



Police and Crime Panel

Date **Wednesday 1 February 2023**
Time **10.00 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 Special Meeting held 28 October and Meetings held on 4 November 2022 (Pages 3 - 22)
4. Declarations of interest, if any
5. Precept Consultation - Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 23 - 64)
6. Victims' Champions - Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 65 - 78)
7. National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels Annual Report 2022 - Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 79 - 88)
8. Complaints Update - Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Pages 89 - 92)
9. 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
24 January 2023

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

Durham County Council

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

Darlington Borough Council

Councillors B Jones (Chair), L McCollom and M Renton

Independent Co-opted Members

Mr N Hallam and Mr R Rodiss

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **Police and Crime Panel** held in **Committee Room 1, Darlington Town Hall** on **Friday 28 October 2022** at **1.30 pm**

Present:

Councillor B Jones (Chair)

Durham County Council:

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

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillor L McCollom

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr N Hallam and Mr R Rodiss

1 Apologies for Absence

Councillor D Boyes tendered his apologies.

2 Substitute Members

There were no substitute members.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Chief Constable Update

The Chief Constable delivered a presentation on recent performance in relation to detecting and resolving crime (for copy of presentation see file of minutes).

The Chief Constable highlighted that over the past 12 months to July 2022, Durham was ranked in the top six highest performing forces across England and Wales in respect of the crime resolution rate in the main crime categories.

Whilst Durham's ranking in respect of drug offences was comparatively low, the Chief Constable pointed out that minor drug offences which were diverted, were not recorded as outcomes and therefore the ranking did not reflect the amount of work in this area and the Chief Constable added she had written to the former Policing Minister to highlight the issue.

In terms of crime reduction, the Panel heard that Durham is below the national average for crimes committed against people. Operation Crystal aims to improve investigation standards and casefiles presented to the Crown Prosecution Service are of a consistently high standard. The Chief Constable referred to court delays particularly in Crown Court proceedings, which continue to affect the criminal justice process.

The Chief Constable described the prevention strategy and spoke of a number of accolades which had been received in relation to the prevention of crime, including recognition from HMIC for the approach to tackling burglary. The approach is very much focused on primary prevention, including awareness of cybercrime and work done in education settings to prevent young people from becoming victims or perpetrators of crime. Good prevention work was reported including some work by PCSOs who had worked with youths in Brandon whose anti-social behaviour had led to damage to a defibrillator. The PCSOs engaged with the youths not only to prevent their vandalism but also to educate them on the possible consequences of damaging a defibrillator and how to use a defibrillator to potentially save a life in the future. A further example of good work by PCSOs was provided when officers recognised that a vulnerable resident was a potential target of victimisation from a criminal group and they had gone to great lengths to ensure additional support was in place.

The Panel heard that the force places a high priority on tackling high-harm and domestic violence, with a focus on the impact of domestic violence on children. The work also recognises that victims and witnesses of domestic violence are often fearful of providing evidence against the perpetrator. When attending incidents of domestic violence, officers are mindful of the impact upon children and footage from body-worn cameras may be used in evidence-led court cases. Further to a number of high profile cases of violence against women and girls, the force undertook a survey on where and when women feel fearful and with help from the Safer Streets funding improvements have been made which include the establishment of support hubs in Darlington and Durham. The Panel heard that the force is also involved in national work relating to rape and sexual offences and Durham is at the forefront of the work which includes disrupting patterns of behaviour.

The Chief Constable referred to the fast pace of change of the digital world which creates threats and opportunities for policing. The opportunities include gathering information from digital footprints and the use of apps such as 'what3words' to track suspects and assist in searches for missing people.

The Chief Constable informed the Panel that calls to 999 had increased by 15% whilst calls to 101 had declined by approximately the same rate with non-crime incidents including road traffic incidents, public safety and welfare concerns accounting for two-thirds of all calls. On a positive note, call abandonment was reducing, a new telephony system is in place and additional call handlers have been recruited. In addition, digital contact routes are being explored.

Referring to anti-social behaviour, partnership working takes place with regard to targeting individuals and places with high rates of anti-social behaviour. Money from 'Fearless', the junior arm of Crimestoppers together with support from the Police and Crime Commissioner has funded outreach work and Safer Streets funding had been utilised to combat anti-social behaviour in hotspots including Darlington, Stanley, Ferryhill and Peterlee.

The Panel noted that national commendation had been awarded to an officer for a hard-hitting media campaign to warn the public of the dangers of using a mobile phone whilst driving. The item highlighted the devastation caused when lives were lost in a recent road traffic collision caused by a driver using a mobile phone at the wheel. This included the impact on the convicted person whose decision to use a mobile phone had such tragic consequences.

The Panel heard of the work in relation to tackling serious and organised crime and the work done with colleagues in Liverpool to dismantle an organised crime gang with links in Liverpool and Durham. The Chief Constable referred to activities to reduce demand, including working with the mental health trust and community peer mentors.

Referring to the police uplift, the Chief Constable explained that the force is on track to meet its recruitment target, and she added there is an upward trend in the number of female officers which is currently approximately 40% and the number of black, Asian and minority ethnic officers is approximately 2% which is representative of the general population of the county.

The Chair thanked the Chief Constable for the informative presentation and he referred to Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings and asked for the Chief Constable's view as to the part they play in terms of increasing public confidence. The Chief Constable remarked the meetings contribute to public confidence, together with other forums such as Area Action Partnership and Parish Council meetings.

In addition, the digital messaging service 'Keep In the Know' provides crime updates, information on road closures and neighbourhood policing. Councillor Hovvels praised the recent improvements which she observed had increased public confidence. Picking up on the high number of non-crime related contacts, she raised concerns that the cost of living crisis may lead to more calls from members of the public who are struggling with welfare and mental health issues. Councillor Hovvels also spoke of the prevention work relating to anti-social behaviour with regard to tackling ongoing issues in relation to off-road bikes and she welcomed the 'New Wheels for Christmas' initiative.

Mr Rodiss referred to the resolution rate in respect of violence against the person and expressed the view that this seemed low and that he would expect that in many cases the victim and perpetrator will be known to each other. The Chief Constable pointed out that within that crime category it was likely that there would be other offences in addition to the primary offence and there is more work to be done in relation to evidence-led prosecutions.

Councillor Potts referred to the south of the county and he stated that recently the call abandonment rate had been as high as 23% and he queried the validity of the information relating to performance, if one in four people were not reporting crime. The Chief Constable clarified the abandonment rate currently stood at approximately 15%. Councillor Potts also referred to a reduction in local communication capability and the Chief Constable commented that increased capability within centralised facilities could not be replicated locally. The Police and Crime Commissioner reminded the Panel that between 2010 and 2020 Durham lost 27% of its workforce however despite this, it remains a high performing force.

Councillor Nicholls commended the excellent work of the PCSOs in his division and he voiced his concerns that more work was required to prevent violence against women and girls. The Chief Constable responded that domestic abuse is at a higher rate in the north east and referred to the importance of strengthening partnership arrangements and establishing effective support networks for women and girls. Operation Encompass involves specialist staff who make contact with a child's school and communicate relevant and necessary information to ensure that support is in place, following all domestic abuse incidents.

5 IICSA Report

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided information on how the Police and Crime Commissioner is holding the force to account for the delivery of recommendations laid out by the independent inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) report (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Introducing the report, the Police and Crime Commissioner explained the various ways that the Police and Crime Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account and confirmed that she was satisfied that work is being undertaken to address the criticisms and progress the recommendations within the IICSA report.

Mr Rodiss referred to the 'Working Together' document published in 2018 which refers to the establishment of an independent scrutiny group and he asked whether that had been actioned. The Police and Crime Commissioner explained that independent scrutiny groups are in place and suggested that it may be timely for the Panel to receive an overview of the external scrutiny processes.

Councillor Potts expressed concern that the full IICSA report had not been circulated to the Panel and at reports that the children were victim blamed and some had received criminal convictions. He recalled that he previously requested that a full investigation be carried out and he understood that it was agreed that a full report would be considered by the Panel. He expressed the view that the report failed to mention the salient points of the investigation and therefore the Panel could not establish whether justice had been done. The Clerk to the Panel advised that the Panel may wish to review previous minutes to clarify the resolution made at the meeting referred to by Councillor Potts.

Mr Rodiss asked if serious case reviews had been held in respect of the children involved. The Chief Constable stated that no serious case reviews had taken place however further information could be provided. She confirmed that all nine report recommendations had been responded to, or, were in the process of being responded to. The Police and Crime Commissioner reiterated that the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner is to hold the Chief Constable to account and individual cases were an operational issue. Councillor Potts referred to section 8 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, which states the Police and Crime Commissioner must hold the Chief Constable to account for the exercise of duty in relation to safeguarding children and the promotion of child welfare imposed on the Chief Constable.

Councillor Hovvels **moved** the recommendation. Councillor McCollom **seconded** the recommendation. Upon a vote being taken and with the majority of Members voting in favour of the recommendation and Councillor Potts and Mr Rodiss voting against the recommendation, it was

Resolved:

- (i) That the report be noted.

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DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Friday 4 November 2022** at **10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor B Jones (Chair)

Durham County Council:

Councillors L Hovvels, D Nicholls, J Nicholson (Vice-Chair), A Savory and M Simmons

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillor L McCollom

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr N Hallam and Mr R Rodiss

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Potts and M Renton.

2 Substitute Members

There were no Substitute Members.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2022 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Police and Crime Commissioner's Performance and Delivery Update Report (April 22 to September 22) - Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Panel considered the report of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) giving performance and delivery updates for Quarter One and Quarter Two 2022 (for copy see file of Minutes).

The PCC asked Members to note discussions with the Chair in respect of how performance reporting could be presented to the Panel and that the report attached was the first iteration of the new format, incorporating both Quarter One and Quarter Two for 2022.

Members noted that the report contained updates against the Police and Crime Plan, performance, collaboration work, services for victims, and grant funding. The PCC noted that Durham was now recognised as one of the highest in the country in terms of resolve rates in respect of neighbourhood crime, with a reduction of 23.5 percent, with the His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) praising Durham Constabulary for their approach and response to inquisitive crime.

In respect of force staffing levels, the PCC noted that there had been a reduction of 408 officers and staff from 2010 to 2019, a reduction of 27 percent. She added that the recent Police Uplift would help, however, it would still represent 100 fewer Officers than 2010, while some Forces in other areas of the country were seeing an increase in their number of Officers to above 2010 levels. The PCC noted that Durham Constabulary had a greater number of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) than the national average and reminded Members of the 140 Officers recruited in July 2022. She also reminded the Panel of the new shift patterns which helped in meeting demand and noted the improved response in that regard.

The PCC explained that the public had asked for call handling to be a priority and she had therefore invested in recruitment, with 17 additional call-handlers in the period April to September 2022. She asked the Panel to note an increase in the number of 999 calls answered within 10 seconds and a reduction in the number of 101 calls that were abandoned.

In terms of Neighbourhood Crime, the PCC reiterated there had been a 23.5 percent reduction, which included crimes such as robbery, residential burglary, theft from the person and vehicle crime. She added that, while the resolve rates were the highest in England and Wales, there was still more to do.

The PCC noted the four percent reduction in anti-social behaviour (ASB) and reminded the Panel that she was the only PCC in the country to have created and recruited the role of Anti-social Behaviour Champion to give a voice to victims of ASB and those seeking redress through the Community Trigger scheme. In relation to violent crime the PCC explained that protecting women and girls was a key area of focus for her and the Force, adding that violence against the person was down overall when compared to the baseline.

The Panel were referred to non-crime demand and noted that the number of missing from home incidents had increased by 35 percent in comparison to the baseline figure, though the number of mental health incidents had decreased by 8.7 percent compared to the baseline, though it was noted that mental health incidents accounted for 10.2 percent of all incidents across quarter one and quarter two. The PCC noted that road safety continued to be a top priority for people and that there had been a 33 percent reduction in all casualties across the period. She explained that in relation to partnership working and victims services, the Community Peer Mentors project had successfully expanded the support for victims of crime and anti-social behaviour, especially for vulnerable people. It was noted that there had been a 21 percent increase in the number of referrals to the scheme, with a 371 percent increase in referrals when compared to pre-pandemic levels. The PCC explained that there had been a 71.9 percent increase in ASB where alcohol had been identified as having a significant and negative impact on clients. The PCC noted that victims were at the core of activity and would be offered help at the first opportunity, with the importance of helping in the recovery journey of all victims being highlighted. She added that it was important to recognise the work of the previous PCC, Ron Hogg for his work in commissioning the Community Peer Mentors project. The PCC noted she was delighted to receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services from the Lord Lieutenant on behalf of the Community Peer Mentors on 8 September 2022.

In relation to confidence, the PCC noted 92 percent of victims reported feeling safer through support from the Victims Care and Advice Service (VCAS), with 90 percent reporting an improvement in their health and wellbeing, and 91 percent reporting an improvement in their lifestyle. It was explained that, of cases that had concluded, nine out of ten reported they were highly satisfied. The PCC noted that the service had staff that were committed, passionate and professional and that performance would be monitored in terms of variety and quality.

In respect of services for victims and grant funding, the PCC explained that the Community Safety Fund and Care Foundation had set aside £150,000 for community and voluntary organisations to apply for a grant of between £2,000 and £7,500 to support grassroots projects to tackle issues such as ASB, fly-tipping and vandalism. She explained as regards the new support service for victims of sexual violence and the investment of £250,000 in the CCTV Control room at Darlington, which the Panel had the opportunity to tour prior to their last meeting. The Panel were asked to note the investment in Darlington Borough, with more than £1 million, when looking at successful bids to the Home Office's Safer Streets Fund and PCC investment.

The PCC explained as regards a total of £1.5 million secured by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and Partners from the Safer Streets Fund for County Durham and Darlington to tackle ASB, neighbourhood crime and women's safety. The Panel noted the projects benefiting from the funding were: Durham City and Darlington – tackling violence against women and girls in the night-time economy; Peterlee – tackling youth related ASB and neighbourhood crime; Darlington – tackling youth related ASB; and Ferryhill and Stanley – tackling youth related ASB and neighbourhood crime.

In relation to the new inspection regime, and HMICFRS reports, the PCC noted that Durham was still judged as one of the best Forces in the country, with eight good and two outstanding judgements. She added that through the Accountability Meetings she was confident in the Force and also in it looking to improve.

The Chair thanked the PCC and asked Members of the Panel for their questions.

Councillor L Hovvels noted the report contained a lot of positives and good national recognition for the work being undertaken, especially in terms of the Peer Mentors. She added she welcomed the work with local people in partnership with the Police and the investment in CCTV in Darlington. She noted the work and funding in relation to Safer Streets and asked as regards future partnership working with the community and voluntary sector and access additional funding. The PCC noted work on social value and the Blue Light E-Procurement with the community and voluntary sector and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) being encouraged to bid for public procurement. Councillor L Hovvels asked if the PCC would give her congratulations to the Peer Mentors on their award, the Chair added that the Panel's congratulations be passed on to the Peer Mentors.

Mr R Rodiss asked as regards the distinction between detection and resolution. The Chief Finance Officer explained that detection was a subset of resolution, the latter containing other solutions such as out of court settlements. Mr R Rodiss noted that Durham claimed to have the highest rates, however, Greater Manchester Police (GMP) had rates of 40 percent and therefore asked whether Durham should be liaising with GMP to learn from their success. The Chief Finance Officer noted that would be for the Force itself, though it was a valid point. The PCC noted that the GMP Chief Constable, Stephen Watson had been Deputy under Mike Barton at Durham and had been the lead on prevention. She added she would pick the issue up with the Force.

Councillor D Nicholls thanked the PCC and noted it was a thorough report and was impressed with the report relating to the performance of the Peer Mentors. He noted that the report relating to Q12 of the Inspection (strategic planning, organisational management and value for money) had been scored as outstanding and added that would be beneficial for Durham as it was likely there would be further cuts to the public sector in future. He noted there was only one adequate rating, relating to Providing a Service to Victims of Crime, though he welcomed the performance information relating to 90 percent of victims reporting an improvement to their health and wellbeing having accessed VCAS. He added that he had seen such improvement in his local area, with PCSOs helping to fit alarms and give crime advice which were all good actions in helping to reduce the fear of crime. Councillor D Nicholls noted that the 23.5 percent reduction in neighbourhood crime was very praiseworthy and added he had noted the huge improvement over the last six months a testament to the good relationship between the Neighbourhood Inspector and local Members. He explained that in relation to domestic abuse, the training of additional call handlers was welcomed as a first point of contact, and timely in terms of the upcoming football World Cup.

The PCC noted she would feedback the comments from Members and reiterated that she wanted the type of engagement within neighbourhoods as described by Councillor D Nicholls. She added that PCSOs becoming qualified as Officers was good as they would bring their experience to the Officer role, however, that would leave a gap in terms of PCSOs. She added she had focussed on those areas that had been identified previously by Inspectors and would now look at funding. She reiterated that she had asked the Chief Constable to move on some specific areas, such as target hardening as soon as possible. She noted she visited Neighbourhood Teams and they looked to identify any hotspots or repeat victims and then looked to focus and respond to those issues quickly.

Councillor A Savory noted she welcomed the additional support for victims, especially women and girls, as victims of domestic abuse can often need support in terms of giving evidence in cases, as it can take a lot of courage to come forward. The PCC noted that feedback via the Victims' Champion was helping in terms where there were issues and why, and then in looking at how those victims could be supported. She noted issues could include the time travelling to hearings, postponed hearings, issues with caring responsibilities and the impact on working arrangements. She added it was important to look at these issues on behalf of victims and work with Partners on solutions. She noted that some were as simple as having alternative vending machines available so that victims did not have to use the same one as the perpetrator or having rooms available for victims to use, separating them from the perpetrators. The PCC reiterated that the community and voluntary sector had been a great help and that it was very important that the victims' voice was being heard. Councillor A Savory noted the arrangements at Court were now better and reiterated as regards the impact of the upcoming World Cup. The PCC noted that partnership work was ongoing and the potential spike in activity during the World Cup had been noted.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

The Chair explained that when the agenda was published, the next item, on the Investigative Hub, had been treated as exempt on the basis of financial information contained within the report, however, he understood that the position had been reviewed and that the item could be considered in public session. The Chief Finance Officer confirmed that was now the case. The Chair asked that the item be published following the conclusion on the meeting.

6 Report on Investigative Hub - Report of Durham Police and Crime Commissioner

The Panel considered the report of the PCC relating to the new Investigative Hub (for copy see file of Minutes). The Chair noted that the facility included cell blocks, custody suite and investigative hub.

The Chief Finance Officer explained that the hub was much more than just 48 cells, he explained that there were 140 desks for Detectives and other staff and there was now centralised storage, as well as centralised facility for Crime Scene Investigation, from four sites down to one.

He noted Home Office regulations had helped shape the proposals and explained there had been internal meetings that had been chaired over the last few years by the late PCC, Ron Hogg, the Interim PCC, Steve White and the current PCC, Joy Allen. He added that there had been questions from the public at the Public Accountability meetings and consultation events, with over 50 events having taken place with groups including MPs, Area Action Partnerships (AAPs), the Cabinets and Chief Executives from Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council, the North East Chamber of Commerce (NECC) and Circuit Judges. The Chief Finance Officer noted concerns raised included the impact on rush hour traffic and noise with those issues having been looked at during the planning stage. He added that the Council's Planning Officers had offered very good challenge to the OPCC and Force at each stage. He noted the report set out all the details and key points.

The Chair thanked the Chief Finance Officer and asked the Panel for their questions.

Mr R Rodiss noted that on the face of it, it seemed very good, however, as noted by the Chair it had been initially referred to as a custody suite. He noted that speaking to two Local MPs they had felt the proposals were for a custody suite and now they were for an investigative hub. He added that the public had not been given the opportunity to ask questions as they had not known that the proposals were for an investigative hub. He noted the number of available workstations and added that when looking at the numbers required for forensic officers it would leave a number of surplus desks and asked who the remaining desks would be for. The Chief Finance Officer noted they would be for Detectives. Mr R Rodiss asked as regards the move of Officers from four divisional headquarters to the new hub, and if therefore would those sites be at risk. The Chief Finance Officer referred to the recruitment of Police Officers and further recruitments scheduled to take place which would lead to an increase in Officer numbers from around 2,100 to 2,500, each with a density of around five square metres per person across the Police estate. Mr R Rodiss noted that Crook Station was around six Officers, down from 50 previously and asked if there would be moves back to smaller stations in local areas rather than the four larger regional headquarters. The Chief Finance Officer noted there were those smaller local stations, in addition to the four large stations. Mr R Rodiss asked what would happen to those large stations as a result of moving staff to the Hub and smaller stations. The Chief Finance Officer noted those four stations would still be required to provide accommodation for teams such as Response Teams, Neighbourhood Teams, PCSOs, Intelligence and Firearms, with around 80 at each of the large stations and with "front counter" staff being retained. He added that the Darlington Station would incorporate a Multiagency Safeguarding Hub.

The PCC noted that it was important to continue to use Darlington Station and added that it was an exemplar in terms of multiagency work, with staff that had moved to there from the County Council. She added she had seen positive progress at Bishop Auckland with modernisation to help enable hot desk working with the use of tablets. Mr R Rodiss noted he felt it was very naïve, with it being key to tackling crime being able to involve the local community and added that by having all Detectives in one place then there may not be as much of a sense of ownership, for example working on a case in Peterlee one week, and Stanley the next. He added it made sense in terms of financing, however he felt it would be a problem in terms of high turnover of Officers. The Chief Finance Officer noted he disagreed in terms of who dealt with cases, adding from his experience in attending the morning briefings at stations that PCSOs and Neighbourhood Teams have intelligence on who targets were. Mr R Rodiss noted he felt that represented too much responsibility for PCSOs and added that having all Detectives at the new Investigative Hub would mean they would not have local understanding and asked if that therefore would have implications in terms of a requirement for additional Officers and staff to attend Court. He added there would be no continuity for the public. The Chief Finance Officer noted that the primary investigation would be for the Responding Officer, with Detectives to carry out any secondary investigation, adding Detectives currently could deal with cases across the county.

Councillor L Hovvels stated she felt the new Hub was the way forward and noted from her previous involvement, as former Chair of the Panel, that feedback from staff was positive. She noted the concerns that had come forward from those residents nearby to the Hub and she understood that staff from the OPCC or Force had spoke to residents door-to-door about the issues raised. The PCC noted that there had been very extensive consultation carried out at the time, with no objections from the public. She noted the engagement work carried out had a positive impact, with Croxdale Parish Council having objected and with Spennymoor Town Council having commented on the proposals. She added that PCSOs and Neighbourhood Teams were important in terms of local knowledge, with the key being the local community. She added she would encourage the public to use 101 or Crimestoppers to come forward with information, and she would also ask Members to encourage their use too. The PCC noted that the proposals related to how the Chief Constable wanted to arrange things operationally, though added that she would hold the Chief Constable to account in terms of progress.

The Chair asked about progress of the work on site. The Chief Finance Officer noted that works were progressing, with the skeleton of the building having been erected, though there was a delay in the schedule of around six weeks.

Councillor A Savory noted that the PCSOs in her area were excellent and worked with the local schools. She added that such work in building up confidence within local communities was paramount and noted it was important to encourage good citizenship with young people.

Mr R Rodiss asked if Councillors and MPs had been notified of the second stage in respect of the Hub, notably the centralisation of CID services. The Chief Finance Officer noted it had been explained at briefings. Mr R Rodiss asked when it would be announced to the public as he understood residents were under the impression they were just for cells, rather than the wider use by CID. The Chief Finance Officer noted that through the planning process the use had been explained. The PCC noted that she had spoken in press releases numerous times updating on the progress, especially once the development had reached the planning permission stage, adding she could find those press releases for the Panel. Mr R Rodiss noted that while around 700 people of the York Hill estate may have seen consultation letters, the other approximately half a million members of the public did not know as regards the updated proposals for the Hub and added he felt it should be announced to the rest of the County. Councillor L Hovvels asked as regards the Communications Strategy and how it related in this case. The PCC stated that in a press release in July she had noted that work would be completed next year in respect of the Hub, with 48 cells and accommodation for CID, other staff and storage. She added she would bring back further information on press releases to the Panel.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

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DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Friday 4 November 2022** at **11.00 am**

Present:

Councillor B Jones (Chair)

Durham County Council:

Councillors L Hovvels, D Nicholls, J Nicholson (Vice-Chair), A Savory and M Simmons

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillor L McCollom

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr N Hallam and Mr R Rodiss

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Potts and M Renton.

2 Substitute Members

There were no Substitute Members.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4 Confirmation Hearing - Proposed Appointment of Chief of Staff for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Panel considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Clerk to the Panel. The report provided information on the process to be undertaken to hold a confirmation hearing for the post of Chief of Staff for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and also considered a report from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the proposed candidate for the post of Chief of Staff for the OPCC (for copy see file of minutes).

The Panel noted that the Clerk to the Panel had received formal notification from the PCC of the proposed appointment of Ms Andrea Petty to the role of Chief of Staff for the OPCC and that the procedure for the confirmation hearing as set out at Appendix 3 to the report.

The Chief Finance Officer noted that the position had been publicly advertised, with 15 applicants having their applications assessed against the job description and personal statement by the PCC, Deputy PCC and himself. He noted that from those 15, five candidates were shortlisted for interview, with all applicants given the same question set and scored accordingly. He added that, following that process, the position was offered to Ms A Petty, with arrangements then being made for the Confirmation Hearing for the Panel.

The Panel then questioned Ms A Petty around the following issues:

- What main areas of expertise she had which would enable her to undertake the role of Chief of Staff effectively;
- Who she regarded as key stakeholders that she would work with within the role of Chief of Staff for the OPCC;
- Examples of how she had worked with a range of organisations, partnerships and agencies;
- How she would ensure a constructive relationship between the PCC and Panel was maintained at all times; and
- An example of when her personal independence had been put to the test and how she had dealt with the situation.

Ms A Petty provided the Panel with responses to the questions asked. The Panel thanked Ms A Petty and the PCC for their attendance and informed them they would be notified of the Panel's decision in due course.

5 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following discussion on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

6 Confirmation Hearing - Proposed Appointment of Chief of Staff for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Panel discussed the PCC's recommendation to appoint Ms A Petty as Chief of Staff for the OPCC. Upon a vote being taken it was:

Resolved:

That the Panel endorse the appointment of Ms A Petty to the post of Chief of Staff for the Durham OPCC in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

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Police and Crime Panel**1st February 2023****Precept Consultation****Report of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner****Purpose**

To update the Panel on the process for setting the Policing precept for 2023/24 and to seek the Panel's support for an increase of £15 per household per year for properties in Band D, and commensurate increases for other properties.

Background

In December each year, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is informed by the Home Secretary of the provisional amount of Government grant that will be provided for policing during the following financial year. That enables the PCC to formulate plans for the level of precept that she will need to ask Council Taxpayers to contribute, in order to deliver policing in County Durham and Darlington in line with the Police and Crime Plan. The Government normally puts a cap on the level of precept increase. The Government announced the provisional funding settlement for 2022/23 on the 14th of December 2022. From this, the Force and PCC Office has been making the calculations in relation to the effect of the settlement on the overall budget, along with the priorities for its use.

In addition to local taxation and central government grant the Durham Office of the PCC generates and manages additional funding streams. These include from the Ministry of Justice and also grants dependent on bids submitted by the PCC. In the last 12 months this has resulted in total additional funding to the value of £ £2,593,573 to benefit communities of County Durham and Darlington.

Funding in 2023/24

Government funding for policing in Durham and Darlington in 2023/24 includes the following:

- The Police Grant will increase by 1.8% to £107.6m. This comprises:
 - An addition £1.1m, which was already included in the 2021 Comprehensive Spending Review announcement. It is designed to cover all spending pressures across pay, officer incremental pay growth and non-pay
 - An additional £1.5m toward the cost of the 2022 pay award
 - A reduction of £0.8m due to the reductional in employers' national insurance contributions.
- Capital funding will remain at nil.

- The PCC is enabled to increase funding from the precept for the council taxpayer by 6.2% or £15 for a Band D property as a maximum.
- The total potential revenue funding, assuming maximum precept, increases from £146.8m to an estimated £151.3m, an increase of £4.5m or 3.4%. This compares to the averages increase of 3.6% across all forces.

To achieve the £151.3m, it will be necessary to increase precept by the maximum permitted, i.e., £15 per household per year, for properties in Council Tax Band D. If this happens, the implications for each Council Tax Band would be as follows:

Council Tax Band	Police Precept 2022/23	Proposed Annual increase for 2023/24	Proposed Police Precept for 2023/24
	£	£	£
Band A	160.16	10.00	170.16
Band B	186.85	11.67	198.52
Band C	213.55	13.33	226.88
Band D	240.24	15.00	255.24
Band E	293.63	18.33	311.96
Band F	347.01	21.67	368.68
Band G	400.40	25.00	425.40
Band H	480.48	30.00	510.48

Consultation

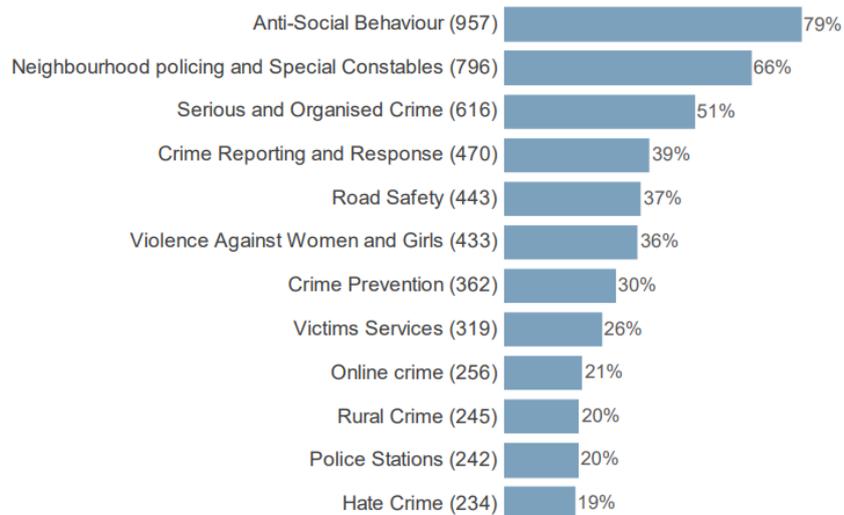
PCC launched an on-line survey on the 23rd November 2022 and closed at 4pm on the 13th January 2023. It was publicised using social media, releases to local media outlets and the PCC website, along with some meetings with MP's and AAP/ councillors.

The survey asks respondents about how much they would accept to pay extra for the provision of its policing service. The survey and the results are attached to this report. In addition to questions relating to precept tax levels, the survey also asks respondents for their views on priorities within the Police and Crime Plan.

There was a total of 1,204 responses as shown below, analysed by how much more they would be willing to pay.



The following show the main areas for continued focus as indicated in the responses.



Summary

Given the overall support for an increase, and the clear need to support Policing beyond the constraints of Uplift funding, the Panel is recommended to support an increase in precept of £15 per household per year for Band D properties.

As agreed with the Force this will enable in particular:

- Officer numbers to be maintained at 1,363 until at least April 2024
- PCSO numbers maintained at 146
- Continued IT technology improvements
- New shift patterns maintained to enable greater coverage in relation to roads, response and safeguarding teams
- Increase in cybercrime capability.

Under Schedule 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Police and Crime Panel is required to review the proposed precept, and to make a report on it (the Panel are to determine the manner of this report). The report can include recommendations on the level of the precept. The panel has the power to veto the proposed precept, which requires a two-thirds majority in favour of a veto.

Recommendation

The Panel is recommended to:

- a) Note the current position of the consultation and the outcome
- b) Consider my proposal for a £15 precept increase at Band D
- c) Decide whether to veto my proposal
- d) Produce a report setting out their views.

Joy Allen
Police and Crime Commissioner

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

The outcome of consultation will influence the size of the PCC's, and the Constabulary's, budget in 2023/24.

Staffing

None

Equality and Diversity

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

None

Children's Act 2004

None

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

A consultation exercise has taken place as set out in the report

Environment

None

Collaboration and Partnerships

None

Value for Money and Productivity

None

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

Size of budget will influence delivery of priorities

Commissioning

None

Other risks

None

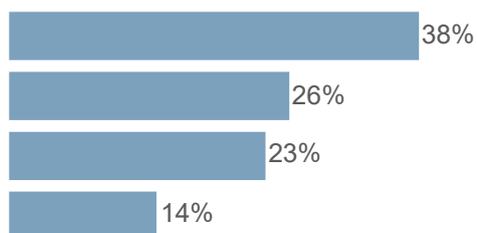
Contact Officer:	Gary Ridley/Steve White
Job Title:	Chief Finance Officer/Ch Exec
Telephone:	0191 3752265
Email:	Gary.ridley@durham.police.uk

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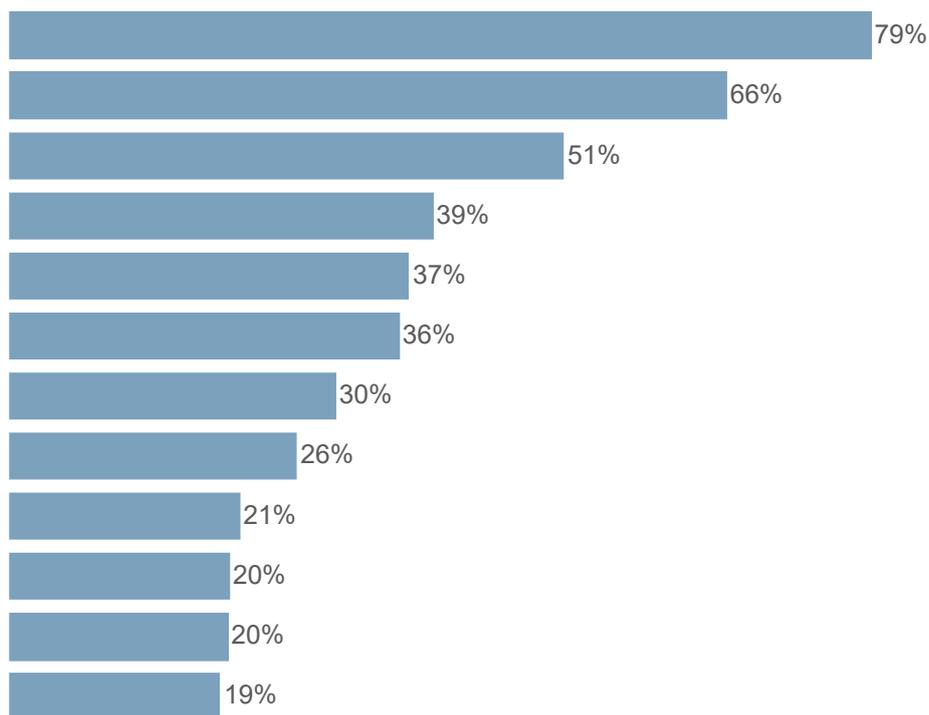
This report was generated on 16/01/23. Overall 1262 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 1262 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

How much more would you be willing to pay for your local police service?



Which of the following priorities would you like to see investment in? (from the list below choose up to 5)



Other (please use box below)

Road safety. Installing traffic cameras in areas where need is identified. Apart from improving road safety, fines collected could be used to further improve road safety/traffic calming measures in villages.

get in the faces of criminals, i want to see proper police officers not pcsos on foot patrol.

Hunting for hares and deer with dogs.

Other (please use box below)

I'm disappointed that there is no mention of domestic abuse against men , it's hard enough to come forward let alone not be believed

We live in a very rural area - I have never seen a police officer up here or even in local villages during the 5 years I have lived here, despite having a station at Stanhope!

Maybe try actually training your officers to deal with domestic abuse! Off doing photo ops when a victim that your force has horrifically failed can't even get a call back! High five!

stop abusing women by prejudiced attitudes letting perps off easy to buse women

Cyclists with no lights, even reflectors. So many in Darlington & with darker nights & bad weather, preventable accidents waiting to happen, with extra pressure on Police & NHS resources.

999, when you phone 999 you actually get 999 and not be redirected to 101.

Actually bothering about crime victims instead of treating them in a bad and uncaring way.

Prosecuting corrupt police.

Burglary

Groups of migrants hanging round streets talking intimidating passers by ans locals

Nusiance dogs

Mixed raced sexual education. British nationals

Would sound ridiculous if i wrote it

Off road motorcycles using all areas of Shildon, including the main streets as a race track. Install speed monitoring on Queensway.

Just do a proper investigation

To stop police corruption in house and the lack of investigation techniques and not following the law (this is a waste of resources and ends up with further expense when taken to court, which is taken from the budget). Filtering down full investigations and time given for investigational work, instead of a quick turnover and falsifying information so the citizen is blackmailed to keep away from the Police! This will save thousands in the budget by removing the inhouse culture of Police Officers and Heads of Department allowing manipulation of information to suit and agenda and making it a personal vendetta. This is rife in Durham Constabulary. The citizens have lost faith and trust. This must be built back, by taking complaints about officers/heads of departments seriously and removing this inhouse protection culture from all departments. This will save further resources on budgets and provide Durham Police with an effective constabulary by working with the people on the ground and the residents of County Durham.

Locsl b Local police on the beat, Ferryhill is like the wild west, boarded up houses, break ins and anti social behaviour.

Drug driving, speeding

See the police walking area of Cockerton

specialist Champions trained within the police to handle DA, ASB etc etc

We need a more visible police presence particularly on our roads, speed cameras don't catch dangerous drivers

Give better support/training and backup to your serving officers and employ officers that are capable and willing to do the job. Using PCSO's is policing on the cheap and is woefully ineffective.....leading to the public loosing faith and respect for the police.

Investigating crimes affect people. Not property. Like dog theft. Or damaging parked cars at night. Or teenager gangs that just have nothing to do but be a nuisance to honest working people.

Tackling illegal fox hunting and associated trespass onto land where no permissions given and damage caused. They lie when they state that they trail hunt. Their presence where they are not allowed causes me to fear for my own safety. It is intimidating and causes me distress. Police bury their heads when it comes to foxhunting. :(

Other (please use box below)

Fish poaching and associated anti-social behaviour across the River Wear catchment area. Legal river fishermen are often placed in difficult and dangerous situations when dealing with poaching. It is widely accepted that poachers often arrive at the river in vehicles that have no tax or MOT. There has been a noticeable increase in poachers under the influence of drugs (smell of cannabis). There are hotspots for poaching along the river and predominately aimed at illegally taking migratory fish (salmon and sea trout). These fish face many pressures and legal river fishermen and coastal netmen must abide by many regulations to ensure that migratory fish have a sustainable future. Poachers have no such obligation and it is thought that some fish are caught and sold on. It is believed that to reduce poaching will take a team effort from legal fishermen and their respective clubs to the judiciary and in between via Police, Environment Agency Enforcement Teams, MPs, Durham County Council and local councillors. Any assistance with placing this illegal activity as a concern for 2023/2024 would be very much appreciated.

River poaching and antisocial attitudes of rural poachers

Provision for disabled residents to access help when needed.

Please stop wasting money on ventures like the custody suite in Spennymoor. There is already a full purpose police station in Spennymoor. In Aycliffe the police share a fire station. There isn't even a Magistrates court in Spennymoor, which means further resource is required to move prisoners to/from court after arrest. I would not want to see an increase on the police precept for 2023/24. Cut your cloth to suit your pocket.

Seeing more police in local communities

Fly tipping and Littering

Increased community camera surveillance equipment and operators , more PREVENTION less CURE

More admin to ensure crimes reported are always noted; I am still waiting a year for a reply to an email from a PCSO. Police presence at Parish council meetings is also essential, as residents put off reporting crimes if police are not listening.

How about police on the streets instead of behind desks

Harassment initiatives against neighbours who think they are above the law.

Actual police visible on the street, police presence in, responding to house burglaries

east durham antisocial behaviour and arson

Stop politically driving police wasting time on non crimes like people being offended by free speech

CCTV, ANPR, ANPR fitted to all response vehicles, ally gates in area's with terraced housing with high crime area's. Promoting more good news stories.

More enforcement of illegal parking outside schools

Dealing with the inexcusable back log to charging - caused by complete apathy of officers - it is an absolute disgrace that victims of crime are left.. serious crime too.

Uphold your oath and protect the public from the real threats of tyranny and corruption within the government, media and central banks, instead of investigating people who tweet the "wrong opinion".

more openness

Theft and robbery

Note - Drugs are a social issue not a criminal one and so my tick in the serious and organised crime is for everything but drugs. Legalise them, tax them and your budget problems are solved.

Tackling off-road bikes and quad bikes in our public parks in Darlington

Following up on your promises which never happens

Road safety - increase safety for cyclist

DH2

Officers responding to break ins.

Spend less money on the staff in the PCC office and more on warranted officers.

Other (please use box below)

Off road motorbikes Seaham

Getting rid of Joy Allen to save money !!

Police officers, not cut price PCSO's and specials on the street, not safely tucked up in cars and offices. You found/waste money on centralised custody suites which will make more officers TAXI drivers, away from local issues. So do it again and find the money yourself.

Doing your jobs. You allow criminals to run rampant without consequence. If you want more money, stop protecting the red-belt Tories and let them fend for themselves until you get the money you need.

If the burgeoning Police and Crime Commissioner's department was done away with, then Durham Constabulary would have more funds available to improve services, or indeed, put more offices on the beat.

Durham County Council and Police corruption.

More resources to deal with dog fouling and litter

Modern slavery

Foot patrols talk to the public

Drugs and low level dealers

Zero tolerance to Litter/ dog-fouling/ litter-bin arson/ quad and scramble bike nuisance which can blight neighbourhoods.

But you will do what you want anyway so not sure why I'm actually doing this survey

SMART INIFORMS - NO BASEBALL CAPS AND LICRA! SHAVE BEFORE COME ON DUTY

General continuation of every aspect of Policing. Making improvements, revisions etc as needed.

We would like the police to do their job!! Crime is crime, you cannot cherry pick! respond to emergencies rather than log numbers for insurance purposes or at least follow up on calls, crime is distressing for the victim

most of the above but mainly more police on the beat not in cars.

Organized scams like 'door to door sales' from 'ex-offenders' under a scheme which doesn't exist.

More effective management of existing resources

Hard to only choose 5 from the above!!

To actually invest in serving the community. I.e investigating burglary as opposed to responding to shoplifting... Which seems to be more of a priority than residents

Please just have uniforms present in town centres and on the streets.

Feedback on crimes committed and reported. The police refuse to feedback when a crime is reported. Why? We need to know if a crime committed in our area has been dealt with and the details. Thank you.

More police officers not pcso

Zero tolerance of anti social/ littering etc behaviour

Stop woke policing, why are police involved in Climate change or hate crime initiatives. Less panda cars would reduce costs and get police back on the streets tackling crime. No point in increasing police officers unless they police effectively and people feel safe.

Police visibility on the streets

STOP making political statements. By focusing on police numbers back to 2010, you are saying, we want it back to how it was before this evil Tory government came to power. The numbers are not the issue. FOCUS on the right numbers for today, the right responses for today. Co Durham has moved on since 2010. Be the 2023 leader. Forget how things were nearly 15 years ago. Lead for today, police for today. Everyone else has moved ahead. Please live in 2023 not fretting about 2010. We all know, if there is a change of government in 2024, numbers will not go back to 2010, nor should that be the focus.it will be about policing for 2024.

Other (please use box below)

How about go out on a limb and add violence against men and boys - proving more resources to tackle violence and intimidation of men and boys

car crime

Address the serious drug problems in the area

Anti social dogs, dogs that attack other peoples dogs and ignorant dog owners should be fined and jailed for this behaviour. More deterrents put in place to deter kids from taking up a life of crime. Eg if you are caught with a knife you serve 3 years in jail regardless of whether you have used it or not. Get repeat Offenders off the streets and into jail.

Not willing to pay nothing more as police do not protect victims, they rather let criminals off then prosecuted them for their wrong doing

I'd like to see PCC Awarding funding to small locally ran Social Enterprises to support the police with also follow on community based support services

More police on both North and south bailey, market place, north road around 11/11.30pm. I work late and walk in this area to get the last bus at 11.25, in my 60's, female, on my own, and feel uncomfortable. I am also horrified at the number of people - not just males, that urinate in shop doorways, alleyways, quite openly. Would love to see greater policing on a random basis, but more frequently. In the last 15 weeks, I saw police in those areas about maybe at most, 7 occasions.

Better trained officers who know the law!

Working with children and young people to strengthen community understanding and future crime prevention

Reform of our woke, cultural Marxist, incompetent, corrupt police (including the sacking and prosecution of PCC & CC)

Please stop the drug taking and loitering in city, as these people are either aggressive or unwell or both

Tackling irregular vehicle reg plates and unroadworthy cars e.g tinted/orange coloured windscreens

Police presence in areas where it is needed, not same formula for everywhere

Response times

I AM JEWISH AND THE TROUBLES IN ISRAEL AND THE RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM WORRIES ME

Crime should not be categorised. All crime should be investigated.

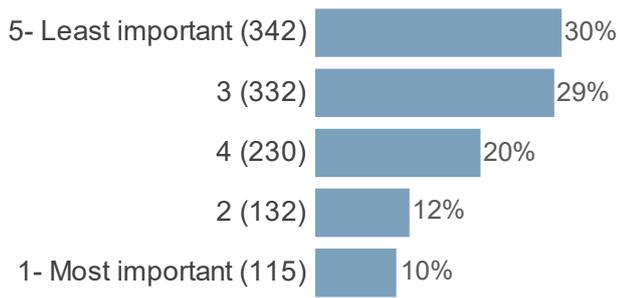
Local issues; speeding especially since there's no enforcement

All are important but prevention should be central priority

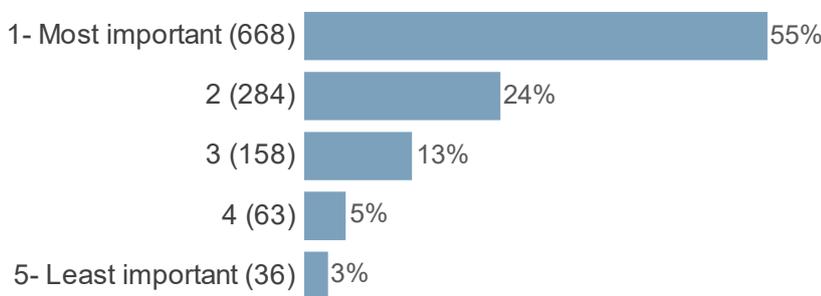
Call handling, routinely takes 20-30 minutes to get an answer by phone to 101 or by live chat, which often times out and doesn't get answered after 6pm

Drug and Alcohol Services in Barnard Castle

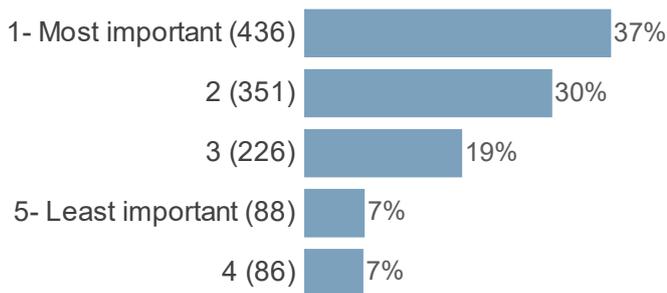
On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving local police stations)



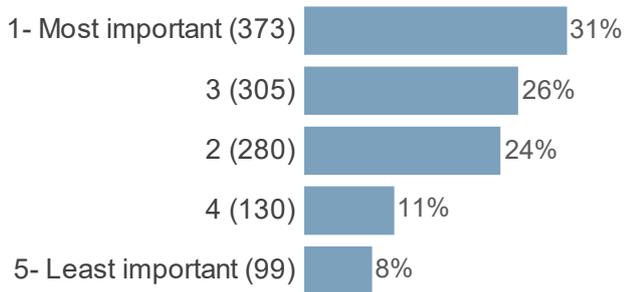
On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving the way Police answer and respond to calls from the public)



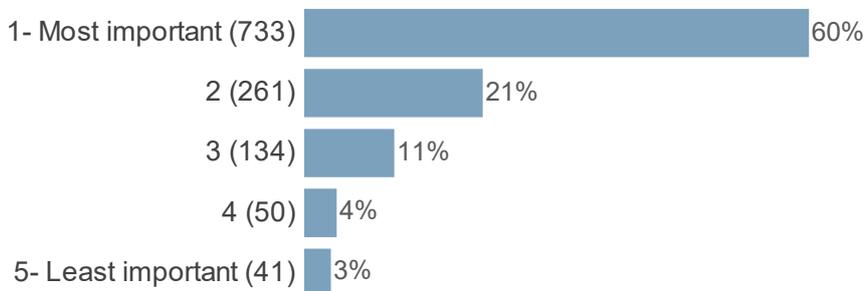
On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving the ability to report crime, anti-social behaviour and issues online)



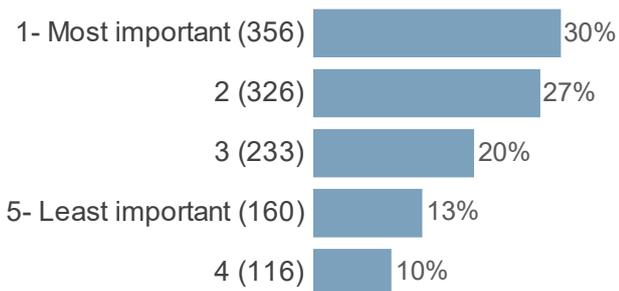
On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving road safety and enforcement to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on the road)



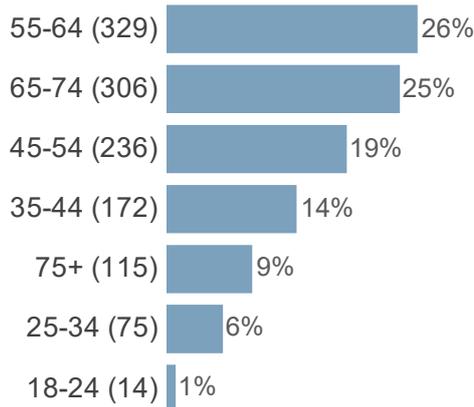
On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Increase the number of Police Officers)



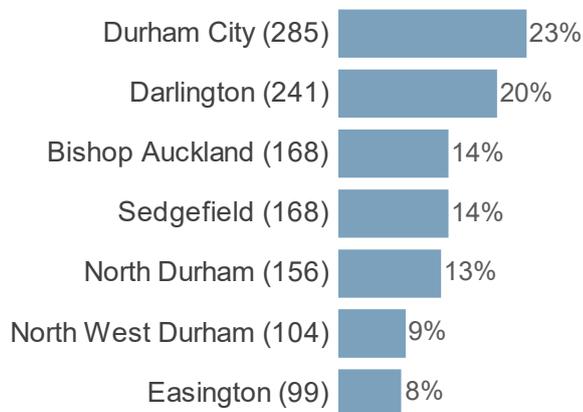
On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Increase the number of Police Community Support Officers)



Age



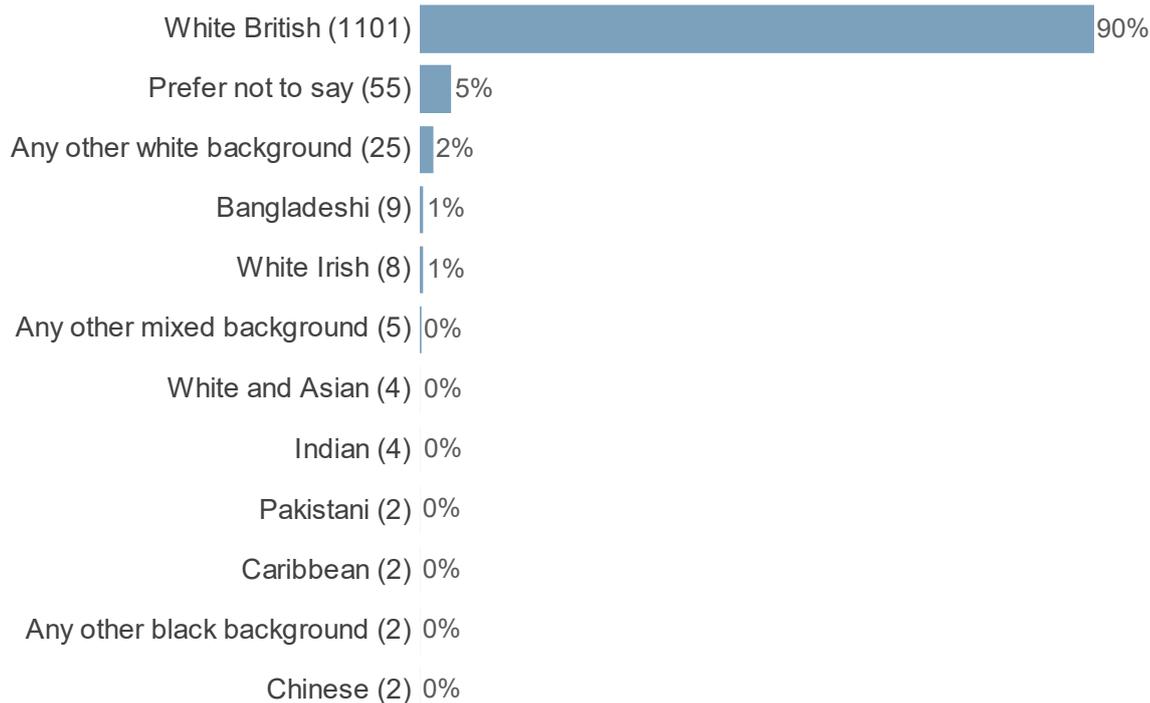
Which constituency do you live in?



Please enter your postcode:

DL1 4JZ	DL1 4ES	DL3	DH1 1EA	DI17 9pg	DH9 7EQ	DL3 0DC
DL3 0GP	DL1 3AH	DL13 2EY	DL14	DL16	TS212AL	DL3 8PF
DL1 4ET	DL3 0DB	DL133NN	DL17 8EP	DL17 8NS	DH97AZ	DL3 8PF
DL1 3QE	DL1 3HZ	Ts296px	DH1 1AS	DH1	DH9 8SW	DL1 4NJ
DL1 4TT	DL1 2YA	DI5 5ju	DH1 2AG	DL2 3RH	DL3 8LG	DL3 0GT
DL3 6BP	DL3 0JW	DH1	DH1 1ND	DH2 2SW	DL12	DL3 6TB
DL1 5TH	DL2 1UJ	DL4 2HL	DH1 2QU	Dh1 1Le	DL12	DL1 5EW
DL3 0ZR	DH8	Dh1	DH1 1NJ	DH1 3QT	DL12	DL4 2GB
DL1	sr7 7xb	DI135rh	DH1 1LR	DH1	DL2 3SZ	DL1 3BB
DL1 3LA	DH1 4FB	DL5 6JY	DH1	Ts285dh	DL12 9QU	DL36LB
DL1 2LJ	DL3 9XU	DL166JU	DL16	DL5	DL12 9QG	DL36ND
DL3 8DD	DL1 3HN	DL5 7BB	DL17 9NU	DH9 7LD	DL12	DL36LY
DL1 1EU	ts21 2et	DI2 1uw	Dh11dg	DH9 6TE	DL5 6JY	DL38BE
DL1 4HT	Ts21	Ts29 6ly	SR8 1JD	DL14 8DX	DL3 6LB	DL39PS
DL3 7SL	DL13 3PD					

What is your ethnic group?



Any other (please specify below)

White English

Human Race

black or white we are all human, maybe we should stop categorising people by appearance. Its divisive and achieves nothing but time wasting.

Doesn't matter what my ethnicity is... if I'm a victim of crime you should deal with it properly. Stop virtue signalling and trying to be woke and do what you are actually paid to do.

White English

Martian

British born English Bangladeshi

White English

N/A

Just white

White English

White English

Asian

White ENGLISH

Black British

White ENGLISH

Klingon

Sri Lanka

ARAB

White English

Any other (please specify below)

Scottish

White English

White English

White, English

White ENGLISH

Why is this relevant. Another strong political statement and totally irrelevant. Will this influence how my response is take into account. I am a human. I live in CoDurham. I am a property owner. That is what is important. Focus on what is important.

Overall, I feel Durham policing is good.

Do we need a pcc with so many backroom staff answer NO

WHITE BRITISH AND JEWISH

British

Romanian

Would you be willing to be contacted by Durham Police and Crime Commissioners communication and engagement team to take part in future surveys and to received news and opportunity updates?



Please share any other comments you have below:

No mention/research of police efficiency or productivity, just the perpetual request for more money. You are asking, and will receive, further investment from the residents of this county without demonstrating any evidence of outcomes.

Perhaps it's time for DCC a to look at the gold plated pension scheme

Sadly we are in an economic recession, which means very few people have extra resources to plough into policing - however important it is! I believe, therefore, the issue should be funded centrally from Government, a 'levelling up' of resources!

As household budgets are effectively reduced by rising costs and last year the council froze council tax the police and firebrigade should do the same

Our reason for not supporting the increase is due to the lack of support in our village with speeding vehicles. This has been an issue for over 5 years, with absolutely nothing being done so far. Had support been given previously, or any interest shown by the police, then we would have been happy to support an increase.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's is a relatively new, and costly, department supplementing the work formerly achieved by the Chief Constable. The PCC should set an example by striving harder to reduce its costs, thereby setting an example to all the departments.

You need to get a grip of the anti social behaviour in my area such as speeding vehicles on Cobden street, kids riding motor cycles and knowing that the police will never catch them.illegal parking on double yellow lines. Sadly I have witnessed the police ignore cars parked on double yellow lines.

Please share any other comments you have below:

Your communication very carefully avoids any mention of the significant loss of revenue due to thousands of homes being occupied by students who live Council Tax/Precept free. You need to be 100% open about this issue rather than apparently seeking to hide it from sight/discussion. Students may not be prime users of costly County Council services such as primary/secondary education, social services etc, but they certainly are a cost to the local police service. I see no reason why each of these households should not be charged the full annual precept cost, or alternatively the University should be asked to pay it on their customers behalf. There can be no justification for thousands of fully grown adults not paying their way for services that they benefit from to the same extent as anyone else.

I'm not a fan of categorisation of crime, to me its simple - we already get taxed to the hilt. The service should be punishing crimes and responding quickly yo residential crimes such as burglary in an instant.

Getting Snap Op running in Durham was a priority in raising precept last year. No prograss so far?? Cant be difficult, plenty other forces using it for some time now.

County Durham rates are already higher than many other counties. If the core services need more money, it should be found by cutting back other less or not important areas i.e. net zero, equalities, and all the other left wing nonsense.

If every service starts to ask for extra our council tax will soon become even more extortionate for the services provided. Stand up against the government and take action. Enough is enough!

Based on the visibility and effectiveness of the Police in the east Durham area we should be getting a refund! You find money for what we don't want i.e. Central Custody Suite, which will waste officers time travelling along with the environmental detriment of extra vehicle journeys , so put this money to better use.

You do a great job

Unfortunately progress does not always improve life. Old fashioned worked for so long because it was effective throughout the communities. The Government has turned the youth of today into entitled snowflakes. Where has respect gone?

The Police service is all based on the communit . How ever the streets are left very short of experienced officers to form squads. Senior and Politicians see the Policing of the streets as the bottom of their priorities. I am willing to discuss this matter wiith a one willing to meet with me.

Do away with Police and Crime Commissioner & all her entourage leaving more funds for important issues

Police officers more visible at street level on foot , to gain more respect from youth and older public

Unless it becomes possible to contact the police none of what you want will matter to us ie 33 minutes trying to get through to none emergency number

More police officers that know the local area. They can talk with residents and get to know and gain the trust of residents and where the problem areas / people are, to be able to respond more effectively. Police also need to go into the schools in their communities and educate the young ones on what is right and wrong and what the consequences of breaking the law means. This could be done for each year group until they leave school, to reinforce what is right and wrong and would in our opinion make a big difference to the next generation. If we win their hearts and minds from a young age they will play an important part in the safety of our communities, in the future, breaking a cycle of unlawful behavior that some communities are blighted with.

Need more help in getting Drug dealers out of Spennymoor because it smells all over Spennymoor of Cannabis

Rather than make excuses to justify taking more money from residents to provide a very poor and inadequate service, why not simply do the job the police were originally created to do?

Please share any other comments you have below:

I would be happy to pay for an increase in police funding if that resulted in a real change in their ability to prevent antisocial behaviour and to bring serious criminals to justice. I would be much less happy if that money were spent on replacing serviceable police cars and operating speed traps; not that those are not worthwhile, but they should have a much lower priority until issues which have a direct impact on residents of the area have been improved. To convince people that the money being requested would be spent wisely, there should be absolute transparency in and clear publication of the accounting.

Some of my neighbours are disgruntled by the lack of response from the police after their vehicles were deliberately damaged, Unfortunately CCTV regs prohibit scanning beyond the boundaries of the property. If only this constraint was lifted evidence of criminal activity can be recorded. The NHW alert scheme is quite useful and I often use this to to keep my neighbours informed

I wish I could afford to pay a lot more to assist with our valuable police force but I think the £10 proposal for band D properties is fair. Thank you for what you do manage to do. Happy New Year.

Litter is not mentioned in survey but remain be a problem for the town. I guess it will be included in anti-social behaviour.

Investigating crimes is at its lowest levels it is time police were more proactive instead of relying on insurance cover to rectify damage

just get the police back to the levels when we have enough to do the jobs properly on the beat and 2 up in patrol cars not single maned no good.

'Since austerity' what does that mean? Be precise

Anti-social behaviour by 10 - 21 year-olds is a massive and dominant cause for concern and anxiety in my community. There are virtually no deterrents for young people who are increasing their anti-social and criminal behaviour at an alarming rate.

Round Newton Hall area never see any police/cars flying up and down main road

The village in which I live must be typical for the N.E. Youths throwing stones at passing cars, drunks in the streets and noisy, uninsured motorcycles being ridden around the streets. Most people only meet their immediate neighbours because they go everywhere by private vehicle. We need Police presence or much better response times. otherwise it's easier to drive away.

GET RID OF PCC AND STAFF, GET MORE COPPERS ON THE GROUND.

It's time to get back to basics. Actually responding to calls in a timely fashion and taking supposed 'minor crime' more seriously. Nip it in the bud so to speak. Price not willing to pursue anything they don't think will get to court.

Preventive policing is vastly more effective and efficient than reactive policing.

ASB is out of control. We need it.to be tackled. Not sure how. Young people do what they like

For the police to provide feedback and reported incidents and crimes to the person reporting. It's disconcerting to know a crime has been committed near to where you live and yet the police refuse to give any feedback when asked. Why is this a working practise please? We need to know so we can make ourselves safer if needs be.

Incase no one says thank you - I am very grateful to the police. Their efforts are appreciated.

An answer needs to be found to stop unlicensed off road bikes and quad bikes being ridden dangerously on public roads and footpaths, in particular by children without safety equipment ie: helmets. This is an immense danger to the elderly and dog walkers.

The support of the PCC on road safety issues has been particularly welcome - an area where there is clearly insufficient police resource to enforce the 'rules of the road'

Richard Holden MP for north west Durham should be made to pay back council taxpayers the £101k he cost spreading lies about Kier Starmer whilst trying to deflect from Johnson. In Ushaw Moor you never see police walking the beat. We need extra police and they need to be seen by the public.

We need to see a police officer on the beat in Kirk Merrington

Less people working for pcc and all spare money used for beat officers

Please share any other comments you have below:

Police need to look smarter and fitter, be a commanding presence in the community and actually give the public at least the notion that they are capable of solving crime and keeping the public safe. That means nit only attending but tackling and solving burglaries and anti social behaviour, as an example. At the moment most people feel that the police are ineffectual.

The police in Newton Aycliffe are a non entity, absolutely a waste of time and money. The town is becoming lawless being taken over by unruly and feral youths. I've seen with my own eyes officers drive straight past a youth tearing up a grassed area on a quad bike and another drive past a gang of youths causing chaos Disgraceful and these should not be wearing a uniform. The youth and criminal element here know they have no chance of being caught as there are no police out there

7

Remember your role is policing. FOCUS on making Co Durham a safe place to live, shop, study, visit TODAY.

There are typos on the initial page. It might be helpful to proofread it.

As a family we have experienced years of antisocial behaviour from our neighbours - although the police have dealt with this professionally and kindly staffing shortages have meant that response to non urgent matters makes it difficult to gather evidence at the time of the offences. The police work well with the council and the community officers are doing their best in difficult times . The police are clearly under resourced and we have appreciated their time and support over the past few years .

You do your best. Thank you

From an employment point you really must improve the time it takes for an enhanced DBS check to go through, it is a common knowledge that DBS checks get stuck at stage four, the police, this ia an extra paid for service and must be improved, and should be weeks not months.

I would be willing to pay more if it meant more police officers, quicker response times and manned local police stations

we have no control of prisons or streets anymore this century has been too soft on crime get rid of laws from Brussels our Supreme court should cover all our needs

Save money forpolice services. Policecommissioners an unnecessary expense.

Give our police more powers instead of sending them out with their hands tied behind their backs.

The above questions around improvement should be a matter of course. The question to ask is do you consider an increase in the precept is acceptable. My response is no. Year on year same old excuse not enough grant. Never mind the residents will fill the gap. Residents are struggling and it is selfish for agencies to apply increases when people are unable to feed themselves or families. Have you considered that in some cases people will default on council tax payments because they cannot afford it and some will at best have a visit from bailiffs, at worst loose their homes. But never mind as long as the agencies get what they want. Shame on all agencies that take from the needy.

I have marked as low in my list of priority for improvement some areas where I think Durham already excels - this is not to say that I think these are unimportant

From the information provided it must be key to pursue an approach which is tailored to local needs but also ensures National consistency on police funding and standards for capacity and resources

It is difficult to chose 5 priorities as a local Councillor i chise the 5 which impact on our community based on whst people.have told.me

I have only rarely seen a police officer on the beat in Durham city during the day, the last time was when the first crime commissioner was appointed

Antisocial behaviour around North Road area makes it very intimidating to walk into town or encourage older children to be more independent when you know what they're likely to encounter waking into town

Thank you for all you do do,but a greater visible,obvious, and unexpected police presence is I feel, really important

Please share any other comments you have below:

There is an increased number of motorists on mobile phones, disregard for other motorists, ignorance of the Road Traffic Act and Highway Code, etc.

I have only had to use my local police on a few occasions andm as a former police trainer i was very disappointed with the level ofm legal knowledge they were very poor!

Thank you.

Really useful to have this opportunity to provide feedback - thank you

There needs to be a criminal investigation into the PCC and CC (by another force) into the Stammer/covid/pizza party and the CC's new contract. You need to sack the obese, unfit, incompetent, scruffy, tattooed. You need to recruit & promote solely on merit. You need to get rid of every "diversity" post & policy. I don't want to pay our police service a single penny, they have abandoned the vast majority to pander to tiny, noisy, minorities.

Rural areas and urban areas have different needs. Generally we have been happy with your responses when we have needed policing

I think a quarterly newsletter would be good - I appreciate the cost but I think that it would be hugely beneficial, especially in the financially difficult time when the authority are asking for more money. Highlighting the work, initiatives, successes and partnersahip working of the police in the area would show that the increase is more than justified Most people only hear bad things they dont hear the good and they should.

We have 2 drug dealers in our street. They don't seem to move on. One seems protected, the other has been raided but continues to sell drugs. Please reduce this increase in drugs in ferryhill. It remains the root cause of so many crimes, not all of which are reported.

Thank you

The crime from organised gangs connected to drugs is most concerning.

Disappointed to hear the police will no longer provide public access to any community meetings.
Thank you.

Government funded model needs to be challenged snd updated, it's become to easy to ask for monies via council tax. OPFCC and commissioner role also needs to demonstrate value for money. They are a lay of red tape, that hold back police forces. Rarely to you hear they have secured government funding to support initiatives to prevent crime.

Just make police visible to those people you know spoil community life. Show off action taken .

Less police on the streets

It's difficult to answer questions about increased numbers without an understanding of how these would be used and what would be the objectives. Likewise sometimes local force initiatives are hard to determine without an understanding of how the regional and national pictures fit together. It simply can't just be a case of getting numbers back to 2010 without clear objectives and measures in place to ensure these are achieved. It is therefore misleading to the public to state an objective of getting back to 2010 numbers is a priority as this takes no account of improvements in technology and other system and service improvements. Clear outcomes should therefore hopefully pave the way for increased staffing in whatever guise. I do accept the disadvantage Durham has in raising money from council tax precept and perhaps with bold innovative policing plans for the future the government may listen rather than simply reject the argument for numbers to be back where they were in 2010

My concern that an increase will take money away from Other services , there is a growing number of households that pay either no or very little council tax , therefore any increase will be taken from DCC funding

Impressed with this consultation and survey

Fewer pcc champions more police on beat

with the amount of trouble caused by drinking licenced premises and night entertainment should pay much more towards policing

Please share any other comments you have below:

The PCC role seems unimportant and superfluous but the role and associated staff should be dropped and the money saved should go to on the ground policing

I believe the service would be improved with regards to ASB rather than having the best part of 50k per annum 2 pcsos riding around in police vehicles removing epaulets pretending to be substantive police officer to get out on foot into the community being a high visible uniformed asset in the community. As well as seeing less police vehicles going through fast food and coffee takeaways.

We need to tackle the so called untouchables in all area Where there will be consequences if people speak out against said people

We need to see more police on the streets and not just doing speed checks. It is a rarity to see any police presence including patrol cars

Stop wasting money and asking for more. Do your job without your expensive friends. Get cops out of the stations on foot.

Keep the police stations open and manned. Keep up the good work - we are the best police in the world.

Please sort out the 101 response time - South Bedburn residents aren't using it because they are left hanging on the phone for 45 minutes plus and when they do get through, nothing seems to happen and no-one gets back to them. So they give up on it and put up with all sorts of anti-social behaviour and rural crime issues.

It's ridiculous that someone in Band H pays more than Band A for the same service, it's discrimination.

Given the current economic crisis it is unreasonable to ask the public to decide on policing priorities whilst linking to contribution increase. This may skew responses.

Current police force give absolutely dismal support to the public, and crime prevention has never been worse.

I am amazed at how good Durham police are compared to other forces given the low precept. Keep up the good work

I would pay more but sorry I feel funds can so easily be diverted into paperwork, and less important box ticking courses - on diversity, climate change, endless variations on safe guarding. I suspect serious crime gangs are actually behind a lot of crimes and I commend the brave investigators.

I would prefer to not have a Police and Crime Commissioner and the money spent on front line policing instead.

Would like more action on Drink and Drugs drivers.

Drug and alcohol services are miles away from Barney. Reducing the harm to families and individuals is crucial and would act to reduce criminal behaviours if they were effective. I'd like to see investment in this area. I am happy to be contacted for comment.

More police presence in the streets

More PCSOs working with the community

More joined up working between social services and the police

Other policing priorities: protecting vulnerable people from harm (elderly age group), reducing the impact of alcohol abuse on people and communities leading to domestic violence and nuisance behaviour, reducing the impact of drugs abuse on people leading to burglary and theft, the rise of non-religiousness between males and females are alarming signs. Where will the world end up we don't know.

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This report was generated on 16/01/23. Overall 1262 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 1262 cases fall into this category.

How much more would you be willing to pay for your local police service?

An extra £20 per year (38p per week)-This would give an additional £1.6m per year to invest in police stations, maintain service delivery and also invest in priority serv...	37.5%
Nothing more- This means that there would be £1.6m less per year for police services and current services levels would not be maintained. (308)	25.6%
An extra £10 per year (19p per week)-This means that the force can maintain its officer and PCSO numbers and also invest in technology, but it is likely to lead to a lo...	23.4%
An extra £15 per year (29p per week)-This would give an additional £800,000 per year to invest in local police stations and maintain existing service delivery. (162)	13.5%

Which of the following priorities would you like to see investment in? (from the list below choose up to 5)

Anti-Social Behaviour – behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm and distress. (957)	79.0%	Road Safety-roads policing (tackling drink/drug driving and speeding), invest in Op Snap to enable dashcam footage of dangerous drivers to be uploaded and share...	36.6%	Online crime- Fraud, cyber crime and digital investigations capabilities. (256)	21.1%
Neighbourhood policing and Special Constables -more police officers, maintain PCS-O numbers, increase uniformed visibility and reduced neighbourhood crime. (796)	65.7%	Violence Against Women and Girls- proving more resources to tackle violence, abuse and intimidation of women and girls. (433)	35.7%	Rural Crime- understand and respond to the needs of rural communities. (245)	20.2%
Serious and Organised Crime- firearms, drugs, child criminal exploitation, fraud, economic crime, cyber modern slavery and human trafficking. (616)	50.8%	Crime Prevention- crime prevention initiatives in the community. (362)	29.9%	Police Stations- police buildings and equipment to make sure they are fit for purpose. (242)	20.0%
Crime Reporting and Response-make it easier to report crime on 101 or online and enhance call handling capacity and response times and meet increased demand. (...)	38.8%	Victims Services- improving the quality of police investigations with better outcomes and improved satisfaction amongst victims. (319)	26.3%	Hate Crime- hate crime prevention initiatives and encourage and facilitate the reporting in all forms of hate crime. (234)	19.3%

On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving local police stations)

5- Least important (342)	29.7%
3 (332)	28.8%
4 (230)	20.0%
2 (132)	11.5%
1- Most important (115)	10.0%

On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving the way Police answer and respond to calls from the public)

1- Most important (668)	55.3%
2 (284)	23.5%
3 (158)	13.1%
4 (63)	5.2%
5- Least important (36)	3.0%

On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving the ability to report crime, anti-social behaviour and issues online)

1- Most important (436)	36.7%
2 (351)	29.6%
3 (226)	19.0%
5- Least important (88)	7.4%
4 (86)	7.2%

On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Improving road safety and enforcement to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on the road)

1- Most important (373)	31.4%
3 (305)	25.7%
2 (280)	23.6%
4 (130)	11.0%
5- Least important (99)	8.3%

On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Increase the number of Police Officers)

1- Most important (733)	60.1%
2 (261)	21.4%
3 (134)	11.0%
4 (50)	4.1%
5- Least important (41)	3.4%

On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the most important, please rate the importance of each category below: (Increase the number of Police Community Support Officers)

1- Most important (356)	29.9%
2 (326)	27.4%
3 (233)	19.6%
5- Least important (160)	13.4%
4 (116)	9.7%

Age

55-64 (329)	26.4%	75+ (115)	9.2%
65-74 (306)	24.5%	25-34 (75)	6.0%
45-54 (236)	18.9%	18-24 (14)	1.1%
35-44 (172)	13.8%		

Which constituency do you live in?

Durham City (285)	23.3%	North Durham (156)	12.8%
Darlington (241)	19.7%	North West Durham (104)	8.5%
Bishop Auckland (168)	13.8%	Easington (99)	8.1%
Sedgefield (168)	13.8%		

What is your ethnic group?

White British (1101)	90.2%	White Irish (8)	0.7%	Pakistani (2)	0.2%
Prefer not to say (55)	4.5%	Any other mixed background (5)	0.4%	Caribbean (2)	0.2%
Any other white background (25)	2.0%	White and Asian (4)	0.3%	Any other black background (2)	0.2%
Bangladeshi (9)	0.7%	Indian (4)	0.3%	Chinese (2)	0.2%

Would you be willing to be contacted by Durham Police and Crime Commissioners communication and engagement team to take part in future surveys and to received news and opportunity updates?

Yes (650)	53.6%
No (563)	46.4%



Policing Precept 2023/24

Joy Allen - Durham Police and Crime Commissioner
Chief Constable Jo Farrell – Durham Constabulary

Making our communities safer, stronger and more resilient to Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour



Safer Communities



Safer Business



Safer Online



Safer People



Safer Roads



Safer Countryside



Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner Achievements



- APCC Joint Lead - Environment & Sustainability
- APCC Joint Lead - Addictions & Substance Misuse
- APCC Deputy Lead - Emergency Services Collaboration
- APCC Deputy Lead - Road Safety
- Member - Blue Light Commercial Board

APCC appoints PCC Joy Allen Joint Lead and Deputy Lead across a range of portfolios



Community Peer Mentors presented Queens Award for Voluntary Service at Auckland Castle

News | September 21, 2022



Community Peer Mentors Provide Support To Anyone Whatever Their Circumstances.



Commissioner secures almost £1.5m funding jackpot to make County Durham and Darlington safer

News | July 25, 2022

Ministry of Justice Funding for Victims Services

2021/22 - £1,303,914

2022/23 - £1,526,057 **Additional £222,143**



PCC praises contractors as new custody development nets £10m+ for local economy.

News | August 22, 2022



PCC funds new support service for victims of sexual violence

News | May 25, 2022



National recognition for PCC's successful work supporting victims of crime.

News | November 17, 2022



New online portals make it easier for victims of crime to receive support.

News | December 9, 2022

Supporting Victims of Crime Across County Durham & Darlington

Our support is available to anyone living in County Durham or Darlington who has been affected by a crime regardless of when or where that crime occurred. If you are a resident within the Cleveland Police area please contact 03030401098 or email info@vccas.uk

Make Referral Contact Us



SAFER STREETS
SECURE, DETER, PREVENT



Digital Champions programme begins to improve digital skills among the digitally excluded across County Durham and Darlington.

News | October 25, 2022

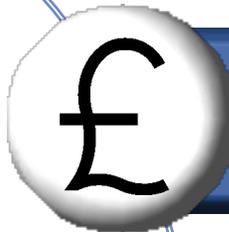


Charities celebrate £144k funding boost to prevent crime

News | September 28, 2022

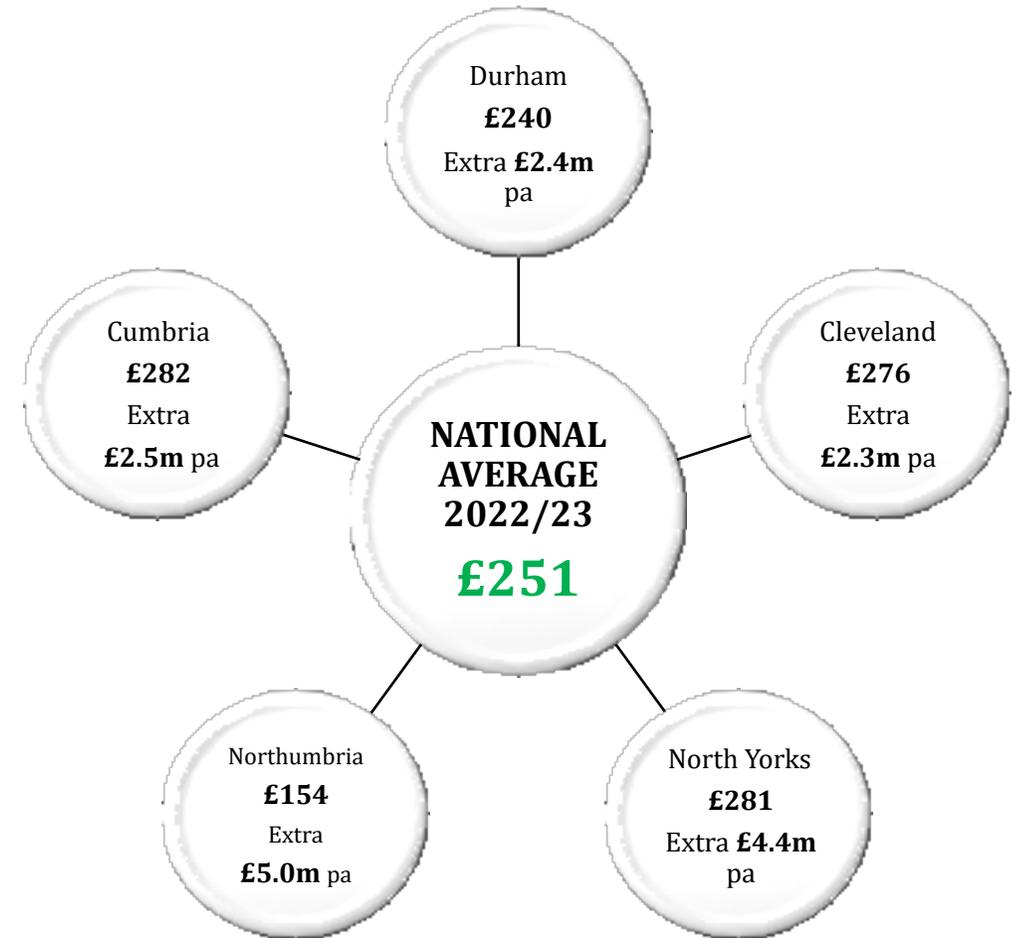


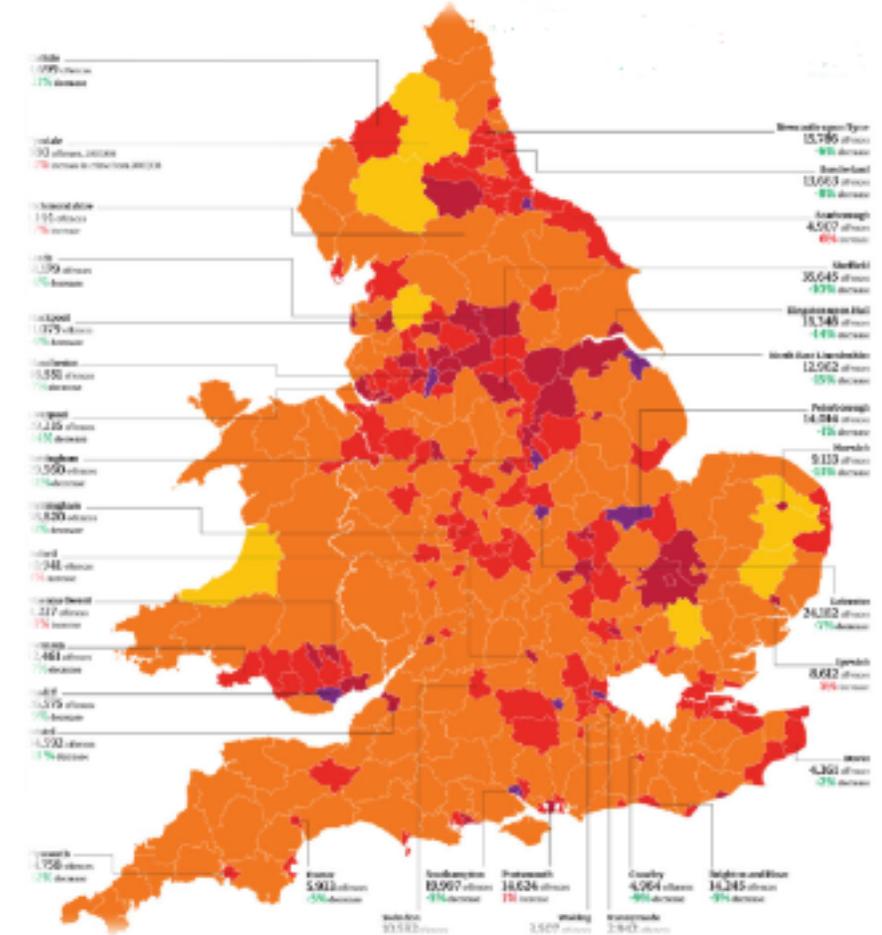
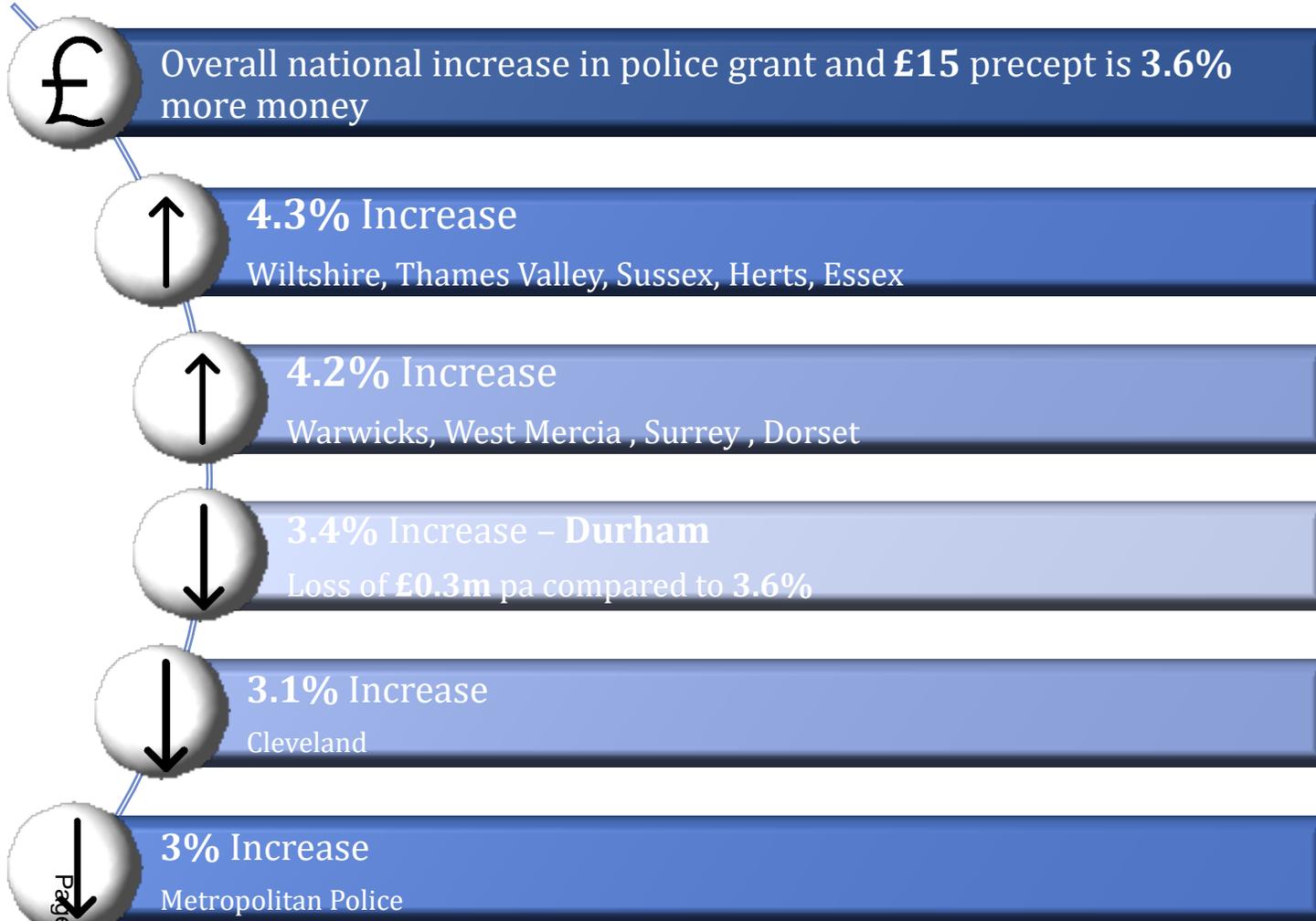
Recommended Precept Rise

 **£15 in Band D - Up to £255.24**

 **£1.50 over 10 months**
Equivalent to **£0.29 per week**

 **51% of consultation respondents supported a £15 or £20 increase**





Difference in Officer Numbers March 2010-2023

Durham net **loss** of 144

Cleveland net **loss** of 239

Northumbria net **loss** of 443

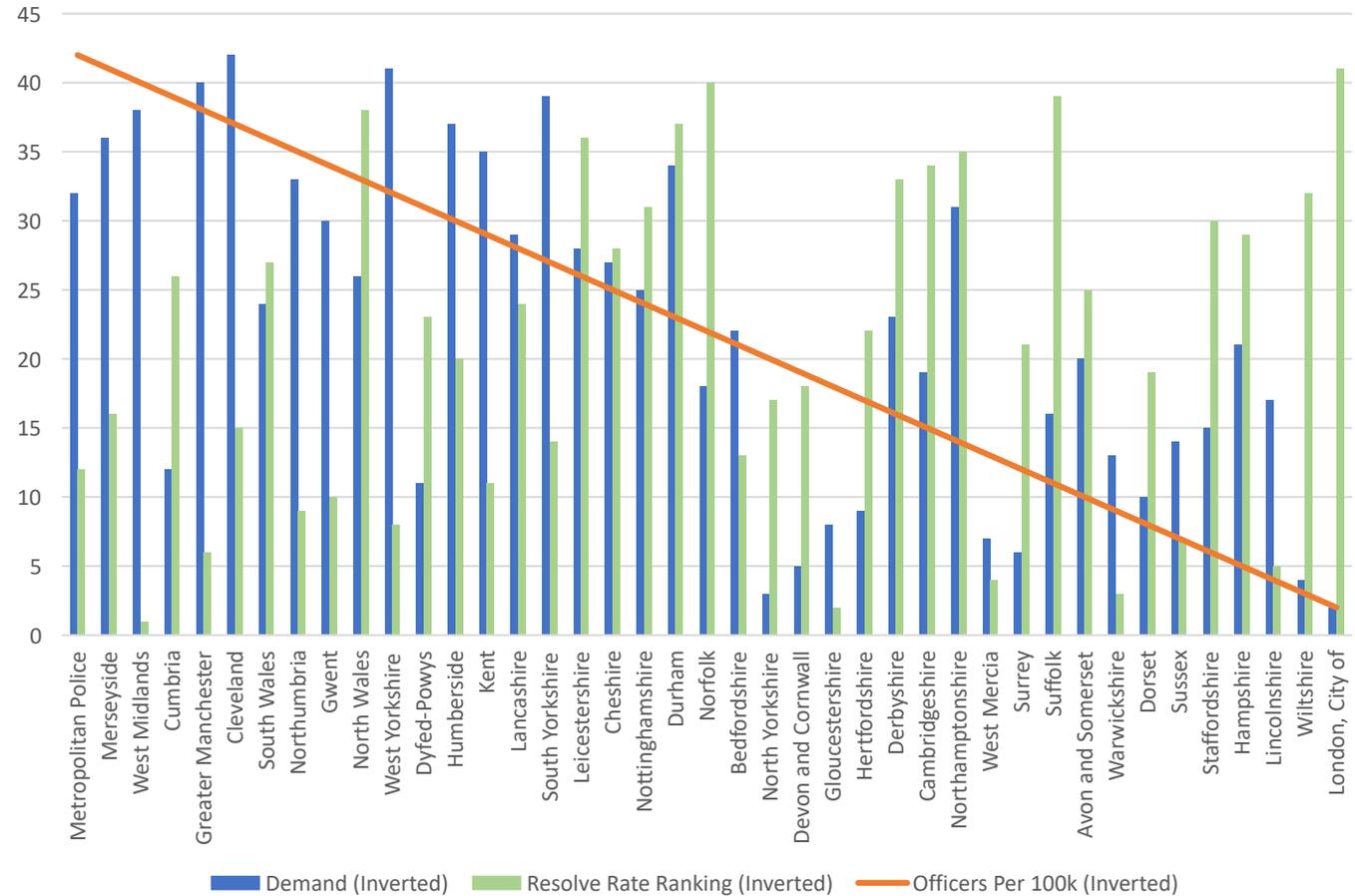
North Yorkshire net **gain** of 158

Surrey net **gain** of 363

Durham -14th highest funding per head of population but 9th highest recorded crime per head of population

Durham – Top quartile for outcome rates

Demand & Resolved Rate / Officers Per 100k (Inverted)





TECHNOLOGY



A Suspect Tracking & Reporting programme displaying all suspect crimes that are under investigation, allowing timely updates and identification of repeat offenders, highlighting those involved in hate crime & domestic abuse



Operation SNAP
Public access to digitally upload dash cam footage helping us pursue dangerous and inconsiderate drivers and reduce the number of road casualties



Extended hours to the Live Chat online reporting system which is now operating 24 hours, 7 days a week



Creation of a digital dashboard to manage and target perpetrators of all 'Violence against Women and Girl' offences



Issuing of laptops to all Response Police Officers facilitating 'on scene' taking of statements and crime details, putting more officers back on the streets



Creation of a mobile information platform for dealing with mental health incidents. Accessible to all front line officers on their hand-held devices enabling them to deal with mental health incidents in a more timely manner and get people the help they need



A fraud data dashboard including Durham Police and national Action Fraud data allowing us to better protect victims of fraud and identify new types of fraud crimes



Further investment in 'Keep in the Know', ensuring that our communities are kept up to date with ongoing Police work and news stories that matter to them

RECRUITMENT



22
Investment in Call Handler capacity



Recruitment of PCSO's
Remaining 50% above national average in PCSO numbers



Ongoing recruitment of Police Officers
An additional 226 Police Officers joining by 2024



8
Additional IT Staff recruited within the last 12 months

ESTATE



New Custody Hub
Due for handover Summer 2023

FLEET



Fleet Strategy
Continual vehicle replacements to meet performance needs and provide resilience



Operational Priorities & Challenges

Volume

Complex

Time
Consuming

Cross Cutting Themes

- Alcohol
 - Drugs
- Mental Health
- Missing People

- Underlying Root Causes
- Acute Childhood Experiences
 - Trauma
- Financial/Gambling
 - Bereavement

Local & National Requirements

- Policies
- Procedures
- Inquiries

- Digital, Data & Technology

High Harm

- Domestic Abuse
- Violence Against Women & Girls
- Child Sexual Abuse & Exploitation
 - Vulnerability
 - Hidden Harm

- Neighbourhood Crime

Workforce

- Recruitment Drives

- Police Uplift

Digital

- Cyber Enabled

- Digital Evidence

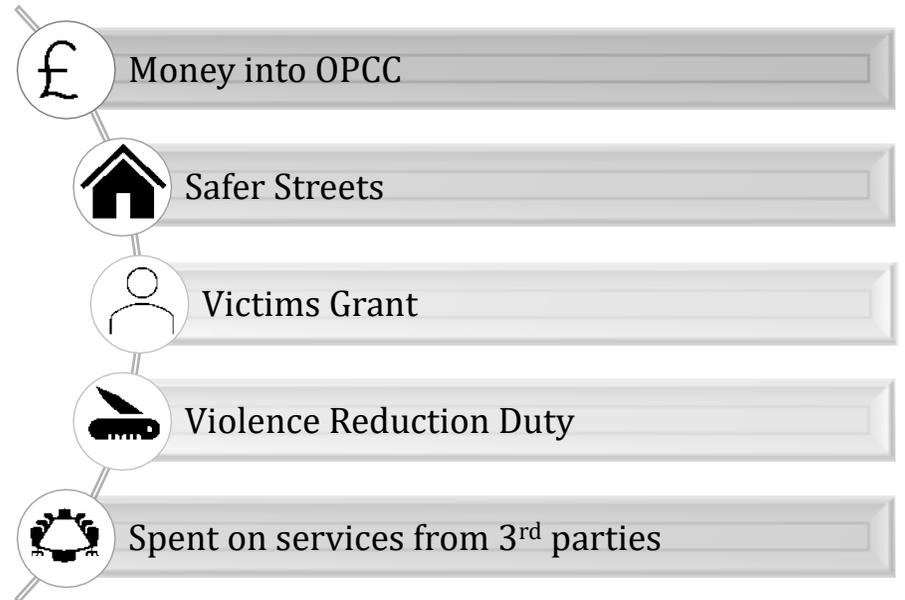
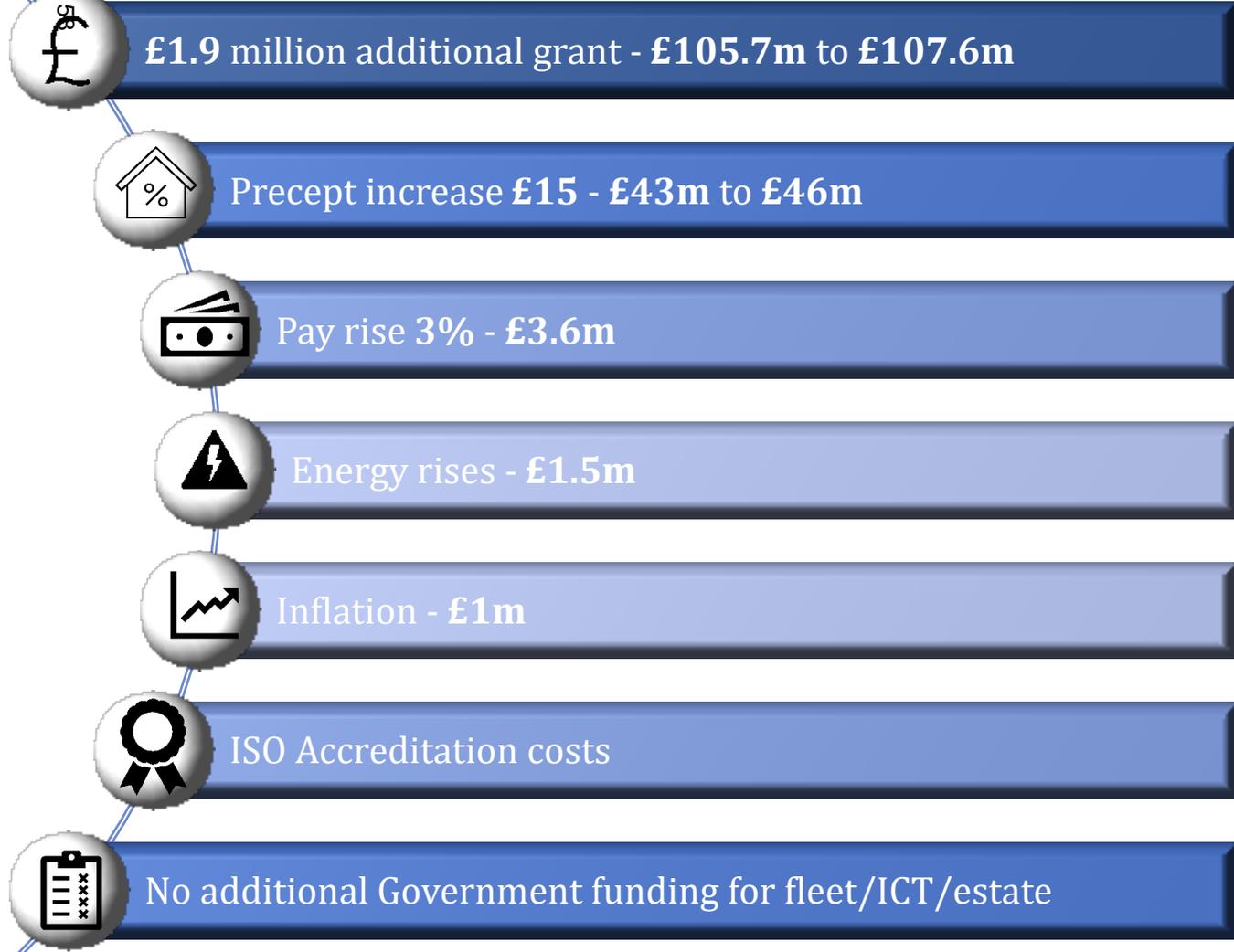
Confidence

- Public Contact

- Victim Satisfaction

- Unlogged & Partner Demand

2023/24 Funding Settlement



Revenue Budget



2023/24 deficit of **£3.2m**



Loss of **50** Police staff jobs



£0.5m non pay efficiencies



Reserves **£1.2m**



Further deficits in future years



Challenging position ahead



Fair funding work



Fleet: circa **£1.2m** pa – **80** Vehicles



ICT: circa **£3m** per annum
Mandatory hardware and software upgrades



Buildings: Ageing estate



No Government support
Previously up to **£1m** towards cost of new assets

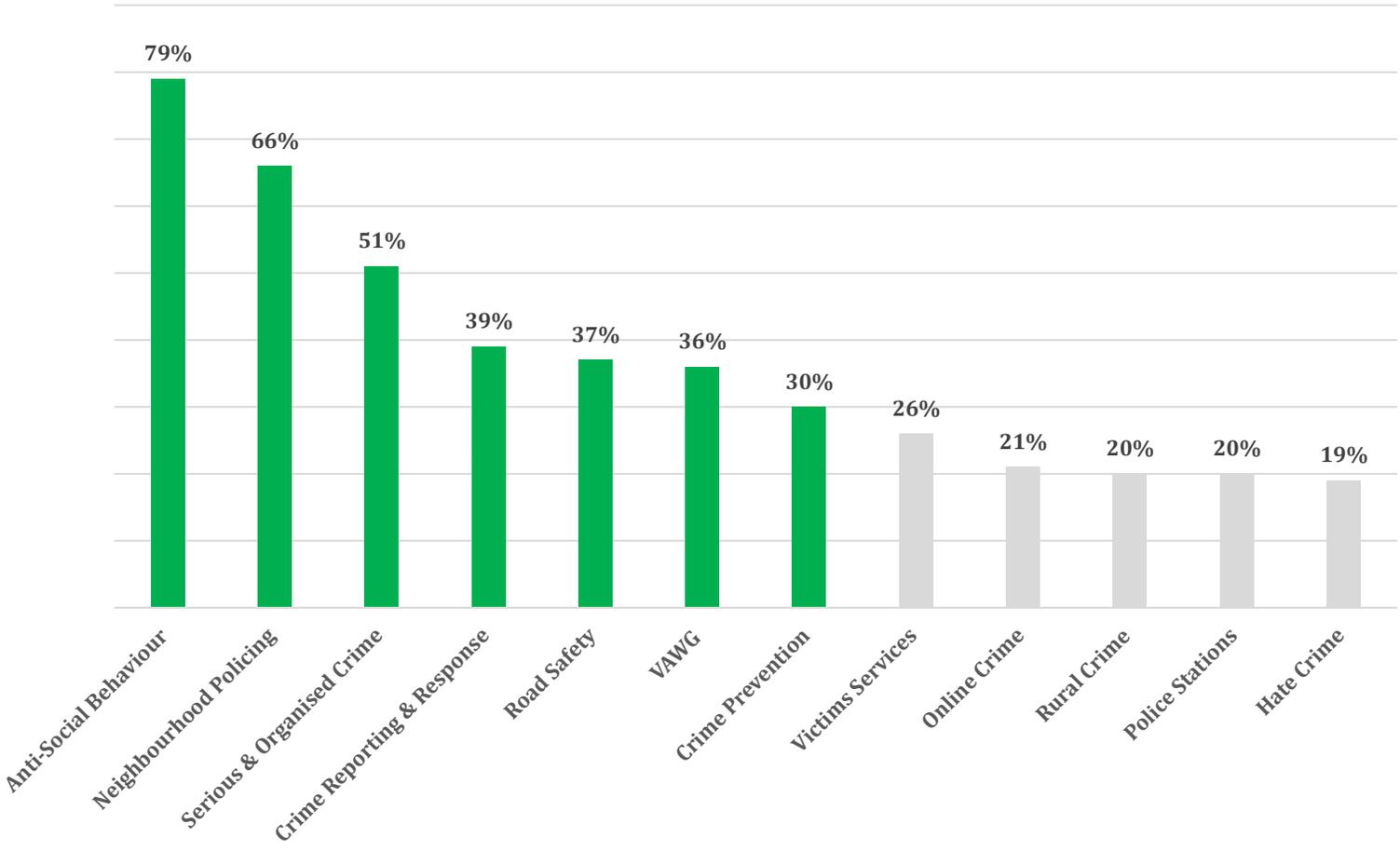


Proposed £15 Increase

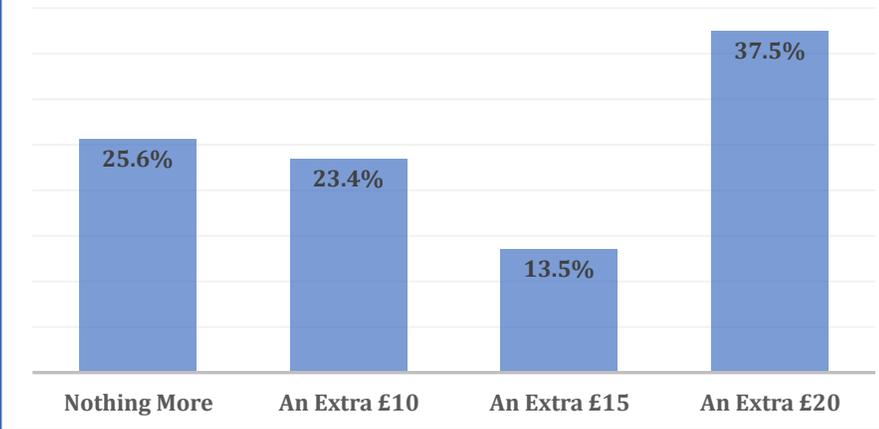
Council Tax Band	Police Precept 2022/23	Proposed Annual increase for 2023/24	Proposed Police Precept for 2023/24
	£	£	£
Band A	160.16	10.00	170.16
Band B	186.85	11.67	198.52
Band C	213.55	13.33	226.88
Band D	240.24	15.00	255.24
Band E	293.63	18.33	311.96
Band F	347.01	21.67	368.68
Band G	400.40	25.00	425.40
Band H	480.48	30.00	510.48



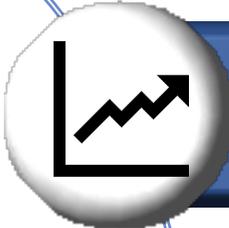
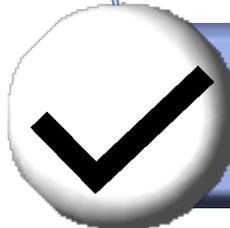
Which of the following priorities would you like to see investment in?

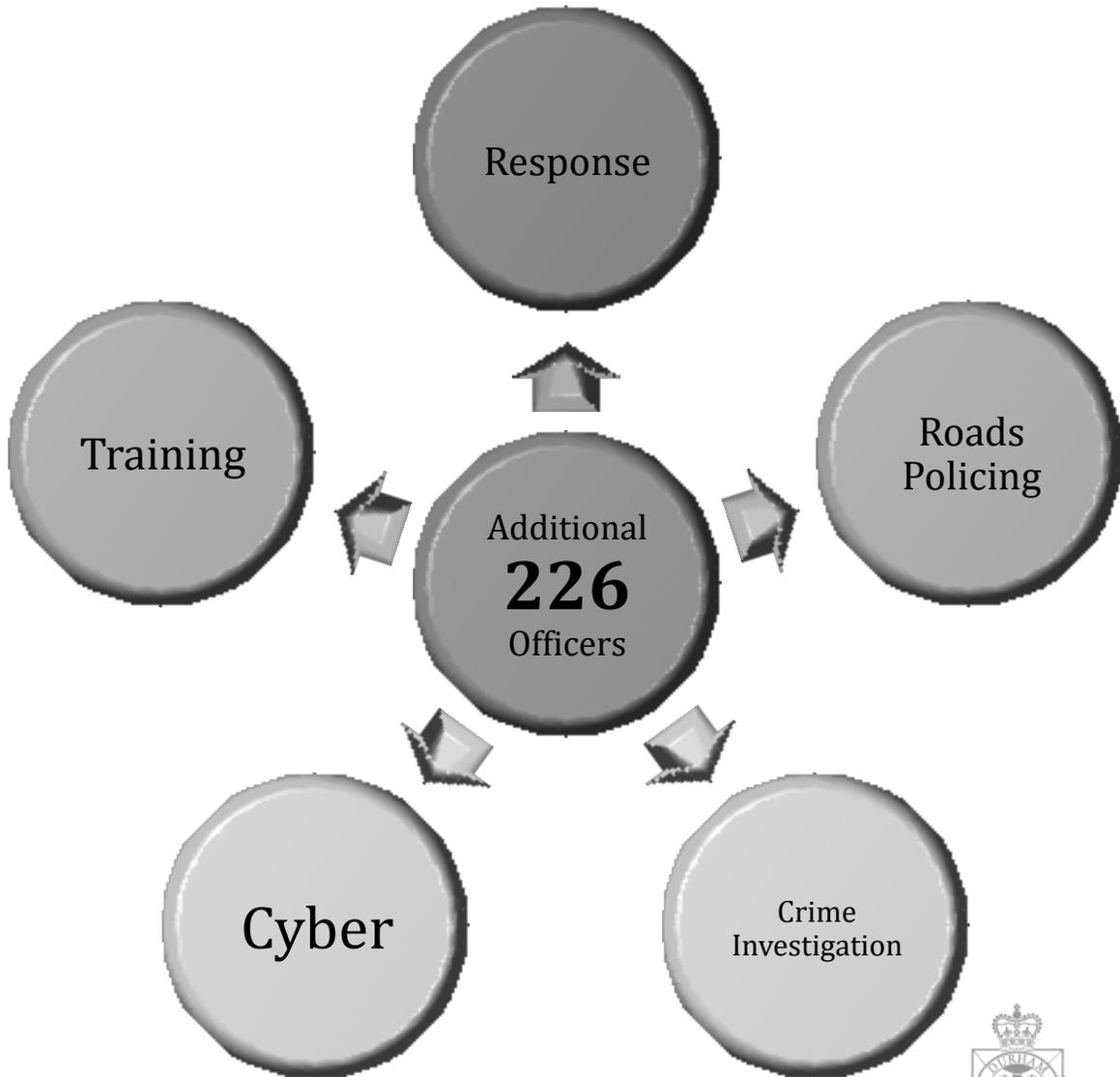


How much more would you be willing to pay for your local Police service?



Value for Money, Efficiency & Effectiveness

-  Productivity Work
-  Matching Public Priorities
-  HMICFRS Inspection Ongoing





Questions?

Police and Crime Panel

1st February 2023

Victims' Champions:



Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Purpose

To inform members of the Police and Crime Panel of the work of the Victims' Champions.

Background

Following the election of PCCs in 2021, the then Victims' Commissioner, Dame Vera Baird, wrote to all newly elected PCCs and encouraged them to consider appointing Victims' Champions. A Victims' Champion was to sit outside the local police force and report directly to the PCC. Their role would be threefold:

- To advise the PCC on victim related issues
- To offer a victim perspective in respect of local policies and practices either within the police force or in respect of issues being considered by the Local Criminal Justice Board
- Acting as a point of contact for local victims and those providing support services
-

In December 2021, following a selection and vetting process, Durham's PCC, Joy Allen appointed three Victims' Champions, one each for Anti-Social Behaviour; Crime; and Domestic Abuse.

Panel Members will receive a brief presentation on the role of the Victims' Champions and emerging themes from the 'lived experience' of victims.

Recommendations

That the Police and Crime Panel note the report.

Joy Allen
Police and Crime Commissioner

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The Victims' Champions

Michael Banks & Andrea Patterson

The Victims' Champions



- ▶ Born from the need to put victims first and provide victim centric services
- ▶ Three Champions approved as part of the Police and Crime Plan - appointed December 2021
 - ▶ Anti-Social Behaviour - Andrea Patterson
 - ▶ Crime - Michael Banks
 - ▶ Domestic Abuse - (Vacant)

The Victims' Champions



- ▶ Cover whole of County Durham and Darlington
- ▶ All three Champions from professional backgrounds in Police and/or Local Government and have extensive local and National experience
- ▶ Each Champion has had a difference approach based on the needs of victims
- ▶ Each Champion has a different delivery plan to underpin the Police and Crime Plan - targeted and prioritised approach

The Victims' Champions



- ▶ Work alongside Police and Crime Commissioner as Independent Champions for victims
- ▶ Support the Police and Crime Commissioner in her Victims' Commissioner role
- ▶ Ensure Victims' voices are 'heard' - (NOT CASEWORK)
- ▶ Victims' 'lived experience' informs planning, policies and commissioning of services
- ▶ Triangulates emerging themes with Community Safety Partnerships, Criminal Justice Agencies, elected members and other partners
- ▶ Assesses compliance with Victims' Code of Practice
- ▶ Liaises with Victims' Commissioner and other national agencies for good practice

THE CHAMPIONS DO NOT DEAL WITH OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Context - Being Victim Led

- ▶ *Ministry of Justice Victims' Strategy 2018* - victims will be understood, protected and supported throughout criminal justice journey
- ▶ *Victims' Commissioner* - information and communication; procedural justice; multi-agency working; and, professionalised services
- ▶ *Durham Constabulary* - inspiring confidence in victims; giving victims a voice; delivering an excellent service
- ▶ *Local Criminal Justice Partnership* - an end to end service for supporting victims and witnesses to cope, recover and participate
- ▶ *Police & Crime Commissioner* - putting victims first is the golden thread of the Police and Crime Plan; consulting victims in setting policing priorities; commissioning services; ensure compliance with Victims Code Of Practice
- ▶ *His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary & Fire & Rescue Services/Crown Prosecution Service / Probation Service - joint inspection* - How effectively the criminal justice service meets the needs of victims



Emerging themes - Crime

- ▶ Communication; explanation of investigative process and Criminal Justice Service
- ▶ Consistency, empathy, reassurance and support
- ▶ Choice
- ▶ Re-listing = re-traumatising
- ▶ Getting to and being at court
- ▶ Victim Impact Assessments

Emerging Themes - Anti-Social Behaviour

- ▶ Confidence to report incidents
- ▶ Knowing where to report incidents
- ▶ Communication and response times
- ▶ Explanation of investigative process and action
- ▶ Consistency, ongoing communication, empathy, reassurance and support
- ▶ Perception of lack of action by agencies
- ▶ Empathy with the Force over competing demands, lack of resource, ability to react
- ▶ Victim impact from repeat incidents

New Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy

Eight principles:

- ▶ 1. Working in Partnership
- ▶ 2. Champion the Victims' Voice
- ▶ 3. Provide the Best Victim Experience
- ▶ 4. Provide Victim Centric Community Trigger & Community Remedy Processes
- ▶ 5. Implement Preventative Measures
- ▶ 6. Make full use of tools and powers
- ▶ 7. Maximise use of digital technologies
- ▶ 8. An Inclusive Approach

VISION: Improving Lives through tackling anti-social behaviour
Eight Principles

1. Working in Partnership

Commitment to work with partners to tackle ASB

Sign up to a joint memorandum of understanding

Sign up to joint ASB Strategy

To include joint strategic objectives in partner ASB delivery plans

Promote Joint problem solving

Promote good news stories across the partnership

Page 75
Joint training and workshops for officers dealing with anti-social behaviour.

2. Champion the Victims' Voice

Work with Victims' Champions and Victims Commissioner

Consult with victims to ensure lived experiences are taken into account

Place victims at the centre of service delivery

Customer Service feedback & satisfaction to inform policy, planning and delivery of services

3. Provide the Best Victim Experience

Provide clear and consistent information signposting

Provide a range of methods for victims to report ASB

Provide clear communication to victims

Provide clear referral pathways for victims

Aspire to a single front door entry to report ASB

Provide a victim Advocacy Service

Promote how to report ASB and to where

4. Provide Victim Centric Community Trigger & Community Remedy Processes

Promote the local threshold and community trigger process

Enable victims to attend case reviews

Consider victim impact

Appoint independent Chairs at Case Reviews

An independent appeals process with the PCC

Provide a community remedy and restorative justice service

Publish Community Trigger Statistics Annually

VISION: Improving Lives through tackling anti-social behaviour
Eight Principles

5. Implement Preventative Measures

Promote local problem solving

Promote and undertake diversionary activities

Undertake crime prevention

Engagement and Education

Co-commission services

Access funding opportunities

6. Make full use of tools and powers

Provide staff training across the partners on tools and powers

Appoint lead agencies to take ownership where there is joint responsibility

Provide an incremental process of escalation to inc: Early Intervention, Support & Enforcement

Facilitate better use of the powers granted to the Courts

7. Maximise use of digital technologies

Broaden the digital service offer

Commit to data sharing

Use a common reporting framework and where possible common software

Ensure services place victims at the centre of what they do

Use technology to analyse and evaluate service provision and allocate resources

Continually improve customer experience e.g. Improve call handling response times

8. An Inclusive Approach

Rural proofing to ensure rural communities are not disadvantaged

Provide Social Value

Undertake Equality Impact Assessments

Prioritise areas of high deprivation and need

Take into account impact on health and well-being

Next Steps

- ▶ Targeting key areas - data driven, intelligence led e.g. left behind towns & anti-social behaviour hotspots
- ▶ Introduce revised Community Trigger Process
- ▶ Transparency through new Police and Crime Commissioner led “Anti-Social Behaviour” scrutiny panel
- ▶ Embedding Victim ‘lived experience’ feedback
- ▶ Champions’ Annual Report

QUESTIONS



Thank you for listening.

Contact Details:

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Durham Police and Crime Panel

1 February 2023

National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels Annual Report 2022

Report of Helen Lynch, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide members with the annual report of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels (NAPFCP).

Executive summary

2. At the NAPFCP Annual General Meeting in November 2022, the Chair presented his annual report setting out key events and activities undertaken in the last year.
3. The annual report is attached for member's information.

Recommendation

4. The Police and Crime Panel are asked to note the report.

Background

5. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 established Police and Crime Panels within each force area in England and Wales (excluding Greater London).
6. In June 2018 following an inaugural meeting of PCP representatives, a National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels was formed as a national body supporting both Police and Crime Panels and Police, Fire and Crime Panels. Durham and Darlington Police and Crime Panel is a member of the NAPFCP.
7. The NAPFCP provides, amongst other things, a forum for collaborative discussions on matters that impact PCPs, a mechanism for direct liaison between PCPs and the Home Office and an opportunity for dialogue with relevant bodies.
8. The NAPFCP Chair's annual report was submitted to the NAPFCP annual general meeting held on 11 November 2022.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Helen Lynch

Tel: 03000 269732

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None.

Finance

None.

Consultation

None.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Climate Change

None.

Human Rights

None.

Crime and Disorder

This is a key focus of the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Police and Crime Panel.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.

Appendix 2: NAPFCP Annual Report



Agenda item no. 3

Report title: Chairman’s annual report	
Report to: National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels – AGM	
Report author: John Gili-Ross, Chairman	
Date: 11 November 2022	For: Information
Enquiries to: Emma Tombs, Support Officer to the NAPFCP, emma.tombs@essex.gov.uk	

NAPFCP Annual Report - November 2022

Welcome to the fourth Annual General Meeting of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels which again Frontline Consulting is kindly hosting as a lead into this year’s Annual Conference for Chairs, Members and Officers of Police (Fire) and Crime Panels.

In this report when using the term PCC or Commissioner, this can be interchanged with PFCC and likewise, use of the term PCP or panel can be interchanged with PFCP where appropriate.

In my 2021 report I remarked on the significant change of panel member makeup due to the delayed PCC elections that year. This was again repeated following this year’s May local elections in England and Wales. Unfortunately for some panels the degree of change and, in Wales, subsequent appointment of members requiring Home Office approval meant that some panels were unable to hold formal meetings until last month. This is an alarming position as formal Commissioner challenge and scrutiny could not take place for several months.

On a positive note, and benefitting from the experience panels gained through remote working during the pandemic, panel workshops held by remote means have become the norm. Workshops help maximise the time taken to understand the background and thinking behind commissioners’ decisions, reports and mandated requirements that lie at the core of formal panel meetings.

One of the main NAPFCP aims is to explore how best practice operates within the sector. This definition of good practice within the sector is not easily defined, however it can be helpful to examine perceived or actual bad practice experienced by panels when interacting with commissioners or their officers. Meetings between the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and the NAPFCP are now held monthly to promote good practice and these help in recognising key sector drivers and how these are being addressed. During the year the APCC saw the departure of Susannah Hancock who has been its CEO for a number of years.



Susannah has transferred to the National Fire Chiefs Council as its CEO and I wish her every success in this new role and a thank you for the many times she has supported panel and Commissioner good practice working. I look forward to forging a good relationship with Phil Golding who has been appointed as the new APCC CEO and is expected to take up this position shortly.

Currently there are 38 (of 41) Panels in membership including all four Welsh Panels. NAPFCP influence with the Home Office and others will always be judged by the strength of its membership, therefore the target to aim for is 100% membership.

Executive Committee

There are 10 members of the Executive Committee appointed in 2020, each having valuable skills and capabilities and many having served on panels since 2012. During the past 12 months the Executive Committee focus has been to add value through direct contact with panels to provide advice, completing sector specific consultation responses, liaising with key partners or producing supportive materials and sector related press articles. NAPFCP workload is spread amongst executive committee members according to time availability, knowledge and skills. The executive continues to meet monthly to discuss and review any sector specific material developments and whether further exploratory work is needed or that information should be sent to the panel membership.

Following the May elections one executive member Cllr Mohammed Iqbal, who was Chair of West Yorkshire, was assigned other responsibilities within his authority therefore making him ineligible as an executive committee member. I would like to thank him for his work on the NAPFCP during his tenure. Cllr Susan Waring from the Lincolnshire panel joined the executive meetings as an observer in February 2022 and Susan kindly agreed to fill the vacancy, via a co-option, until the AGM as a full member.

All panels were invited to nominate any of their members to stand for election to the executive committee. No additional names were received and therefore the ten existing executive committee members will remain in office for a further term subject to their reappointment at the AGM.

Consultations Addressed During the Year

Outcomes from the PCC Review Part 2

During the last two years the Home Office has issued a number of consultation documents including the PCC Reviews Part 1 and 2. The NAPFCP as well as a number of panels submitted responses to these reviews and the NAPFCP response was based upon actual panel experiences. One key subject raised is the need for quality training being available to all panel members. In addressing this identified need the Home Office commissioned Dods Consultancy to run a series of workshops



for Chairs, Support Officers and panel members last winter. The outcome from these workshops was the creation of training documents and materials including videos that would sit alongside and add further value to the LGA's Policing and Fire Governance guidance documents produced in 2019. I highly recommend these to new panel members and support officers as they provide excellent background and guidance to carry out appropriate and relevant commissioner challenge and support.

Reforming our Fire and Rescue Consultation

This consultation was issued last May which seemed to be an interesting time to release such a consultation just as local elections were taking place and panels were preparing for their annual meetings. Fortunately, local elections have little detrimental impact on the NAPFCP workload, as the ten executive members were able to pool local knowledge and experiences to help create a balanced consultation response. Two PFCP panel members from Essex and Northampton were able to provide input from their experiences and the draft response was shared with North Yorkshire and Staffordshire PFCP's seeking comment. Evan Morris MBE, NAPFCP vice chair, used his experience and knowledge as a former fire and rescue service senior manager, to provide balance and alternate perspectives within the association's response.

Key Lines of Enquiries.

In June I wrote to all panels with an update on what was taking place within our sector and to suggest some relevant key lines of enquires for panels to consider taking up with their commissioner. With the appalling news surrounding Wayne Couzens and the abduction and murder of Sarah Everard, plus other disturbing news relating to inappropriate police behaviour, I suggested that panels raise two relevant topics with their commission;

- What police recruitment and vetting processes are in place?
- Are acceptable policing behaviour policies in place and how is this monitored?

In the last few days, HMIFRS has issued a report "An inspection of vetting, misconduct, and misogyny in the police service" which amongst other things, reports on the findings of these two topics. For some police forces this report makes disturbing reading.

I applaud those panels that had embarked on such enquires, which the public would quite rightly expect a PCP to have enquired of their respective PCC. Going forward panels should consider what action or progress has been made to address these specific areas.

NAPFCP Panel Survey - 2022.

Following the AGM, the NAPFCP will be asking panel support officers to help us update some records which was last formally updated in 2019. The May elections has resulted in significant changes to panel chairmanship, membership and possibly



support officers. Can I ask that panel support officers help the NAPFCP by completing this questionnaire/survey which can be shared with panels for their records.

NAPFCP Workstreams

As a reminder when the Executive Committee was first formed it agreed to primarily focus on a number of work streams including;

- Complaints against the Commissioner, Police and FRS Senior Staff
- Technology Changes – Impact on budgets
- Promotion of best practice for Panel activities and scrutiny of the Commissioner
- Investigate opportunities to further develop Panel / Commissioner relationships
- Commissioner and Chief Constable senior appointments
- Promote the Panels role within policing (and fire and rescue) to the public

These workstreams continue to be the focus of attention with executive committee members taking individual responsibility for dedicated workstreams when appropriate. I am hugely appreciative of the time commitment this involves believing it is important to add value to the sector and the manner in which panels undertake their responsibilities to the public

Training and Advice

The sector continues to benefit from the learning and networking workshops provided by Frontline Consulting on a regional basis. These are open to support officers, chairs and panel members and allow participants to share their experiences of panel working both good and bad. For support officers in particular these workshops can provide an ideal opportunity to appreciate that they are not on their own when it comes to meeting the challenges in providing panel support. I recommend highly these workshops and recommend that panels ensure that they have at least one representative in attendance.

As a result of my monthly meetings with Lucy Ellender, the LGA agreed to restart panel workshop sessions with the first since the start of the pandemic being held last September. This workshop was very well attended and included relevant topics delivered by guest speakers and experienced panel members and support officers. It was good to see the return of these LGA events and hopefully the LGA will be in a position to hold two workshops each year as they have done in the past.

I would encourage support officers to seek advice from the NAPFCP whenever there is a need and particularly for new officers taking up the role for the first time. Executive Committee members are always willing to help and provide advice for panel members. As a highly experience democratic services manager, Emma Tombs provides the NAPFCP with not only excellent support but through her significant experience in all aspects of panel work, is ideally positioned to advise and share her experience with other panel support officers.



Closing Remarks

The relationship between the LGA and APCC continues to strengthen in a spirit of mutual benefit and I would like to thank Lucy Ellender and Carolyn Graham of the APCC for their support.

I would like to thank Dave Burn of Frontline Consulting for the great work he has done within the sector in providing training and practical governance advice.

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for the support they given to the association and to me personally throughout the year.

I wish to thank the various Panel Chairs / Vice Chairs and support officers for sharing their panel experiences whenever we have spoken together. Their support and advice are greatly appreciated and help shape my thinking on the many diverse areas associated with panel activities.

Finally, but most appropriately, panels cannot function efficiently without good support and this being just as important for the NAPFCP. A big thank you to Emma Tombs for her excellent support and hard work given to me and the NAPFCP over the last 12 months.

I hope you enjoy the AGM and most importantly the Frontline 11th Annual Conference.

John Gili-Ross
Chair - National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels
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Durham Police and Crime Panel

1 February 2023

Complaints Update

Report of Helen Lynch, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

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

Executive summary

2. On 23 June 2022, the Police and Crime Panel approved an update to the procedure for handling complaints relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) or the Deputy PCC.
3. 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.

Recommendation

4. The Police and Crime Panel is asked to note the report.

Background

5. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the role and responsibility of Panels, which includes handling complaints relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner and their Deputy where appointed.
6. On 23 June 2022, the Panel approved an updated procedure for dealing with complaints and conduct matters about the PCC and their Deputy. The Procedure reflects the Local Government Association's best practice guidance for complaints handling.
7. All complaints received after 23 June 2022 are dealt with in accordance with the updated procedure.
8. Responsibility for the initial receipt of complaints and referral to the Panel is delegated to the Clerk to the Panel. There may be instances where a complaint is not presented to the Panel where they fall outside the procedure or are withdrawn by the Complainant.
9. In order to promote transparency and ensure effective scrutiny, the Panel receives a report at each regular meeting on the number of complaints received including those which have not been/will not be presented to the Panel.

Complaints Update

10. The last report the Panel received in relation to complaints was at its meeting on 9 September 2022. Since then, two complaints have been received.
11. The first complaint was received on 22 October 2022. Initially it appeared that the complaint related to a member of staff within the Office of the PCC and therefore outside of the scope of the procedure. However, it has since been clarified that the complaint does relate to the PCC and it is being progressed in accordance with the Procedure. A report will be presented to the Panel in due course.
12. The second complaint was received on 15 November 2022. The complaint, which relates to operational policing matters has been submitted to the Independent Office of Police Complaints (IOPC). It was copied to the Clerk to the Panel for information. The Complainant has been advised that the complaint falls outside of the scope of the complaints procedure as it does not relate to the PCC. A copy has also been shared with the PCC's office for information.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Helen Lynch

Tel: 03000 269732

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

The Police and Crime Panel must have arrangements in place for dealing with complaints in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012.

It is good practice for Panels to maintain oversight of the number of complaints and how they are dealt with in accordance with the agreed arrangements.

Finance

None.

Consultation

None.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Climate Change

None.

Human Rights

None.

Crime and Disorder

This is a key focus of the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Police and Crime Panel.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.