



Police and Crime Panel

Date Thursday 14 December 2023
Time 1.30 pm
Venue Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Darlington

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. Declarations of interest, if any
4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 September 2023 and Special Meeting held on 25 September 2023 (Pages 3 - 20)
5. Quarterly Performance Report Quarter Two 2023/24 - Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 21 - 52)
6. Complaints Update - Report of the Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel (Pages 53 - 56)
7. Police and Crime Panel Work Programme Priorities - Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer (Pages 57 - 62)
8. Such other business, as in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration
9. Any resolution relating to the exclusion of the public during the discussion of items containing exempt information

Part B

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

10. Complaint against the Police and Crime Commissioner - Report of the Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel (Pages 63 - 136)
11. Such other business, as in the opinion of the Chair of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

Helen Bradley
Monitoring Officer

County Hall
Durham
6 December 2023

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

Durham County Council

Councillors D Boyes, L Brown (Chair), J Charlton, L Howvells, D Nicholls,
R Potts and A Savory

Darlington Borough Council

Councillors S Ali, N Johnson and G Lee (Vice-Chair)

Independent Co-opted Members

Mr N Hallam and Mr R Rodiss

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Thursday 21 September 2023** at **1.30 pm**

Present:

Councillor G Lee (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

Durham County Council:

Councillors L Hovvels, R Potts, A Savory, S Quinn (Substitute) (substitute for D Boyes), K Robson (Substitute) (substitute for J Charlton) and C Varty (Substitute) (substitute for D Nicholls)

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillors G Lee (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr R Rodiss

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Boyes, L Brown, J Charlton, D Nicholls and Mr N Hallam.

2 Substitute Members

There were the following Substitute Members: Councillor S Quinn for Councillor D Boyes; Councillor K Robson for J Charlton; and Councillor C Varty substituted for D Nicholls.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held 23 June 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5 Missing People and Protecting the Vulnerable

The Panel received a report and presentation of the Police and Crime Commissioner on Missing People and Protecting the Vulnerable, presented by Chief Inspector Dave Williams (for copy see file of Minutes).

Chief Inspector D Williams explained that, in 2022, 3.3 percent of all calls into the Police related to missing people and that while there had been a drop off during the pandemic, numbers had gone back up. He added that around 50 percent of missing people returned of their own accord. He noted that of the children and young people that go missing, 40 percent were looked after children. He noted the average time for those missing was three to nine hours, with the vast majority being less than 24 hours. He explained that 60.5 percent of children that went missing did so repeatedly, four or more times. It was added that all of the top 20 repeat missing children were within the looked after system.

Chief Inspector D Williams noted that factors to be taken into account in Durham included a large number of care homes in County Durham and Darlington; a lot of unregulated placements; and a lot of placements from out of county. He explained as regards protocols in place in terms of vulnerable groups, with the Philomena and Herbert protocols and multiagency meetings. He stressed the importance of accurate reporting, noting in Durham all reports were recorded, and information recorded when carrying out safe and wellbeing checks, looking for any signs of harms, taking the appropriate actions as required. He explained as regards return to home interviews (RTHIs) carried out by the relevant Local Authority, carried out within 72 hours, usually by a social worker or someone known to the young person. Members were informed of a buddy system within care homes, and the work of the Multi Agency Missing Exploited Group, as well as peer mentors.

Chief Inspector D Williams explained that in 2023, around 6,800 hours had been spent looking for missing people, with the average time per person being around three to six hours.

The Chair thanked Chief Inspector D Williams and asked the Panel for their comments and questions.

Councillor C Varty asked if there was a particular group of children and young people that were likely to go missing. Chief Inspector D Williams noted that it was mostly those in their adolescence, aged 12 -17 years old.

Councillor K Robson asked if there were any particular reasons that stood out in the majority of cases of missing children.

Chief Inspector D Williams noted that in the majority of cases it was that the young person wanted to be out with their friends, though in some cases there were issues with their placement or with staff at care homes. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Joy Allen explained that the reasons why children go missing had not changed much in the last 10 years, however, what had changed was the number of care homes in the area. She noted she recalled from her time as a Cabinet Member for Durham County Council that the issues had been raised at both Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny and noted that it was an issue for Planning Members to be cognisant of when looking at such care homes at Committee.

Councillor L Hovvels noted it was useful to have the bigger picture and to understand how Local Authorities could help. She noted that it was important to understand the burden upon the Police and Local Authorities and to see whether there was an issue in terms of the number of care homes and as regards the caseloads of social workers. Chief Inspector D Williams noted as regards the Constabulary's Missing Coordinator and the well-established links with care homes in the area, with clear channels in terms of escalating issues. Councillor L Hovvels asked as regards dealing with vulnerable adults, noting recent incidents within her Electoral Division. Chief Inspector D Williams noted that there were incidents involving adults with complex issues, with Neighbourhood Inspectors keeping an oversight of any issues, flagging where appropriate and taking actions to help safeguard people within their community.

R Rodiss noted his main concern was around intelligence gathering, with the RTHIs being an important intelligence gathering opportunity. He noted that the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) Report had set out that social workers and Police should conduct the RTHIs. He added he had concern that social workers were not trained specifically in terms of intelligence gathering and he felt that therefore it would be preferable for trained Officers to conduct the interviews. He noted other issues, such as being able to interrogate the mobile phones of those missing from home for information. Chief Inspector D Williams noted that there was already a system in place as regards RTHIs and were the responsibility of the Local Authority. He noted that prior to the RTHIs, Police would have carried out a safe and wellbeing check. He noted that within those checks, there would be a lot more considered than just what was said by the missing person, Officers would look at the whole picture listening to the concerns of parents and/or carers, how the missing person has been transported and so on. He noted that where the two elements would come together would be if there was felt to be issues, they would be escalated through multi agency discussion. He explained that there was continuing progress in terms of information sharing, with both Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council working with Durham Constabulary jointly.

Chief Inspector D Williams noted that in terms of child sexual exploitation (CSE), there was work alongside missing children, with multi agency meetings where a scorecard would be produced with that informing the level of risk and the work that would be undertaken to make the child safe. He noted that those higher scoring children and young people would be those concentrated upon in the first instance.

Councillor R Potts noted that from the last period, there had been a 227 percent increase in children missing from home. He noted the impact of the pandemic and the IICSA report noting not as many children and young people were reporting incidents. He noted that the top 20 children and young missing from home accounted for 506 reports, making up the majority of that percentage increase. Chief Inspector D Williams noted that recording was measured quarterly and noted that the final IICSA report had been 40 pages, which included an element relating to an organised network strand and had been based over a number of years. He noted the work in relation to the CSE Group, with colleagues from Health and the Drug and Alcohol Service. He noted that a lot of the work, as a consequence, would be looking from the view of those children that had been let down, with a focus on developments that would help to identify those at risk, working across agencies, not just the Police. He noted looking at risks outside of the home, as well as from within the home. He noted that there had been a mindset change and a key question was 'why' children and young people were going missing from home.

Councillor A Savory noted the statistics showed that looked after children were often repeatedly missing from home and asked if that included many returning to their family home. Chief Inspector D Williams noted that, as a consequence of relatively cheap housing stock in the area, many unregistered care homes had been set up within the County. He added that the Children's Commissioner had highlighted that there was a greater risk of going missing and exploitation where children were placed in care outside of their local area. He noted that therefore it was important to ensure that there were close working relationships with Local Authorities. Councillor A Savory noted that all County Councillors were Corporate Parents and noted the importance of the Regulation 44 visits to care homes and to engage with children and young people so that they feel able to bring up any issues as soon as possible. Councillor C Varty noted that the reasons why young people run away had not changed greatly over the years and noted the Mockingbird Model in relation to foster care placements.

Resolved:

That the report and presentation be noted.

6 Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) Report - Force Progress following His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Recommendations

The Panel considered a report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on the Force Progress following His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Recommendations on the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) Report (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Head of Private Office, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), Sweety Sahani explained the report set out that Durham Constabulary had undertaken a peer review, and it had been shown that structures and partnerships were working well and some small areas for improvement had included: training, refresher training and professional development; consideration of cross-border handovers; a more data driven approach; a refresh of governance arrangements; increased communications; and victims' contracts, in terms of timely and understandable updates to children and young people. She explained that the OPCC had also looked at best practice from other areas in the country.

Resolved:

That the report and presentation be noted.

7 Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2022/23

The Panel considered the report of the Police and Crime Commissioner which included her draft PCC Annual Report 2022/23 (for copy see file of Minutes). The PCC referred to the draft document and key events and highlights from 2022/23 and progress against the Police and Crime Plan 2021-24.

Councillor K Robson asked as regards real time reporting, noting the 101 number could often have responses of three to four days. He noted that policing was by consent and Police should be seen on the street. He added that a big issue, and source of 101 calls, was the issue of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and noted people suffered when it was not tackled. The PCC noted there would be an update as regards those issues within the Quarterly Performance Report.

Councillor L Hovvels noted a lot of positive work and thanked the PCC. She noted the increase in retail crime, with an influx of criminals from outside of the County travelling into the area to commit theft and asked what work was ongoing with the Police and partners to tackle this, noting the links to the cost-of-living crisis and poverty levels within the North-East. She also noted the issue of off-road motorbikes and quad bikes was a big problem within the east of the County and asked how we would solve the issue.

The PCC noted in respect of retail crime that she had recently visited the shop within Councillor L Hovvels' Electoral Division that had been subject to a number of thefts, noting the impact upon staff and the continuing viability of the shop. She noted within her Police and Crime Plan she referred to 'Safer Business' and had acknowledged the impact upon businesses from shoplifting, noting that drug and alcohol issues also contributed to such crimes. She added she was the lead on addiction and substance misuse on a Ministry Forum and noted the Government's position in terms of a zero tolerance in terms of shoplifting, referring to speeches from the Minister and Home Secretary in this regard. The PCC noted that there was a roll out of the ability for retailers to be able to upload CCTV footage to the Police, with some progress currently at Coundon. In relation to ASB from off-road vehicles, she explained she was Deputy Lead nationally for roads policing and therefore would be well-sighted on any upcoming legislation and information. The PCC noted that it was hoped that additional funding via the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and Department for Transport (DfT) would help as regards pilot work to tackle the issue. She noted she had spoken to local MP, Richard Holden, who was Lead on such issues. In terms of the 'Safer Streets' initiative, she noted some of the £1million of funding had been for physical barriers to stop off-road vehicles gaining access and added that a targeted Crimestoppers campaign had been carried out in the areas with the most reported incidents. She noted the inability to give chase in a lot of cases and noted other avenues to try to tackle the issue, such as in Darlington where tenancy agreements had clauses in terms of petrol storage to help tackle the issue. She noted that an important element was community intelligence to be able to tackle those causing ASB with off-road bikes.

Councillor A Savory noted she represented one of the more rural areas within the County, Weardale, and noted the reduction in the number of Officers was an issue. She noted however, the success of the Rural Warden, with a lot of positive engagement and which appeared to be working very well. The PCC noted that details of the £1million 'Safer Streets Fund' was expected by the end of the month. She noted the Rural Warden bid, one of three bids into the Fund, was for a full-time coordinator, to build on the success of work in the Dales, to bring to other rural areas.

She noted the work with the National Farmer Union (NFU), Inspector Ed Turner and volunteers, the use of drones, and the work with the Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services (UTASS).

Councillor R Potts noted the report referred to reductions in crime, noting at the last meeting of the PCP a lot of crimes were also reported as having decreased. However, he noted that when looking at figures year-on-year, there was an 8.8 percent increase in crime, with all theft having a 15 percent increase. He added that of all sectors, only three areas had figures that had reduced. He noted the numbers of Police Officers was referred to within the report, and was compared to 2010 numbers, however, looking back to 2000 there were 80 fewer Officers. He added that, in that same time, the number of civilian workers within the Police had increased from 590 to 1,200 and the number of OPCC staff had also increased. The PCC noted she would compare to OPCC figures and information would be circulated. In terms of the number of Officers, she noted that was a Police operational issue, and that £2million of funding was being used in that regard. In respect of the number of OPCC staff, the PCC noted that Durham had the lowest number of staff, with an external review noting around £300,000 less when compared to other OPCCs. Councillor R Potts noted the increase in OPCC staff comparing the current number to the number prior to the current PCC taking office.

Councillor C Varty noted the situation previously referred to with the shop at Wheatley Hill and the ASB caused by off-road bikes. She added another issue in the east of the county was that of arson and the more widespread issue of illegal drug use. The PCC noted that one of the successes had been the use of CCTV in Newton Aycliffe, with a 40 percent reduction in ASB, and it was hoped that access to 'Safer Streets' funding would help with this in other areas. She noted the issue had been raised with the Chief Executive at Durham County Council (DCC), and Corporate Directors of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change and Regeneration, Economy and Growth, noting Members would recall the visit at Darlington to see their CCTV in operation, with the relationship with the Neighbourhood Officer and Darlington Borough Council (DBC) being excellent. She noted that installation of CCTV in the east of the County was taking over two years, adding she was having discussions with DCC as regards the timescales.

Councillor S Quinn noted that retail crimes were sometimes 'shoplifting to order' with some being quite large items. She added that she understood that some shops had a policy of not reporting such crime and therefore a cycle was created. She noted another issue was that of unauthorised encampments, noting in her area a few in the last month had resulted in problems within the town, impacting on local businesses that were already struggling.

The PCC agreed it was important for retailers to report shoplifting and reiterated that the SentrySIS system to be able to upload CCTV footage was very important. She noted in some areas, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) had established 'Shop Watch', including Durham City, and noted the work of the City of Durham Parish Council in terms of supporting work at the Arnison Centre. She added that the Tesco store at Newton Aycliffe had issues in terms of shoplifting and noted programmes such as Business Watch helping to bring together businesses, reiterating that reporting incidents was key. Councillor S Quinn noted the policy of some shops in terms of not tackling shoplifters and not reporting incidents, which she disagreed with.

R Rodiss noted the ideas and initiatives suggested in respect of tackling shoplifting, however, he felt that an increase in Police Officer numbers would help in those areas that were being targeted and noted that he felt some part of the £1million funding referred to could be utilised for more Officers or to pay for overtime. The PCC noted £2.4million allocated for hotspots, noting Durham as one of four pilot areas for overtime for Officers, PCSOs, Fire Officers, Wardens and reiterated as regards the work of the City of Durham Parish Council. She added that impact of 'safer streets' was positive in terms of business. R Rodiss noted the situation as regards the Tesco at Newton Aycliffe, noting that there had previously been a Police Station opposite the Tesco site and the move to centralised detention. The PCC noted that Officers regularly attended the Tesco site, with the shop having set aside a space for meetings with the local Inspector, Sarah Honeyman. The Chief of Staff, OPCC, Andrea Petty noted that a session with the Panel would be held to look at Newton Aycliffe Policing and added as regards hotspot areas where there were tri-responder locations.

The Chair noted the impact of drug, alcohol and gambling harm on local people and the impact this then had in terms of the wellbeing of those people.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

Councillor S Quinn left the meeting at 3.05pm

8 Quarterly Performance Report Quarter One 2023/24

The Police and Crime Commissioner presented her Performance and Delivery Update Report which covered the period April to June 2023 (for copy see file of minutes).

Councillor K Robson noted the improved performance in relation to 999 and 101 calls being answered. He noted decrease in crime of 40 percent in Newton Aycliffe as a result of CCTV, however, noted that cameras were not Police Officers, and cameras were only effective if they were monitored, and he felt there was a need for more Officers in Newton Aycliffe. He noted Members had paid for the cameras, adding the local supermarket had been approached as regards a contribution and they had declined. The PCC noted that the CCTV in Newton Aycliffe had helped considerably and added that having good levels of public confidence in reporting issues was also very important. She added while a useful tool, CCTV was not the complete answer in tackling crime and suggested that Town and Parish Councils may be able to work with County Councillors in their areas as regards the cost of installation of CCTV. She noted as regards 'hotspot' funding that was being provided, adding that 'non-hotspot' areas would also need to be looked at in terms of any gaps. She noted the example of Monk Hesleden Parish Council who operated CCTV in their parks to help combat ASB and damage to assets.

Councillor R Potts noted the excellent progress and work in relation to Safer Roads, adding he felt it was fantastic work and should be referred to by other areas within the Police when looking at how to run successful campaigns. In relation to 101 calls, Councillor R Potts noted that the number of calls abandoned had reduced, however, still represented around 14,000 calls. He noted a reduction in performance when communications had been centralised and he had concern that lessons had not been learned in terms of the centralisation of custody facilities, noting the removal of around 150 staff including CID and the custody suite from Newton Aycliffe. The PCC noted that she, and the Chief of Staff, OPCC had spoken to the Chief Constable as regards work on the Customer Relation Management (CRM) system, and she added she had spoken to the Home Secretary and Minister as regards why Forces themselves were having to pay for the required improvements to that infrastructure. She added that a lot of incidents were now reported online, noting a lot of innovation in that regard, and added that it was hoped there would be further improvements when looking at the next quarterly performance report.

The Chair noted that one of the issues that could lead to a loss of confidence in the Police was a perceived lack of action following the reporting of an incident or issue. He noted that feedback being provided on issues was important to demonstrate to the public the Police were listening and responding.

The PCC noted that demand was increasing and while some incidents were not being reported, she felt it was important to encourage reporting. She noted that modern reporting was more diverse than just a telephone number, giving the example of 80 percent of Crimestoppers reporting being online.

She noted that if a call came through on the 999 number, it was actioned. She added that while Crimestoppers was a national initiative, the burden was on Police Forces in terms of the 999 and 101 call handling.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

9 Investigative Hub Update Report

The Panel considered an update report from the Police and Crime Commissioner on the Investigative Hub, with a presentation by Chief Inspector Jason Meecham (for copy see file of Minutes).

Chief Inspector J Meecham explained the history of the project, noting the need to move to an up-to-date custody suite, and also to incorporate the Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) facility. He noted the budget had not changed, however explained there was a six-week delay in terms of the handover from the builder, with a date of 3 November for the handover. He noted the capacity of the new facility, with 48 cells, office space, digital integrity and evidence management, and capacity for training. He added there was social value associated with the development including in terms of apprenticeships and local spend. The Panel were shown slides of the development so far, with a description of the four spoke layout, each of the spokes containing a suite of 12 cells for a total of 48. Members noted a comparison of the new facilities with the current custody suite and office arrangements at the Peterlee Station.

The Chair thanked Chief Inspector J Meecham and asked the Panel for their comments and questions.

R Rodiss noted the capacity of new facility with 152 workstations and noted this would empty out the Police Stations within the county if all investigative Officers and staff were moved to the new hub. Chief Inspector J Meecham noted it was not all staff, only Durham and Bishop Auckland Criminal Investigation Departments (CID) and Safeguarding staff. R Rodiss noted he could not see the benefit of Detectives travelling back and forth from their stations, for example from Peterlee. Chief Inspector J Meecham noted the benefits in terms of evidence quality and integrity, and improvements with the new digital equipment that would be made available. R Rodiss noted his concerns, given the closure at Bishop Auckland.

Councillor C Varty left the meeting at 3.45pm

The PCC noted there were no plans to close the station at Bishop Auckland. R Rodiss asked as regards the sale of Durham City station. The PCC noted she would commit that the Durham City station would remain where it was, unless a better location was found. She noted Neighbourhood Teams were being retained and reiterated that those stations were not subject to closure.

R Rodiss asked as regards numbers of staff at the new hub. Chief Inspector J Meecham noted that Bishop Auckland CID did not have a custody suite, they use custody suites at Durham, Darlington and Peterlee, and on occasion Consett. He added that the new hub would encompass Durham and Bishop Auckland CID, Safeguarding staff and financial staff, around 161 staff. R Rodiss asked as regards any plans to move the Inspector from Consett, Chief Inspector J Meecham noted no plans to move Officers or staff other than those referred to. R Rodiss noted that initially the plans had been for just a centralised custody suite, then plans had grown to the investigative hub, and he noted his concerns were that if local stations lost their custody suites and investigative Officers, then the ability to investigate locally would be lost. Chief Inspector J Meecham noted there were demarcations in terms of which investigators would look at a crime, for example Bishop Auckland investigators would look at a Bishop Auckland crime, however, where there were busy periods, Officers would help out in other areas. R Rodiss understood and noted while such centralised schemes appeared to work well in metropolitan areas, he did not feel it would be effective in a rural county such as Durham, and that 'local element' would be lost. He reiterated he felt that once investigative Officers and staff move out of stations to the new hub, local stations could be lost. Chief Inspector J Meecham noted that there was not the room at the new hub to incorporate all investigative Officers and staff.

Councillor L Hovvels noted the improvements cited in the move to the new hub, with better facilities for staff, and noted the financial pressures faced by all of the public sector.

Councillor R Potts noted he had not heard any member of the public comment that the move to the new investigative hub was a good idea. He added he too felt that the centralisation would lead to the loss of Officers and other sites, and noted he had been informed that the Durham City station would close. The PCC reiterated her previous comments and noted that was a decision for her to make. Councillor R Potts noted he had concerns as regards the travel time to the new hub, and asked if the budget was £21million, or whether the project had overshot that budget. Chief Inspector J Meecham noted the changes to include CSI facilities, noting that the Chief Finance Officer, Gary Ridley would have the relevant budget figures. Councillor R Potts asked if budget figures, including full costings could be brought to the next meeting of the Panel. The Chief of Staff, OPCC noted that some of the information could be commercially sensitive.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Helen Bradley noted that the Panel could consider commercially sensitive information having excluded the press and public, subject to the applicability of the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Councillor R Potts noted that the public had been told the cost was £21million, and he would ask that all information is open to the public. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services explained that there may be good reason to treat information exempt and if so, it was her role as Monitoring Officer and Clerk to the Panel to consider whether relevant exemptions apply. She noted that she would always look at what information could be considered in public and any information that could be shared would be. She also noted that whilst information may be treated as exempt initially, it is likely that at least some of the information would be publicly available at some point through the reporting of Police finances.

Councillor K Robson noted concerns in terms of the travel time back and forth to the new hub, and the impact that this would have of Officers' time. He added that the financial costs of a new development were always a concern. Chief Inspector J Meecham noted that the travelling aspect has been looked at very carefully as had existing bottlenecks within the current custody arrangements, noting waiting times where the small station may have a queue for use of their custody suite. He noted that there was already travel time within the system, when travelling from an incident to one of the existing custody suites.

The Chair noted the photographs provided of the new facility in construction, with the PCC noting that the Panel could visit the facility in future. The PCC noted the work undertaken by Chief Inspector J Meecham and the Team, looking at wider issues, such as shift changes and queues and bottlenecks at other facilities, such as at hospitals.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Complaints Update

The Panel considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services which provided an update on complaints relating to the PCC or the Deputy PCC (for copy see file of Minutes).

It was noted that the last report the Panel received in relation to complaints was at its meeting on 23 June 2023, with one further complaint received since that meeting.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services noted the complaint would be dealt with via the usual procedure, with an update to come to the next meeting of the Panel.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

11 Such Other Business

The Panel noted their thanks for the outgoing Chief Constable, J Farrell and wished her well in her new job as Chief Constable of Police Scotland.

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DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a **Special** meeting of the **Police and Crime Panel** held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham on **Monday 25 September 2023 at 10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor L Brown (Chair)

Durham County Council:

Councillors S Quinn (substitute for D Boyes), K Robson (substitute for J Charlton), J Miller (substitute for L Hovvels), C Varty (substitute for D Nicholls) and A Bell (substitute for A Savory)

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillors G Lee (Vice-Chair)

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr N Hallam and Mr R Rodiss

The Chair welcomed Joy Allen, Police and Crime Commissioner and Rachel Bacon, Applicant for the post of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary to the meeting. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Clerk to the Panel outlined the process for the confirmation hearing.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Boyes, J Charlton, L Hovvels, N Johnson, D Nicholls, R Potts and A Savory.

2 Substitute Members

Councillor A Bell was substitute for Councillor A Savory, Councillor J Miller was substitute for Councillor L Hovvels, Councillor S Quinn was substitute for Councillor D Boyes, Councillor K Robson was substitute for Councillor J Charlton and Councillor C Varty was substitute for Councillor D Nicholls.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Confirmation Hearing - Proposed Appointment of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary

The Panel considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Clerk to the Panel that provided information on the process to be undertaken to hold a confirmation hearing for the proposed appointment to the role of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary. The Panel also considered a report from the Police and Crime Commissioner that provided details of the proposed candidate (for copy see file of minutes).

The Police and Crime Commissioner formally introduced her preferred candidate, Mrs R Bacon for the appointment of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary and presented her report which provided details of the robust recruitment process and Mrs R Bacon's professional background.

The Panel then questioned Mrs R Bacon on the following issues:

- The main areas of expertise that would enable her to undertake the role of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary effectively;
- Examples of how she had sought to reduce crime and increase detection rates;
- What she considered to be the key policing issues within County Durham and Darlington;
- Who she regarded as the Chief Constable's key stakeholders;
- Examples of how she had worked successfully with a range of organisations, partnerships and agencies;
- Examples of when her personal independence had been put to the test and how she dealt with the situation.

Mrs R Bacon provided comprehensive responses to questions from the Panel. The Chair then thanked Mrs R Bacon and the Police and Crime Commissioner for their attendance and informed them that 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 Constable of Durham Constabulary

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Clerk to the Panel reminded the Panel of the process and advised of the three options available to the Panel.

In response to comments regarding the limitations around the type of questions the Panel were able to ask, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Clerk to the Panel advised that the confirmation hearing process was to compliment the robust appointment process and the questions which the Panel had agreed in advance of the hearing were in accordance with the guidance. There would need to be legislative change to enable to Panel to take a more in depth role in the process.

The Panel discussed the Police and Crime Commissioner's recommendation to appoint Mrs R Bacon to the role of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary. Upon a vote being taken it was:

Resolved:

- i) That the Panel endorse the appointment of Mrs Rachel Bacon to the post of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary;
- ii) To respond to the Police and Crime Commissioner, endorsing the appointment in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

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Police and Crime Panel

14 December 2023

Police and Crime Commissioner's Performance and Delivery Update Report (July 23 to September 23)

Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Purpose

1. For Panel Members to consider the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) Quarterly Performance and Delivery Update Report.

Background

2. In agreement with the former Chair of the Panel, OPCC reports will be consolidated into one Performance and Delivery Update Report and will be presented every quarter to the Police and Crime Panel.
3. This report covers the period Quarter 2 – 1st July 2023 – 30th September 2023. Narratives in the report are directed towards this period and/ or provide a current strategic overview and practical examples which form the fabric of Durham Constabulary's performance picture.
4. This report includes an update on the Police and Crime Plan Key Performance for Safer Communities, Safer People, Non-Crime Demand, Safer Roads, Funded Services for Victims, Safer Streets, Darlington CCTV and Security Control Centre, Crimestoppers, HMICFRS inspections and Decision Records.
5. Appendix 2 of this report contains the Police and Crime Commissioner's Performance and Delivery Update Report and will be primarily available as an electronic document and printed copies will be made available upon request.

Recommendation

6. That Panel Members consider the Police and Crime Commissioner's Quarterly Performance and Delivery Update Report and comment accordingly.

Sweety Sahani

Head of Private Office/Deputy Monitoring Officer

Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

Finance

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

Staffing

n/a

Equality and Diversity

n/a

Accommodation

n/a

Crime and Disorder

n/a

Children's Act 2004

n/a

Stakeholder/Community Engagement

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

Environment

n/a

Collaboration and Partnerships

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

Value for Money and Productivity

n/a

Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities

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

Commissioning

Several decisions relate to commissioning of services.

Other risks

n/a

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JOY ALLEN
 DURHAM POLICE AND
 CRIME COMMISSIONER

DURHAM POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER'S

PCC PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY UPDATE REPORT

JULY – SEPTEMBER 23



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FOREWORD



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Welcome to my second performance report for 2023/24 which covers the period July to September 2023 – an exceptionally busy and demanding period for County Durham and Darlington. Despite these pressures, we have further improved performance against my key Police and Crime Plan priorities including those most important to the public, the visibility and accessibility of our police officers and improvements in call handling.

Over the summer, the number of police officers serving Durham grew beyond our allocated government target, which is fantastic news for our communities because it means more police on the ground to respond to their problems. These extra officers included transferees from other forces - trained and experienced officers who can immediately get to work in our communities. Although they are more expensive to employ, they make an instant impact, and this is why it has been necessary to provide funding from the precept to secure their recruitment.

Extra officers have been deployed to a variety of frontline policing roles including Roads Policing and Cyber Investigation and are already making their presence felt. However, we still don't have enough officers to meet the ever-increasing demands placed upon them. So, I continue to lobby the government to give us the necessary

funding to return our police officer numbers back to 2010 levels (currently 144 officers down on 2010) and introduce a fairer funding system to relieve the burden on local taxpayers.

It is critical we have the right number of resources in the right place to keep local people safe. I have been working closely with the force to ensure the officers we do have deliver maximum value for the taxpayer. I am supporting the roll-out of Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) across the force area, for example, which will result in fewer police deployments to mental health related incidents. Importantly, this will enhance the care of vulnerable people who need specialist medical help, while also improving our capacity to respond to crime. I think we all agree how vital it is our officers spend less time tackling non-crime related demand to do the jobs they have been trained for – fighting crime.

We have also enhanced our public contact processes over the last quarter to get people the help they need quickly. The public has asked for call handling to be made a priority and since I was elected this area has remained a strong area of focus. I know the voice on the end of the phone can provide vital support in times of great stress and has a huge impact on the caller's overall trust and confidence in policing.

To manage demand more efficiently, all crime and incident related calls are now triaged via the force switchboard, which has been expanded from three to 11 operatives. On calling 101, an automated voice message now provides the option to report a crime or incident, diverting these calls to the Triage Team. This simple innovation has had the effect of filtering around 50 per cent of calls away from 101/999 call handlers – freeing up capacity. And as a result, since January 2023, 101 abandonment rates have fallen from an average of 22 per cent to 9.5 per cent while average 101 answering times have reduced from over two minutes to around 40 seconds.

More than 10,000 calls were logged in May, June, July and September. Before this, 999 calls had only ever exceeded 10,000 once (in July 2022). Despite the exceptionally high demand, average 999 answer times have halved this year from an average of 15 seconds to six seconds.

Throughout 2023, I have continued to invest in additional staffing within the control room both in switchboard and call handling functions. Next year will see more than £1.5m invested over five years in a new, state-of-the-art cloud-based telephony platform in addition to the expansion of Single Online Home at a cost of £95k. This is a national system allowing the public to report crimes and incidents online and even upload CCTV evidence without speaking to an operator,

Our investment in tackling anti-social behaviour is also delivering positive results, with a 29.1 per cent reduction in the first two quarters of 2023/24 compared to Q1-Q2 in 2022/23. Durham is one of 16 police force areas chosen to trailblaze a new hardline approach to ASB (10 forces involved in hotspot policing and 10 involved in Immediate Justice; four forces are involved in both). It saw hotspot multi agency uniformed patrols roll out across the force area in July thanks to the £2m worth of funding my office secured from the Home Office.

Throughout the summer, I continued to support and fund an array of proactive safety schemes and the ongoing Operation Endurance which addresses the nuisance caused by illegal motorbikes. Durham's Roads and Armed Policing team carried out another bike crushing exercise in

July of vehicles which had been previously seized after being used anti-socially or criminally.

My office has continued to secure significant additional funding to support my safety plans. This includes £311,306.45 to fund new joint approaches to help understand the causes and consequences of serious violence whilst investing in prevention and early intervention provision as part of the implementation of the new Serious Violence Duty.

Our youth engagement work is another area of achievement. It was an honour to host my first Commissioner's Challenge award presentation at Police Headquarters, Aykley Heads, alongside key force personnel including the Chief Constable Jo Farrell and the High Sheriff of County Durham, Anne Elliot. School pupils from across Ferryhill and West Cornforth were presented with their gold awards after successfully completing a range of crime prevention and community safety challenges. The project has been so successful that I recently announced funding to roll it out to all 232 schools force wide and I am delighted to report we already have thousands of youngsters signing up to the scheme.

There are further positive outcomes to report as part of our Safer Streets 4 investment, with CCTV now fully upgraded in Castle Dene Shopping Centre in Peterlee. This has included the installation of 30 upgraded cameras as well as 10 additional cameras.

There is much to be proud of in this report, but I also know there is more to do. We have recently welcomed a new Chief Constable, Rachel Bacon, whose appointment was officially endorsed by the Police and Crime Panel during a hearing on September 25th. Mrs Bacon will be critical to the delivery of my remaining Police and Crime Plan priorities this year and will be an asset to the force having already proven her outstanding leadership and experience in other senior roles. I will continue to listen and act on the needs of the public, and scrutinise the force, to ensure we are working as effectively as possible to sustain the quality and excellence with which Durham is widely known.

Joy Allen

Durham Police and Crime Commissioner



ACCOUNTABILITY: KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT

This performance report 2023/24 provides the Police and Crime Panel with an update on the progress being made against my Police and Crime Plan priorities during July to September 2023 (Quarter 2 of 2023/24). All narratives are directed towards this period and/or provide a current strategic overview and examples.

There are various sources of publicly available data that focusses on Police performance and below is a list of where to find these resources:-

The Digital Crime Performance Pack contain an agreed set of measures that each Police Force and their respective PCCs can be measured against.

[Digital Crime and Performance Pack - His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://justiceinspectorates.gov.uk)

The Office of National Statistics publish Police Force Area level data on a quarterly basis which looks at Police recorded crimes, the latest release looks at yearly data for the year ending June 2023.

[Crime in England and Wales: Police Force Area data tables - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

The Home Office publish both crime and crime outcome data for each reporting year at Police Force Area level, whereby the Home Office crime outcomes are also presented.

[Police recorded crime and outcomes open data tables - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Please note there is normal data movement from month to month- this can come from reclassifications, crime cancellations, disposals, and/or general data due diligence. If there is any movement that is significantly above typical levels these would be assessed further.

SAFER COMMUNITIES



FORCE STAFFING LEVELS

Staff Type	2010 baseline	2019 baseline	Q4 end (31/03/2023)	Q1 end (30/06/2023)	Q2 end (30/09/2023)	Direction of travel (from 2010 baseline)
Police Officers	1557	1141	1387	1366	1384	↓
Police Staff	1016	988	1068	1074	1077	↑
PCSOs	176	152	125	124	119	↓
Specials	131	76	23	22	22	↓
TOTALS	2880	2357	2603	2586	2602	↓

The number of Police Officers has increased during 2023/24 from the 2019 baseline and has exceeded the National Uplift target. These additional officers include transferees which are more expensive to employ (and funded from local council tax precept) but are already trained and experienced and make a faster impact than new recruits. The Force still has fewer Officers than in 2010 despite one of the largest increases in recorded crime (excluding Fraud) which has been raised nationally and locally.

Police Staff numbers increased in 2023/24 in specialist roles, the cost of which is partly funded from grant. As part of the 2023/24 budget setting process the Force lost 44 Police Staff posts in order to meet overall spending limits.

Additional PCSOs and Special Constables have been recruited in October/November and information will be provided in the next quarterly report.

The Force currently has 47 Police Support Volunteers, of which 35 are Community SpeedWatch Volunteers. The Police Support Volunteers have undertaken 446 hours from June to August.

PUBLIC CONTACT METHODS

Often the person answering the call is the first contact people have with the Police, so it is important that the call is answered swiftly and professionally.

The public asked for call handling to be made a priority and I pledged to support that agenda. I know that the voice on the end of the phone can provide vital support in times of great stress and has a big impact on the callers' overall trust and confidence in policing.

I agreed to substantial investment into the Force Control Room to aid with recruitment and technology investment. The impact this uptake in staff has had on 999/101 performance will be detailed in the next quarterly report.

I have also invested in Operation Snap which is an excellent initiative to encourage members of the public to submit dashcam and headcam footage via an online form, where previously, the only option to report dangerous driving was over the phone. During Q2 2023/24 there were 197 submissions into Operation Snap, 52.3% of these were categorised as "due care and attention".

The table below displays the overarching key performance indicators used for 999 and 101 call data:

CALL DATA	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
999 Calls	56044	31539	30694	62233	11.0%	↑
101 (SNEN Calls)	135573	70929	62937	133866	-1.3%	↔
Totals	191617	102468	93631	196099	2.3%	↔

999 calls have seen a recent 2.7% decrease in Q2 2023/24 compared to the previous Q1 period. However, when comparing Q1-Q2 2023/24 to the baseline period there has been a notable increase of 11.0% in 999 calls.

101 calls have seen an 11.3% decrease in Q2 2023/24 compared to the previous Q1 period. There has been a slight decrease of 1.3% when comparing Q1-Q2 2023/24 to the baseline period.

Public Access to Services	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	Direction of travel (from baseline)
Number of 999 calls answered within 10 seconds	43501	24732	25801	50533	↑
Average answer time for 999 calls (seconds)	20.3	18.8	16.0	17.4	↓
101 calls abandoned	28429	14408	8316	22724	↓

The average answer time for a 999 call during Q2 2023/24 was 16.0 seconds which is a slight reduction compared to Q1 2023/24. When compared to the baseline period (Q1-Q2 2022/23) this is a reduction of 4.3 seconds.

In addition to 999/101, the Force now has a 24/7-seven days a week non-emergency live chat funded by the council tax precept, which is for general enquiries and advice, as well as a means of reporting non-urgent incidents or crimes. The 24/7-seven days a week non-emergency live chat continues to be a popular choice of contact with an average of 400 contacts per week.

NEIGHBOURHOOD CRIME

Neighbourhood Crime is composed of the following crime types (police recorded crime):

- Robbery (Personal)
- Residential Burglary (incorporates all related Home Office sub-categories)
- Theft from the Person
- Vehicle Crime (incorporates all four Home Office sub-categories)

Neighbourhood Crime	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
Recorded	2316	1307	1515	2822	21.8%	↑
Resolved	367	165	188	353	-3.8%	↓
Resolved Rate	15.8%	12.6%	12.4%	12.5%	-3.3%	↓

Neighbourhood Crime has seen a 21.8% increase in recorded volume between the Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline and the Q1-Q2 2023/24 total. This increase in recorded crime is reflected across all Neighbourhood Crime types. Please note there are some seasonable variations in the Neighbourhood Crime category particularly during the winter months.

My Office has funded the issue of stop locks to drivers of some the most vulnerable vehicles in line with the Forces' Winter Drink Drive Campaign.

The overall category of Neighbourhood Crime has seen an increase in recorded volume between Q1 2023/24 and Q2 2023/24 (by 208 crimes/15.9%). Residential Burglary and Vehicle Crime did account for the majority of Neighbourhood Crime volume during Q2: 42% and 51% respectively. Please note that nationally there has been an increase in Vehicle Crime.



ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)

The table below displays overall ASB incidents; there has been a 29.1% reduction year to date in ASB incidents when compared to the baseline.

This is expected in line with the ASB review conducted in August 2022. Analysis has been undertaken to reconcile the reduction in the ASB categories and how this mapped over to Public Order crime and Harassment (Section 2).

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ASB incidents	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of Travel (from baseline)
ASB (all incidents)	9213	3280	3254	6534	-29.1%	↓

More recently there has been minimal change in total ASB incidents between Q1 2023/24 and Q2 2023/24 with a decrease of 26 incidents (0.8%). ASB nuisance accounted for 63.0% of the year-to-date total of ASB volume, with ASB personal equating to 14.0% of all ASB incidents and ASB environmental making up 22.0%.

HOTSPOT PATROLS

Durham Constabulary is one of ten Police Force areas piloting the ASB Hotspot approaches ahead of a wider rollout. The purpose is to fund an increased Police and other uniformed presence to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour, targeting hotspots. As a result of the Hotspot Patrols there has been a reduction in ASB in hotspot locations across Durham and Darlington. Additional funding has been provided for the Community Peer Mentors (CPMs) to oversee the Case Review process and during Q2 2023/24 there have been 14 Case Reviews.

IMMEDIATE JUSTICE

Durham Constabulary is one of ten initial trailblazer Police Force areas prior to an anticipated national rollout in 2024. Immediate Justice aims to provide meaningful opportunities for ASB offenders to give back, such as repaying the community for the harm caused and signalling to other that they have changed.

During Q2 2023/24, Darlington Youth Justice Service have received 13 referrals from the ASB Panel aging between 12-16 years old. 9 of the referrals received in August have engaged in group intervention sessions and 4 referrals in September have engaged with interventions with 3 agreeing to participate in the Immediate Justice scheme.

SAFER PEOPLE



VIOLENT CRIME

Violent Crime	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
Violence with Injury	2996	1533	1394	2927	-2.3%	↔
Homicide	2	1	1	2	0.0%	↔
VAP total	12185	6973	6401	13374	9.8%	↑

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VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON

There has been a decrease of 8.2% in Q2 2023/24 compared to Q1 2023/24 in Violence Against the Person. There has been a notable increase when comparing Q1-Q2 2023/24 to the baseline (9.8% increase).

The higher volumes seen compared to the baseline can be attributed to the ASB review as well as an increase in Violence without Injury offences. The ongoing review of unrecorded crimes within ASB has generated a significant rise in the recording of Harassment (Section 2) since August 2022, which accounts for 40% of the increase seen.

VIOLENCE WITH INJURY

There has been a small decrease of 2.3% (69 crimes) in recorded Violence with Injury offences when comparing the Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline to Q1-Q2 2023/24. Between Q1 2023/24 and Q2 2023/24 there has been a 9.0% reduction in recorded volumes, however across the 12-month period there has been overall stability following a peak in July 2022.

SARC SERVICES

I jointly commissioned the forensic Sexual Assault Referral Centre for all those who are victims of sexual assault. This is a regional contract provided by Mountain Healthcare with NHS England and my PCC colleagues in Northumbria and Cleveland, but Durham residents are primarily seen in our local Meadows facility. Over the last quarter there have been 78 referrals into the service, with 28 people attending the SARC, 41 receiving telephone support and 9 were referred to follow-on services.

NON-CRIME DEMAND

MISSING FROM HOME (MFH)

Missing From Home is identified as being an area of focus for myself and Durham Constabulary. This includes the management of MFH and the issues of mental health walkouts.

Missing From Home (MFH)	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
Missing Person Referrals	2631	1298	1284	2582	-1.9%	↔

The MFH data used in this report is based upon the number of referrals rather than the number of incidents created.

Overall, in the current Q2 2023/24 period Missing From Home referrals observed no material change between recent quarterly reports, with a decrease of only 14 reports (-1.1%). When comparing the 2023/24 year to date period against the baseline (Q1-Q2 2022/23) there is a minor decrease of 1.9% (49 referrals).

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Children under the age of 18 accounted for 80.0% of all Missing From Home referrals over the past 12-month period ending in September 2023. Overall, 29.7% of Missing From Home referrals were from care homes, with 7.9% being specifically from Local Authority care homes.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health Incidents	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
Incidents with a 'Mental Health' qualifier	8767	3345	3333	6678	-24.0%	↓

Mental Health incidents have shown minimal change between Q1 2023/24 and Q2 2023/24 (reduction of 0.4%/ 12 incidents). Notably, compared to the baseline period there has been a reduction of 24.0% (2089 incidents).

There has been a clear reducing long-term trend in incident volumes where the "mental health" qualifier has been applied. This reduction is likely to be due to additional training given to call handlers which has seen a reduction in over-recording of incidents with a mental health qualifier.

Mental Health incidents accounted for 7.0% of all incidents in Q2 2023/24.

I am supporting the Constabulary in the roll-out of Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) across the Force area. This will result in fewer Police deployments and reduced policing hours spent on Mental Health related incidents. This will improve the outcomes and experience of people with mental health needs and improve Police capacity to respond to crime. The Police will continue to respond to Mental Health incidents where there is an immediate risk to life or serious harm.

SAFER ROADS



People continuously contact me with concerns about speeding vehicles and safety for all road users. It is a fact that too many people are killed or seriously injured on the roads. That is why I have made road safety a key priority in my Police and Crime Plan.

CASUALTIES (FATAL, SERIOUS, SLIGHT)

Road - Casualties	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
Fatal	10	3	7	10	0.0%	↔
Serious	111	60	57	117	5.4%	↑
KSI (fatal + serious)	121	63	64	127	5.0%	↑
Slight	268	121	93	214	-20.1%	↓
All Casualties Total	389	184	157	341	-12.3%	↓

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Please note all KSI data is subject to change due to re-categorisation of injuries in instances where severity may alter over time; and therefore, the data provided is provisional.

There has been a 5.0% increase in the number of serious and KSI casualties in Durham's Force area when comparing Q1-Q2 2023/24 to the baseline period.

Overall, however there has been a 12.3% (48 casualties) reduction in all casualties. Additionally, Q2 2023/24 observed a 14.7% (27 casualties) reduction in casualties compared to Q1 2023/24.

SAFETY CAMPAIGNS:

July 2023- Operation Endurance

The scheme was originally launched in 2017 to tackle nuisance caused by illegal motorbikes, quads, 4x4 vehicles and electric scooters which cause misery to residents. Durham Roads and Armed Policing team carried out another bike crushing exercise in July and crushed several bikes which had previously been

seized after being used anti-socially and criminally in communities across the force area. The bikes are unroadworthy and therefore unable to be reused for a positive purpose so crushing means they cannot be used antisocially again.

August 2023 - Life is Precious campaign

Working with Mariellena Johnson who lost her Mam and Stepdad in a fatal collision on the A1 as a result of a lorry driver using their mobile phone at the wheel. The office provided funding for the design of car stickers with the aim of deterring people from using phones behind the wheel. They are also supported by Durham County Council and the Force, who will be displaying the stickers in their fleet of vehicles.

August 2023 - BikeSafe

Officers from the force's Motorcycle Section hosted a BikeSafe workshop with seven bikers advancing their skills on the road. The national initiative aims to work with riders to raise awareness of riding safely and reduce chances of being involved in a collision. The workshops consist of short classroom sessions covering essential topics followed by an assessment ride with officers to put what attendees learnt into practice.



September 2023 - Operation Closepass

Officers from Durham Roads & Armed Policing joined a group of horse riders in Blackhall to remind drivers and other road users about the importance of allowing adequate space when passing horses. The operation, which also runs in conjunction with the national 'Pass wide and slow' campaign, saw an officer positioned in the group of riders and those who passed them too closely were asked to pull into designated bays and given words of advice on the dangers of passing too close to other road users.



OPERATION SNAP

Be our eyes and ears on the roads! Report any drivers who are committing offences on our roads and putting people in danger.

Use the website, **ROAD INCIDENT REPORTING (DURHAM.POLICE.UK)**, or the QR code to take directly to our website.



DURHAM CONSTABULARY
ROADS & ARMED POLICING

Road Casualties devastate families and communities.

Durham Constabulary are committed to improving road safety.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN OUR SAFETY CAMPAIGN.

FATAL 4 ISSUES.

These are the main causation factors of collisions that we tackle every day through these campaigns.

- SPEEDING** (Icon: Speedometer with 'SLOW DOWN' text)
- DISTRACTIONS** (Icon: Mobile phone with a slash through it)
- SEATBELT** (Icon: Person in a car seat with a slash through it)
- ALCOHOL & DRUGS** (Icon: Alcohol bottle and marijuana leaf with a slash through it)

FUNDED SERVICES FOR VICTIMS

The Durham Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS) website will enable the Force and partners to make referrals into the one service. From here, individuals will be directed to the appropriate service that would be best placed to provide support. People can also self-refer to the service via phone or through using the online platform, regardless of when and where the crime was committed or whether it was reported to the Police.

A second website for the award-winning Community Peer Mentors service, who has received the Queens Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS), has also been launched. This enables partners to refer people on to the Community Peer Mentors. The scheme provides emotional and practical help to vulnerable and isolated people who are impacted by significant life changing events, with the aim of empowering change, reducing vulnerability, and providing a voice for the unheard.

In addition to this my Office has a dedicated Victims Champion and in this period the Victims Champion has met with 9 victims of crime to record their lived experience as part of the "Victims Voice Case Studies." These case studies will be considered for root cause analysis by representatives of the Criminal Justice Agencies involved in each case.

COMMUNITY PEER MENTORS (CPMs)

Between Q1 2023/24 and Q2 2023/24, the Community Peer Mentors experienced a slight drop in referrals by 3.1% with 443 referrals received, historically this is normal owing to external professionals being on leave however, compared with the Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline there is still an overall increase of 68.9% (367) in referrals. 71.0% of those referred during Q2 2023/24 were offered support; with there being an 81.0% reduction in demand on the Police due to clients being engaged with the CPMs. The table below displays the source of the referrals received into the CPMs scheme.

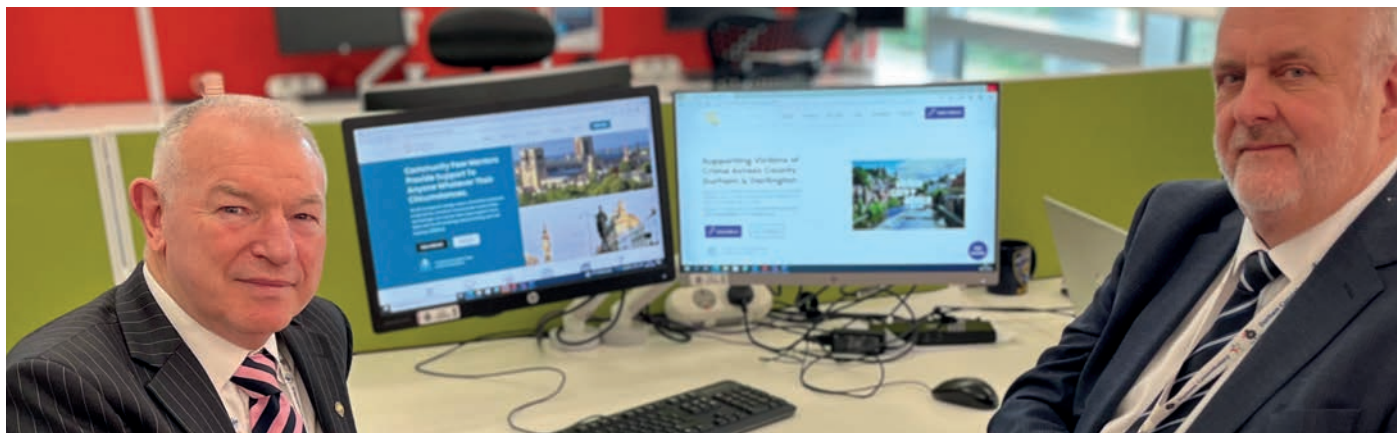
The table below displays the source of the referrals received into the CPMs scheme.

Referrals-CPMs	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
All Referrals	533	457	443	900	68.9%	↑
Police	261	145	202	347	33.0%	↑
MASH	66	109	98	307	365.2%	↑
NHS	145	98	60	158	9.0%	↑
VCAS	115	78	42	120	4.3%	↑

During Q2 2023/24, 39.0% of those referred were identified as having an alcohol misuse issue and 23.0% were identified as having a substance misuse issue; with 18.0% being affected by both.

Since the introduction of the Anti-Social Behaviour Case review, a total of 14 cases have been reviewed where the PCC's Office has worked alongside those negatively affected by ASB to help engagement with statutory services and review of the actions taken. During Q2 2023/24, 40.0% of all referrals identified as ASB having a negative effect on their life.

VICTIM CARE AND ADVICE SERVICE (VCAS)



During Q2 2023/24 there were 3,340 referrals into the "in-house" Victim Care and Advice Service (VCAS), and they were able to offer their support to 2,225 victims of crime. When comparing the Q1-Q2 2023/24 total to the baseline there has been an increase of 49.4% in referrals into VCAS.

The table below displays the source of the referrals into VCAS.

Referrals-CPMs	Q1-Q2 2022/23 baseline	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24	Q1-Q2 2023/24 total	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
All Referrals	4484	3358	3340	6698	49.4%	↑
Police	2813	2205	2225	4430	57.5%	↑
Third Party	846	654	698	1352	59.8%	↑
Self-Referrals	45	25	25	50	11.1%	↑
Court Referrals	765	470	378	848	10.8%	↑
Restorative Justice Referrals	15	4	14	18	20.0%	↑

Over Q2 2023/24, 82.0% of those that provided feedback and were supported by VCAS reported that they felt safer following support. Of those that reported their health and wellbeing had been affected by the crime, 88.0% reported an improvement in their wellbeing. Over 90.0% reported that their needs had been met following the support provided by VCAS, with 88.0% of victims reporting they felt their quality of life had improved after being supported by VCAS.

During Q2 2023/24, there were 378 court support referrals made into VCAS; this support can range from emotional to practical help, reviewing special measures needs, updating their victim personal statements, arranging pre-trial visits to court and in some instances being with that person at court on the day they are required to attend. Many of those supported by VCAS through this service advised they may have disengaged with the process had they not had this support available to them. 98.0% of victims reported they were better able to engage in the court process following the support provided

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE FUNDING

During the first quarter, my Office has continued to receive funding from the Ministry of Justice and welcomed the longer three-year commitment; this enables us to better secure and develop services for victims of crime going forward.

SAFER STREETS



The Police and Crime Commissioner's Office has secured Safer Streets 5 funding of £1,000,000, split to £465,000 in 2023/24 and £535,000 in 2024/25 which was agreed by the Home Office at the end of August. The project started in October 2023 and further details will be provided in my next quarterly performance report.

Safer Streets 4 was ongoing during the Q2 2023/24 reporting period, and this is the first time the Safer Streets scheme directly tackled ASB in problem areas. My Office is overseeing the referral process, and so I am keeping a close eye on the projects to ensure we are maximising these resources in the target areas.

Ferryhill and Stanley

24 referrals into the Parenting Support Programme.

Peterlee

30 CCTV cameras upgraded

10 additional CCTV cameras installed

2 vehicle access barriers installed to prevent ASB in the area after retail closing times.

2 pedestrian access gates installed to prevent ASB in the area after retail closing times.

2 anti-climb restrictors installed to prevent ASB in the area after retail closing times.

300 locks and alarms for sheds and garages purchased and installed.

20 families supported through a Parenting Support Programme

10 young people supported through a Youth Mentoring Programme

Darlington

11 young people engaging with the Future Pathways Project

71 young people engaging with reparation and bespoke interventions

8 families being supported through a Family Support Programme

CCTV AND SECURITY CONTROL CENTRE

The CCTV and Security Control Centre is based within Darlington Borough Council and provides 24-hour surveillance, providing call handling facilities and a contact point for Darlington Borough Council's Lifeline services which is an out of hours contact point for council services. The Control Centre also acts as a contact point for the town's Shopwatch and Pubwatch radio links allowing for rapid reporting between businesses of any crime or community safety issue.

I have agreed a ten-year contribution of £250,000 towards Darlington CCTV infrastructure costs at £25,000 per year.

During Q2 2023/24 there were 1577 incidents logged which was an increase of 26.5% compared to Q1 2023/24 (1247 incidents) which captured a wide array of incident types as displayed in the below table.

	Quarter 1 2023/24	Quarter 2 2023/24
Potential Incident	200	301
Disturbance	176	187
Vulnerable/Distressed Person	117	156
Missing Person	57	153
ASB	140	140
Shop Theft	117	132
Vehicle Incident	96	116
Assault	82	82
Youth ASB	61	72
Drug Offences	44	47
Other Theft	28	45
Wanted Person	19	38
Criminal Damage	25	22
Sexual Incident	9	21
Burglary	16	20
Alarms	9	18
Drink Driving	28	17
Animal Incident	10	5
Arson/Fire	11	4

Please note: "potential incident" covers logs of concerning situations or behaviour that did not escalate into another incident type, logs where limited details are available and logs of special event monitoring.

CRIMESTOPPERS



Crimestoppers is an independent charity that enables members of the public to speak up and stop crime anonymously. Crimestoppers shares advice on how to protect people from crime so everyone can feel safe. Once a report has been made anonymously to Crimestoppers they then send this on to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to investigate crimes, make arrests and charge people in order to bring them to justice.

In Q2 2023/24, 752 reports to Crimestoppers were sent to Durham Constabulary, a 17.3% increase compared to the same period last year. 17.7% of disseminated reports were converted into a positive outcome during Q2. Crimestoppers receives reports from various different crime types which are then forwarded onto Durham Constabulary.

The table below displays the crime types with the highest increase in reports.

Crime Type	Q1 2023/24	Q2 2023/24	% change (baseline to 23/24)	Direction of travel (from baseline)
Drink & Drug Driving	178	201	12.9%	↑
Vulnerability & Safeguarding	43	53	23.3%	↑
Trading Standards	25	35	40.0%	↑
Drug Trafficking & Supply	309	351	13.6%	↑

HIS MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY & FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (HMICFRS) REPORT

Over the reporting period (July 2023- September 2023) there have been no HMICFRS inspections that the PCC has been asked to respond to.

However, during Q2 2023-24 the following HMICFRS inspection reports were released:

Police Performance: Getting a Grip	7th July 2023	There were 11 recommendations, 3 specific to policing
An Inspection of How Effective Police Forces are in the Deployment of Firearms	11th July 2023	There were 12 recommendations, 7 specific to policing
Homicide Prevention: An Inspection of the Police Contribution to the Prevention of Homicide	11th August 2023	There were 3 recommendations, 2 specific to policing
Race and Policing: A review of the Police Service's Leadership and Governance Arrangements for Race-Related Matters	25th August 2023	There were 4 recommendations, none were specific to policing
Race and Policing: An Inspection of Race Disparity in Police and Criminal Justice Decision-Making	25th August 2023	There were 13 recommendations, 4 specific to policing

An update regarding Durham Constabulary's HMICFRS PEEL 2023-25 Inspection will be provided in the Q3 2023-24 performance report.

The usual HMIC inspection regime for Police Forces for 2021-23 has now concluded (PEEL questions and crime data integrity gradings). A new regime has commenced for 2023-25 and national comparisons will be provided in future performance reports.

MEDIA AND ENGAGEMENT



21

PRESS RELEASES

Press Releases published (1st July to 30th September 2023)

Thirteen press releases distributed to the press and uploaded to the website.

- "Hotspot" policing patrols get underway across Durham as part of a multiagency crackdown on ASB. (5 July)

["Hotspot" policing patrols get underway across Durham as part of a multiagency crackdown on ASB | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)

- PCC's £20,000 investment in CCTV will crackdown on fly-tipping. (7 July)

[PCC's £20,000 investment in CCTV will crackdown on fly-tipping. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)

- PCC celebrates historic anniversary with dedicated law and order supporters. (12 July)
[PCC celebrates historic anniversary with dedicated law and order supporters. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- PCC urges public to remain vigilant to nitrous oxide use to keep young people safe. (18 July)
[PCC urges public to remain vigilant to nitrous oxide use to keep young people safe. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- Young crime-fighters shine in PCC's awards celebration. (19 July)
[Young crime-fighters shine in PCC's awards celebration. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- Safety drills increase vulnerable youngsters' resilience to harm. (20 July)
[Safety drills increase vulnerable youngsters' resilience to harm. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- PCC funds critical counselling service for women prisoners who are survivors of sexual violence or abuse. (25 July)
[PCC funds critical counselling service for women prisoners who are survivors of sexual violence or abuse. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- Durham poised to net up to £1m to tackle public's top priorities. (8 August)
[Durham poised to net up to £1m to tackle public's top priorities. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- PCC funds waiting room revamp to improve court experience for victims and witnesses of crime. (8 August)
[PCC funds waiting room revamp to improve court experience for victims and witnesses of crime. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- Drug crackdown brings closure of 1,300 county lines in 12 months but good work must continue, says PCC. (29 August)
[Drug crackdown brings closure of 1,300 county lines in 12 months but good work must continue, says PCC. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- PCC announces roll-out of life-saving overdose drug to community mentors as UK marks national campaign. (31 August)
[PCC announces roll-out of life-saving overdose drug to community mentors as UK marks national campaign. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- PCC announces preferred candidate for Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary. (5 September)
[PCC announces preferred candidate for Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)
- Rachel Bacon confirmed as next Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary. (25 September)
[Rachel Bacon confirmed as next Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary. | News | Durham Police & Crime Commissioner \(durham-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS



July 2023	August 2023	September 2023
Emergency Services Day (1st July)	Chester le Street Activity Week (8th/9th August)	Wolsingham Show (2nd/3rd September)
Durham County Show (29/30th July)	Sedgefield Show (12th August)	World Suicide Prevention Day (5th September)
	Darlington Pride (12th August)	Shotton Hall Emergency Services Day (9th September)
	Middleton St George Summer Fair (19th August)	Stanhope Show (9th September)
	Weardale Show (26th August)	Egglestone Show (16th September)
	Seaham Fun Day (29th August)	Durham City Market (23rd September)
		Durham University Freshers Fair (27th September)
		Horden Together (29th September)
		Middleton St George Village Expo (30th September)

DECISION RECORDS REPORT



24

COMMISSIONING BOARD DECISIONS

PCC made the below decisions at the Commissioning Board held on 31st July 2023.

The Deputy PCC chaired the July meeting (deputising for the PCC).

The ASB Hot Spot and Immediate Justice (IJ) Projects Home Office funding was discussed as below with the PCC making the decisions listed.

ASB Hot Spot Funding Bids

- Community Peer Mentors: Deputy PCC agreed to £120,000 towards the Community Peer Mentor Coordinators (and a cohort of volunteers) who will work alongside local neighbourhood police teams in the hot spot patrol areas, increasing the visible presence. The Deputy PCC also agreed an additional £43,000 from OPCC commissioning budgets to support the activities.
- Deputy PCC agreed £30,000 for analytical support to help specifically target partner resources to hot spot areas, enabling a more precise response and making most effective use of resources and capabilities.
- Deputy PCC agreed £6,000 per year for three years Special Constabulary transport costs to Hot Spot areas.

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Immediate Justice Funding Proposals:

- County Durham Youth Justice: Deputy PCC agreed £116,116 for a Case Manager, Reparation/Delivery Worker, Health & Wellbeing Worker and their support costs.
- Deputy PCC agreed £30,000 towards the Victim Care & Advice Service (VCAS) restorative intervention activities.
- In addition to the above the Deputy PCC made decisions on the funding proposals listed below.

Supported:

- ANPR Frankland Prison: Deputy PCC has agreed to fund £3,400 for the installation of ANPR near to High Security Prison HMP Frankland.
- Rural Watch Crime Prevention Coordinator: Deputy PCC agreed funding of £37,810.
- DAAC Police Cadets: Deputy PCC agreed funding of £24,857 to support DAAC to run the volunteer Police Cadets in 2023/24.
- DAAC Mini Police Commissioner's Challenge & Operation Trail Blazer: Deputy PCC agreed funding of £72,531.
- Keystone Project (RSACC): Deputy PCC agreed funding of £7,593.
- Bike Safe: Deputy PCC agreed funding of £3,000.
- Victim Care Officer within Road Policing: Deputy PCC agreed funding of £40,387.

PCC made the below decisions at the Commissioning Board held on 20th September 2023.

Title: Commissioning Board Decisions 20th September 2023

The Immediate Justice (IJ) Projects Home Office funding was discussed as below with the PCC making the decisions listed.

Immediate Justice Funding Proposals:

CDYJS Bid 2 ASB Behaviour Improvement Panel Pathway: PCC agreed the funding proposal of £171,269 to cover both 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Immediate Justice CDYJS Bid 1 Health & Wellbeing Worker: PCC agreed the funding proposal of £60,120 to cover both 2023/24 and 2024/25.

Immediate Justice CDYJS Bid 2 Health & Wellbeing Worker: PCC agreed the funding proposal of £60,120 to cover both 2023/24 and 2024/25.

In addition to the above the PCC made decisions on the funding proposals listed below:

Supported:

Prevention Messages: PCC asked for the Victims Voice to be added to all press messages reporting ASB prevention and signposting. There is £29,930 funding for this activity included in the Home Office Safer Streets 5 ASB prevention project for the signposting messages in the local press.

DASVEG Report on Multi Agency Risk Assessment (MARAC) Funding: PCC agreed in principle to an extra £10,000 funding to enable other partners to agree extra contributions to fund the MARAC service in 2024/25, agreeing to commit the funding once clarity has been given from other partners.

Darlington Taxi Marshalls: PCC agreed £10,000 funding to sustain the service to the end of the Christmas holidays.

PCC made decision to propose Rachel Bacon to the Police and Crime Panel (the Panel) for appointment as Chief Constable to Durham Constabulary.

- The PCC completed the comprehensive process for selecting her preferred candidate for appointment as Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary.
- The PCC has selected Rachel Bacon.
- In accordance with the Policing Protocol Order 2011, the PCC has asked the Police and Crime Panel to consider and report to her about the proposed appointment of Mrs Bacon at a hearing on 21st September 2023.
- The Commissioner's reasons for this decision were set out in her report to the Panel.
- The Panel responded to the proposed appointment of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary on 25th September 2023, recommending approval of the PCC's proposed appointment of Rachel Bacon and wished Rachel well in her new role of Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary.





Keeping Darlington Safe
DARLINGTON

This Help Point puts you in touch with Darlington's CCTV control room when you need assistance

THIS IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY

ONCE BUTTON ACTIVATED YOU WILL BE RECORDED. Inappropriate use could lead to prosecution





Durham Police and Crime Commissioner's Office

Police Headquarters, Aykley Heads
Durham DH1 5TT

Call: 0191 375 2001

Email: general.enquiries@durham-pcc.gov.uk




[@durham_pcc](https://www.instagram.com/durham_pcc)

[Durham Police and Crime Commissioner](https://www.facebook.com/DurhamPoliceandCrimeCommissioner)



Durham Police and Crime Panel

14 December 2023

Complaints Update

Report of Helen Bradley, 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 21 September 2023. At that time, there was one complaint, which was being considered in accordance with the Complaints Procedure. That complaint will be considered by the Panel at its meeting on 14 December 2023.
11. One complaint was received in October 2023 from a member of the public seeking to escalate a complaint relating to operational policing matters. The complaint had been considered by the professional standards department and the office of the PCC in 2021. The complainant did not realise that she could also make a complaint to the Panel, which is why it took almost two years for the complaint to be made to the Panel. The issues that the complainant raised and the outcomes sought all relate to operational policing matters and as such fall outside of the remit of the Panel. In accordance with the Procedure, the Clerk consulted with the Chair and Vice-Chair before advising the complainant that no further action would be taken in relation to the complaint.

12. In November 2023, the Chair received an email from a member of the public requesting a meeting to discuss concerns he had relating to the handling of complaints by Durham Constabulary and the IOPC. The Clerk responded to him on behalf of the Chair explaining the remit of the Panel's role in relation to complaints and provided a copy of the Procedure.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Helen Bradley

Tel: 03000 269 732

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.



Durham Police and Crime Panel

14 December 2023

Police and Crime Panel Work Programme 2023/24

Report of Helen Bradley, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present the Durham Police and Crime Panel work programme for 2023/24 for discussion. Members are asked to consider the priority of items on the programme for the remainder of 2023/24.

Executive summary

- 2 The Panel's work programme for 2023/24 was agreed by the Panel in June 2023. It is developed in accordance with the panel's arrangements and requirements within the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Recommendation

- 3 The Police and Crime Panel are asked to
 - (a) Consider the Durham Police and Crime Panel work programme 2023/24 and agree the priority of items for the remainder of the year.

Background

- 4 The Panel's rules of procedure state that the PCP will be responsible for setting its own work programme taking into account the priorities defined by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) within the context of the Police and Crime Plan and Annual Report. The work programme must also include the functions described in the terms of reference for the panel.
- 5 The work programme enables the PCP to plan and focus on how it will effectively provide challenge to the PCC and deliver its responsibilities within the context of the terms of reference and rules of procedure namely:
 - (a) Review and comment on the draft Police and Crime Plan and Precept
 - (b) Reviewing the PCC's Annual Report
 - (c) Holding confirmation hearings following a proposed appointment by the PCC to the posts of Chief Constable, Deputy PCC, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance Officer within the Commissioner's Office.
- 6 In addition, the Panel's meetings consider the Police and Crime Commissioner's quarterly performance report for 2023/24 onwards.
- 7 The Panel can also establish sub committees and task groups to undertake specific task based work on issues it deems necessary in line with its remit.
- 8 The work programme is flexible to accommodate additional items throughout the year. It is necessary to balance this flexibility with the impact on capacity preparing for reports in the current work programme and length of agendas/meetings. It is timely to consider the prioritising of items in the work programme for the remainder of the year.
- 9 Appendix 2 sets out the current work programme with items highlighted that have been added.

Main implications

Crime & Disorder

- 10 Activity within the Panel's work programme aims to contribute to reducing crime and disorder within County Durham & Darlington.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Contact: Clare Luery

Tel: 03000 265 978

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

The Panel's work programme is to be delivered in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

Finance

The Panel's work programme includes precept consultation and consideration of the PCC's precept.

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.

Durham PCP Work Programme 2023/24

Date & Time	Work Programme
Fri 23 June 2023 10.00am CR 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel AGM – Appoint Chair/Vice Chair • Problem Orientated Policing presentation • Joint Audit Committee Annual report 2022/23 • Quarterly performance report Q4 2022/23 • Complaints Report • PCP Annual report and work programme
Thurs 21 Sept 2023 1.30pm CR 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Annual Report 2022/23 • Quarterly Performance Report Q1 2023/24 • Missing People and Protecting the Vulnerable • ICCSA – Force progress following HMICFRS recommendations • Investigative Hub update • Complaints report
Thurs 14 Dec 2023 1:00pm CR 1 Town Hall Darlington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly performance report Q2 2023/24 • Complaints report
Thurs 1 Feb 2024 10.00 am CR 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police, Crime and Commissioner’s proposed precept for 2024/25 • Victims Champions annual update • National Association of Police Fire and Crime Panels annual report 2023 • Complaints report • TV Mast update (member request item) • External scrutiny review (deferred item) • HMIC report (new item)
Fri 22 March 2024 10.00 am CR 2 County Hall Durham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly performance report 2023/24 Q3 • Vetting process update • Acceptable Policing Behaviours and Standards update • Complaints report

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