing market rates (unless the PCC enters into specific term borrowing arrangements such as fixed interest rates over a fixed borrowing term).

The impact of capital receipts generated from the sale of land owned by the PCC for development of commercial or housing purposes has been included in the funding.

Revenue Impact of the Capital Programme

The PCC can determine to meet part of the capital requirement through applying capital receipts, making revenue contributions, applying reserves, and/or (under the provisions of the Prudential Code) borrowing.

The associated future capital financing charges as a result of this provisional programme have been determined based upon the expected lifespan of the asset, generally as follows: Motor Vehicles (4 years); ICT Systems (5 years); ANPR and other Equipment (10 years); Minor Building Work (20 years); Major New Buildings (40 or 60 years).

Grant is applied to those assets with the shortest lifespan. The capital receipts arising from the sale of the police headquarters' site have been used to partly fund the capital programme from 2016/17 onwards.

The following table contains a summary of capital expenditure by asset category.

	Outturn 2021/22 £'000	Estimate 2022/23 £'000	Estimate 2023/24 £'000	Estimate 2024/25 £'000	Estimate 2025/26 £'000
Expenditure					
Buildings: Major works	2,180	21,108	2,291	0	0
Buildings: Minor Works	321	650	1,700	500	500
Buildings carry forward from prior year	0	704	0	0	0
Vehicles	907	1,200	1,200	1,400	1,400
Vehicle carry forward from prior year	0	838	0	0	0
ICT	1,632	2,275	2,574	4,275	2,945
ICT carry forward from prior year	0	2,000	600	0	0
Equipment	42	954	200	320	50
Total	5,082	29,729	8,565	6,495	4,895
Funding					
Capital Grant	0	381	1,695	0	0
Special Grant	92	0	0	0	0
Capital Receipts	0	16,354	2,193	100	2,100
Revenue Contribution	4,990	2,951	3,477	6,395	2,795
Strategic Reserve	0	9,593	0	0	0
Self-Financed Borrowing	0	450	1,200	0	0
Total	5,082	29,729	8,565	6,495	4,895
Capital Financing Costs					
Minimum Revenue Provision	325	325	415	400	655
Revenue Contribution	4,990	2,951	3,477	6,395	2,795
Contribution from Reserves	0	9,593	0	0	0
Interest Charges	0	272	272	272	272
Total	5,315	13,141	4,164	7,067	3,722

The most significant capital expenditure is explained over the next few paragraphs and a table showing detailed planned expenditure is included at the bottom of this section.

Estates

The primary focus for the Estates programme will be outlined in the new Estates Strategy which has been subject to consideration by the PCC.

There will still be a regular buildings improvement and maintenance programme undertaken for the rest of the Estate.

Fleet

The fleet replacement programme is kept under constant review and it is planned to spend a relatively consistent figure each year on vehicles.

ICT

The ICT Strategy will outline the capital schemes to be delivered over the period covered by the plan. A large proportion of the ICT expenditure in the capital

programme relates to maintaining existing systems. Another key scheme is the national requirement for all Forces to upgrade their emergency services communications.

Key Risks

The following are the key risks contained within the plan

Risk	Mitigating Action	Person Responsible
Loss of funding due to reallocation between Forces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce planning to reduce officer/staff numbers • Cost reduction plans to be developed and implemented • Maximise precept income 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Chief Constable
An ageing estate portfolio putting increased pressure on facilities management budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree and deliver capital programme time • Effective project planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Chief Finance Officer / PCC
Police officer capacity to respond to service demands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocating resource to priority activities • Deliver agreed training programme. • Productivity measurement and management • Strategic Threat Assessment agreed and implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commanders /Executive Team
Flexibility to move police resources to areas of need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan on a page promulgated across the organisation • Regular Force threat and risk meetings • Update workforce plan • Targeted reviews to be carried out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Team / Tasking & Coordination
Demand continues to rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of new Force structure • On-going crime prevention/detection and problem solving initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heads of Commands

Risk	Mitigating Action	Person Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Productivity measurement and management • Deliver agreed training programme • New shift pattern introduced for response officers 	
Collaboration may require up-front costs of change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify 'invest to save' budget/reserve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Chief Finance Officer/Exec/PCC
Move to multiyear pay award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include in planning assumption • Calculate cashflow loss/ budget savings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC/CC Chief Finance Officer
Uncertainty in relation to future pension costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police officers, request grant funding (national issue) • Staff, identify corresponding savings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC/CC Chief Finance Officer
Adequate future funding of uplift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure influence, where possible, of national financial position 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC/CC Chief Finance Officer

Monitoring and Review

This financial plan will be subject to continuous review and forms part of the overall planning processes within the PCC and Constabulary. This will ensure that an accurate future financial forecast is maintained to give an indication as to the affordability of spending plans which in turn will be fed into the corporate planning process.

The content of this plan will be kept under review as part of normal medium term financial planning procedures.

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) with reassurance and confidence in the accuracy and quality of the financial estimates for the years 2022/23 to 2025/26.
2. The robustness of the financial estimates considers important factors such as risks facing the PCC and the adequacy of financial reserves to enable the PCC to have flexibility in dealing with any unplanned events that may have a significant financial consequence during the course of the budget year 2022/23.

Background

3. The Police and Crime Commissioner decides every year how much they are going to raise from council tax. They base their decision on a budget that sets out estimates of what they plan to spend on each of their services.
4. The decision on the level of the council tax must be taken before the coming financial year begins and that level cannot be changed during the year, so allowances for risks and uncertainties that may create an increase in service costs or a loss of income must be made by:
 - a. Making realistic and prudent allowances in the financial estimates for the policing services provided, and also,
 - b. Ensuring that there are adequate reserves in place that can be drawn on to help manage the impact of any incident or eventuality that causes the PCC to exceed the budget estimates in 2022/23 for the delivery of policing services to the community of County Durham and Darlington.
5. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires that the PCC's Chief Financial Officer reports to the PCC when considering the budget and council tax on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves allowed for in the budget proposals, so that the PCC will have authoritative advice available to him prior to making the budget setting decisions.
6. Section 25 also requires the PCC to consider this report when making decisions about the budget.

Critical Role of Risk Management

7. There is considerable and continuous attention given to the risks facing the delivery of policing services in County Durham and Darlington. Each of the risks identified by the Force is allocated to and formally assessed by a strategic programme board. When each board meets work plans are modified to reflect new risks, or to reflect the best available information and the impact of mitigating actions.
8. In setting the budget the risks facing the PCC are influenced by the uncertainties of the economic environment and the level of expenditure reductions in the Policing

Service and the wider public sector, all of which present difficulties in delivering a balanced budget. The key risks have been identified in the Budget report.

9. The Annual Governance Statement gives assurance in relation to the organisation's arrangements for the management of risk and ensuring proper arrangements are in place for governing its affairs and looking after the resources at its disposal.

Robustness of Estimates

10. The budget process has involved the senior leadership teams in each Command, who have considered and evaluated a variety of service delivery options that balance the twin needs of maintaining service delivery and balancing the budget.
11. These options, identifying areas where savings can be made to provide the resources to fund the unavoidable service pressures, have been reported to the PCC and his Executive, which includes the Chief Constable and the PCC's Chief Financial Officer.
12. The key income and expenditure related planning assumptions are reflected in the attached table

	Estimate 2022/23	Estimate 2023/24	Estimate 2024/25	Estimate 2025/26
Officer Pay Inflation (from September each year)	3.5%	2.5%	2%	2%
Officer Pension Contribution Increase	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Staff Pay Inflation	3.5%	2.5%	2%	2%
Police Staff Pension Contribution Decrease (including lump sum payment)	0%	0%	0%	0%
Police Officer Vacancy Factor	0%	0%	0%	0%
Police Staff Vacancy Factor	8%	8%	8%	8%
Energy & Fuel Inflation	5%	5%	5%	5%
Other Non-Pay Inflation (except where contractually based)	2%	0%	0%	0%
Council Tax Increase Band D	£10	£10	£10	1.98%
Tax Base Growth	Actual	1%	1%	1%
Other Income Inflation	0%	0%	0%	0%

In relation to Government grant, assumptions for 2022/23 and 2023/24 are based on estimated uplift figures using standard capitation rates.

13. In relation to the robustness of the above table, the following should be noted:
 - Pay inflation. This is in line with the NPCC multi year pay submission to the 2022 PRRB. A 1% differential is approx. £1.1m.
 - Pension increases. It is expected that any increase in police officer pension contribution will be funded by government grants

- Energy and Fuel. The outturn for 2021/22 includes an extra £0.4m for the increased energy costs. The costs for future years include this additional amount plus inflation of 5%.
 - Council Tax. This will be subject to the maximum permitted limit by Central Government.
 - Tax Base Growth. Future growth is based on historic trends. A 1% differential is approx. £0.4m.
 - Other Income Inflation. In recent years income budgets have been over-achieved therefore the budget estimates are considered reasonable.
 - Officer numbers are increased based on the uplift projections. Staff roles have also increased to support the additional officers.
14. Given the uncertainty about the future resources available to the PCC at the time of preparing this report, the estimates beyond 2022/23 are at present set out with the best available information at the time of this report. There have as yet been no indications of future years funding allocation by the Home Office.

Adequacy of Reserves

15. The CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Panel (LAAP) has issued a guidance note on Local Authority Reserves and balances (LAAP Bulletin 77) to assist local authorities in determining the adequacy of reserves. This guidance is not statutory, but compliance is seen as best practice.
16. The guidance however, states that no case has yet been made to set a statutory minimum level of reserves, either as an absolute amount or a percentage of the budget. Each Police and Crime Commissioner and local authority should take advice from its Chief Financial Officer and base its judgement on local circumstances.
17. The current policy statement on the level of reserves includes the following:
- a. *The PCC will set aside sufficient sums in earmarked reserves as considered prudent to do so. The PCC Chief Finance Officer will be authorised to establish such reserves as are required, will review them for both adequacy and purpose, and report on a regular basis to the Police Crime and Victims' Commissioner.*
 - b. *The PCC will aim to maintain, broadly, general reserves of between 4% and 5% of the revenue estimates currently £5.871m and £7.339m respectively (based on 2022/23 revenue funding of £146.786m) subject to an annual review by the PCC Chief Finance Officer as part of the budget process.*
18. Earmarked reserves have been established as a means of building up funds to meet known or predicted requirements. The level of earmarked reserves will be in the region of £12.8m at the end of March 2022.
19. The General Reserve has been set at approx. 4.5% of the revenue funding for 2022/23 and will be £6.559m at the end of March 2021.

20. The reserves are set at a level to accommodate any significant financial impact on capital or revenue expenditure in 2022/23.
21. The PCC's approach to the management of risks alongside the PCC's financial management arrangements suggest that the level of resources identified in the Annual Budget 2022/23 is sufficient to provide reassurance and confidence in the delivery of policing services to County Durham and Darlington.

Police and Crime Panel

7th March 2022

Neighbourhood Problem Solving Approach

Report of the Police and Crime and Commissioner



Purpose

1. To describe to Members the local problem-solving approach to be developed through the employment and deployment of Community Safety Champions in 2022/23 and 2023/24. The cost of employing the two Community Safety Champions will be met in full by the OPCC Durham, but any activities suggested by residents, councillors and organisations could be funded (if considered doable and appropriate) by contributions from the local Area Action Partnership (AAP).
Local engagement will be critical to identifying specific areas of concern and building the evidence base on which progress can be assessed and conclusions on effectiveness drawn.
The two roles will target areas of County Durham with the intention to design a delivery model which can be extended to other geographical force areas.
A robust evaluation and quality assurance process will ensure effective delivery and a service level agreement will be in place with Durham Agency against Crime to measure outcomes and impact of the posts.

Background

2. The main purpose of the roles will be to engage with communities, stakeholders and businesses and help address the six safer themes to help reduce crime, ASB, victimisation and the fear of crime, with an overall aim of helping communities feel safer.
In October 2021, the PCC met with councillors from Wingate, Wheatley Hill and Trimdon areas to discuss the response to anti-social behaviour in their respective wards. At the meeting the proposal to create Community Coordinator roles (now called Community Safety Champions) was shared as a potential response to local problems which councillors highlighted.
The proposal for Community Safety Champions was developed to understand and define solutions in partnership with local communities and their representatives at a local level, that would be owned by the community and implemented by the community.
The Durham Agency against Crime has agreed to recruit and manage two posts and is undertaking a recruitment exercise with the aim of having the posts filled as near to early April as possible.

Following the meeting with the councillors in October, the plan is for one of the roles to work with communities in Ferryhill and the second role in the area around Wingate, Wheatley Hill and the Trimdons.

Once there is agreement between the local communities and their representatives on the problems to be resolved and the actions to achieve resolution, the Community Safety Champion will work with the communities to a point where the actions have been completed, then move on to the next geographical area where the needs are most acute.

The ASB Champion will be active across the Force area and will advise where the need is greatest and the opportunity to work in partnership exists.

3. The PCC collated responses from a survey during the election campaign. The respondents identified anti-social behaviour (ASB), drug use and drug dealing, fly tipping, speeding, and vandalism as the main areas of concern.

Recommendation

4. To consider the report and provide any comments and questions.

Charles Oakley
Head of Governance & Finance

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

All funding decisions are reflected in the OPCC 2022/23 budget.

Staffing

n/a

Equality and Diversity

n/a

Accommodation

n/a

Crime and Disorder

Many of the projects are aimed at reducing crime and disorder.

Children's Act 2004

n/a

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

Information about the PCC's funding streams is set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

Environment

n/a

Collaboration and Partnerships

n/a

Value for Money and Productivity

Value for Money is a key consideration in the allocation of all funding.

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

All funding is expected to have a positive impact on priorities.

Commissioning

As per the report.

Other risks

n/a

Contact Officer:	Charles Oakley
Job Title:	Head of Governance & Finance
Telephone:	0191 375 2001
Email:	charles.oakley@durham-pcc.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Police and Crime Panel

7th March 2022

Appointment of Victim Champions



Report of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Purpose

This paper provides an update on the recent appointments of the three Victim Champions in the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner's Office (Victims' Champion, Domestic Abuse Victims' Voice Worker and Anti-Social Behaviour Champion) and provides an overview of their main role, responsibilities, and priority areas of work.

2. Background

The Victims' Champion, Domestic Abuse Victims' Voice Worker and the ASB Champion have been appointed to carry out specialist roles to support the Commissioner in strengthening the voice of victims of crime and ASB, and to ensure planning, policy and commissioning decisions reflect the needs and views of victims. They are there to ensure that victims' voices are heard, and their lived experiences help shape future policy and improve the help and support offered to others who find themselves facing similar situations in the future and make a positive difference to their lives.

The Champions took up their posts in January 2022 and will help the Commissioner prioritise resources and interventions as part of the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-24. The Panel will be aware of the importance that the PCC attaches to tackling ASB as indicated in her plan.

All three appointments were made following the normal protocols in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner ensuring a fair, open, and transparent recruitment process. Having undergone a robust Job Evaluation process by senior staff within the OPCC, the roles were advertised both internally and externally, shortlisting process was carried out and candidates were then invited for interview. The Victims' Champion and ASB Champion were interviewed by a panel of three consisting of the Commissioner herself and 2 members of the Senior Leadership Team and the DA Victims/Survivor Voice Worker was interviewed by a member of the OPCC and two members of Durham County Council.

Funding and working arrangements for the three posts vary slightly:

The Victims' Champion post is funded by the Ministry of Justice, is under a 12 month fixed term contract, 2 days per week and salary pro-rata is £31,719 to £34,700.

The Domestic Abuse Victim/Survivor post is fully funded by Durham County Council and is hosted by the OPCC. The post involves working directly with the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group (DASVEG), is under a 2 year fixed contract, 3 days per week and salary pro-rata is £31,719 to £34,700.

The ASB Champion post is funded by the OPCC Commissioning Budget, is under a 12 month fixed term contract, 5 days per week and salary is £31,719 to £34,700.

Overall Line Management responsibility for all three Champions sits with the Chief Executive (OPCC) and they are tasked by the OPCC Senior Leadership Team.

3. Role of Champions

Victims' Champion

The Victims' Champion (Crime) works alongside the Police and Crime Commissioner to support her in fulfilling the Victims' Commissioner aspect of her role. The Victims' Champion will ensure that victims' voices are 'heard' and their lived experience informs planning, policies, commissioning of victim support services and the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.

The Victims' Champion (Crime) has a work plan which takes cognisance of the national approach tailored to local need.

- Personally listening to victims so that their needs are understood
- Engage with victims' charities and support organisations to get their first-hand experience of victims' needs
- Engage with local CJS agencies to understand their individual and collective (as Local Criminal Justice Partnership) approach to victims of crime and its efficacy
- Engage with the Victims Commissioner; Association of Police and Crime Commissioners' lead for victims; National Police Chiefs' Council and Durham Constabulary to ascertain work programmes for local consideration
- Monitor HMICFRS reports for good practice and areas for improvement vis a vis victims
- Scrutinise local compliance with the Victims' Code to ensure victims receive their rights and feel supported and empowered to participate in the CJS and pursue justice
- Through Root Cause Analysis; 'Deep-Dive' research; and targeted surveys, build a body of evidence of victims' experiences, identifying themes, patterns, trends and gaps which can be triangulated and presented to inform policy, planning and commissioning

Through policy work in the office a number of areas requiring improvement have already been identified and are being addressed. These include: better quality and consistency in recording interaction with victims; better Victim's Needs Assessment and support in preparing the Victim's Personal Statement; better Victim Code compliance, correct referrals to VCAS; embedding learning captured from other Forces' HMICFRS PEEL Reports and ensuring the offer of support is available at each critical point of the victims' journey through the CJS. A great deal of additional engagement has taken place in the short period since the Victims' champion (Crime) role was introduced in December 2021, and progress has been made against each of the areas outlined above. Victims' voices are painting a picture of their experiences and a Lived Experience Group has been established as a 'sounding board' for testing out proposals for policies and services. It can also be fed into training for officers and staff to improve engagement with victims and service delivery, thereby improving confidence and satisfaction.

Domestic Abuse Victims' Voice Worker

The Domestic Abuse Victims' Voice Worker works alongside the Police and Crime Commissioner and a range of multi-agency partnership boards and forums to provide a clear

independent picture of the victims'/ survivor experience (including compliance with Victims Code of Practice). It is anticipated that the victims'/ survivor voices will positively impact on services and support available to them in the future- making them more relevant, impactful, accessible, approachable and innovative- so improving outcomes for their recipients. These voices will also inform systems, how well they support victims who need to navigate them, and how they can improve.

The main duties in the work plan include:

- Ensure that victims' issues are captured in the delivery in the Police and Crime Plan and contribute to the work of County Durham/Darlington Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive Group. (DASVEG)
- Be required to work directly with a range of domestic abuse service providers/specialist services and key partners including Durham County Council's Children and Young People's Service and adults services.
- Develop and deliver a personal annual work plan that contributes to the annual report, pertinent to the broader Victims' Champion's role, which sets out key achievements and outcomes.
- Ensure domestic abuse victim/survivor experience is captured from across relevant criminal justice systems and processes to enable a triangulation of data and intelligence (i.e. police, CPS, courts, victim services, and ISVA/IDVA services) and use this to report on potential improvements.
- Develop mechanisms that enable the victim's/survivor's voice and experience to be effectively represented throughout the work of the Durham Police & Crime Commissioner's Office, Durham Constabulary, and their strategic partners.
- Assist in co-ordinating partnership discussions.
- Support independent scrutiny of domestic abuse victims'/survivor experience across the Criminal Justice System and the wider system (including outcomes for the victims and their experience as a witness).
- Ensure domestic abuse victim/survivor voices are contributing to the commissioning of support services
- To work effectively with victims/survivors of domestic abuse to co-produce projects/programmes where appropriate
- Encourage multi-agency action to address issues raised by individual victims/survivors to secure mutually agreeable outcomes.
- Ensure victims views and perceptions are listened to by the various planning structures (e.g. Victim & Witness Group).
- Liaison with the Victims' Commissioner and their office to report on local issues and participate in relevant national/regional initiatives.
- Monitoring and reporting on compliance with the Victims Law when it is enacted.
- Produce a report on how the Police and Crime Commissioner will meet Public Sector Equalities Duty in respect of victims.

Anti-Social Behaviour Champion

The ASB Champion works alongside the Durham Police & Crime Commissioner as an independent champion for victims and survivors of anti-social behaviour in the Durham Force area, acting as a point of contact for local individuals, communities, alleged perpetrators and those affected by the anti-social behaviour. The role supports the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner's Office to

ensure that the victim's voice is embedded in all relevant issues related to policies, planning and commissioning.

Since the introduction of this post, the main role and achievements are as follows:

- Held introductory sessions with Force, Partners and Elected Members in Durham and Darlington.
- Produced underpinning work plan to meet Police and Crime Plan Objectives in relation to ASB
- Undertaken a review/audit of the existing Community Trigger Process and threshold against National Guidelines across all partners - CCG, LAs, Housing Providers and the Force and identified areas for improvement. Currently working with the Force lead and will provide an update at the ASB Strategic Board.
- Supported engagement work by developing a local problem-solving action plan based on victim's feedback to tackle anti-social for the OPCC. Working with partners, victims and elected members, action plans are in place for 5 areas so far. (For example- Spennymoor, Ferryhill, Station Town, Wheatley Hill & Peterlee)
- Met with over 50 victims whose views and lived experience is informing ASB Champion practice, which in turn is being related back to partners during meetings.
- Attended National Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour Conference
- Commenced the process of setting up the OPCC independent ASB scrutiny panel – due to go to advert in the near future.
- Developing a series of snap surveys to capture data on victim's views and feedback to inform commissioning and victim's support
- Contributed to holding the force to account through review of the Anti-Social Behaviour thematic report to Executive Board
- Working with ASB Help Nationally to help inform new Guidance from the Home Office around ASB & Community Trigger
- Early indication of an increase in anti-social behaviour reporting in areas where engagement has taken place. Whilst too early to analyse, it suggests more members of the public are now ringing into the Police .
- Planning for ASB Matters Online Conference – aimed at decision makers to inform ASB strategy and feedback into OPCC, ASB Strategic Boards & Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).

Recommendations

Panel Members are recommended to note the information contained in this report.

Steve White

Chief Executive

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

As outlined in the report.

Staffing

As outlined in the report.

Equality and Diversity

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Children's Act 2004

None

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

None

Environment

None

Collaboration and Partnerships

None

Value for Money and Productivity

None

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

Positive coverage of activity will help to boost confidence in policing.

Commissioning

The Champions roles are intended to strengthen the effectiveness of the commissioning process.

Other risks

None

Contact Officer:	Sweety Sahani
Job Title:	Head of Private Office
Telephone:	0191 375 2001
Email:	sweety.sahani@durham.pcc.pnn.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank



Durham Police and Crime Panel

3 March 2022

Complaints Update

Report of Helen Lynch, Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To update members on number of formal complaints received since the last meeting.

2 Executive Summary

- 2.1 On 16 October 2020 the Police and Crime Panel approved an update to the procedure for handling complaints relating to the PCVC or the Deputy PCVC. In addition to this the Police and Crime Panel agreed to receive at each regular meeting an update on the number of formal complaints received including those which may have been rejected without consideration by the Panel in accordance with the procedure.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 The Panel are asked to note the report.

4 Complaints Procedure

- 4.1 The Police and Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the role and responsibility of Panels, this includes handling complaints relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner and their Deputy where appointed.
- 4.2 The Police and Crime Panel on 16 October 2020 reviewed and agreed an update to the procedure for dealing with complaints and conduct matters about the PCVC and their Deputy. The updates to the procedure were made following recommendations of the Local Government Association (LGA) on the best practice for complaints handling.
- 4.3 Following the approval by the Panel to adopt the updated procedure, the procedure took effect for all complaints received after 16 October 2020. A copy of the updated procedure is available on the Durham County Council website and is also available on request.

5 Complaints Update

- 5.1 The Panel have delegated responsibility to the Monitoring Officer to the Police and Crime Victims Commissioners Office for the initial receipt of complaints, and referral to the Panel, if there appears to be any substance in it. There may be instances where a complaint is not presented to the Panel such as withdrawn complaints or those which are outside of the policy to be considered.
- 5.2 In order to promote transparency and ensure effective scrutiny it was agreed on 16 October 2020 that the Panel would receive a report at each regular meeting on formal complaints received relating to the PCVC, including those which have not been presented to the Panel.
- 5.3 Between 27 January 2022 and 24 February 2022 there have been no formal complaints received in accordance with the procedure.

Background Papers

None

Contact:	Kamila Coulson-Patel	Tel: 03000 269674
----------	----------------------	-------------------

Appendix 1

Legal Implications

The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 set out the functions of police and crime panels in relation to the handling of complaints concerning the conduct of police and crime commissioners, and provide for local arrangements to be made in order to resolve complaints.

Finance

None specific for this report.

Consultation

None specific for this report. .

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None specific for this report.

Climate Change

None specific for this report.

Human Rights

None specific for this report.

Crime and Disorder

None specific for this report.

Staffing

None specific for this report.

Accommodation

None specific for this report.

Risk

None specific for this report.

Procurement

None specific for this report.

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank