



## Police and Crime Panel

**Date** Tuesday 28 October 2014  
**Time** 1.00 pm  
**Venue** Endeavour Room, Police Headquarters - Aykley Heads,  
Durham

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### 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. Minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2014 (Pages 1 - 6)
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Substitute Members
4. Declarations of interest, if any
5. WOW Awards - Presentation by Gary Ridley, Assistant Chief Officer, Durham Constabulary
6. Violence Against Women and Girls - 'One Year On' - Presentation by Sweety Sahani (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) and Helen Murphy (Durham Constabulary)
7. Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017 - Report of Durham Police and Crime Commissioner (Pages 7 - 18)
8. Budget Monitoring: Actual to 30 September 2014 and Outturn to 31 March 2015 - Report of PCC Chief Finance Officer (Pages 19 - 28)

9. Task and Finish Group Activity - Work Programme Development - Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Pages 29 - 34)
10. HMIC Inspection Feedback - Report of PCC Chief Finance Officer (Pages 35 - 40)
11. Such other business, as in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration
12. 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)**

13. Appointment of Independent Co-opted Members - Report of Monitoring Officer (Pages 41 - 44)
14. Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 - Report of Monitoring Officer (Pages 45 - 62)
15. Such other business as. in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration

**Colette Longbottom**  
Monitoring Officer

County Hall  
Durham  
20 October 2014

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

**Durham County Council**

Councillors L Hovvels (Chair), J Armstrong, D Boyes, P Brookes, S Forster, D Stoker and A Willis

**Darlington Borough Council**

Councillors S Harker, I Haszeldine, B Jones (Vice-Chair) and Scott

**Independent Co-opted Members**

K Larkin-Bramley and N Vaultks

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**Contact: Ian Croft**

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**DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of the **Police and Crime Panel** held in Committee Room 1A, County Hall, Durham on **Tuesday 24 June 2014 at 10.00 am**

**Present:**

**Durham County Council:**

Councillors D Boyes, P Brookes, S Forster, L Hovvels, D Stoker, P Stradling and A Willis

**Darlington Borough Council:**

Councillors S Harker and B Jones

**Independent Co-opted Members:**

N Vaulks

**1 Election of Chairman**

**Moved** by Councillor Boyes, **Seconded** by Councillor Stradling and

**Resolved:**

That Councillor L Hovvels be elected Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing year.

**Councillor L Hovvels** in the Chair

**2 Election of Vice-Chairman**

**Moved** by Councillor Boyes, **Seconded** by Councillor Stradling and

**Resolved:**

That Councillor B Jones be elected Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the ensuing year.

**3 Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J Armstrong.

**4 Substitute Members**

Councillor P Stradling as substitute member for Councillor J Armstrong.

## **5 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 3 March and 22 April 2014 were confirmed by the Panel as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **6 Declarations of interest**

Mr N Vaulks declared an interest in Agenda Item No. 12 and left the meeting during discussion of the Item.

## **7 Durham Police and Crime Commissioner Annual Report 2013-2014**

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which contained the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2013-14 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Prior to presenting the Annual Report Mr R Hogg, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), informed the Panel of an overnight incident which had been referred to the IPCC.

The PCC, in presenting his Annual Report, informed the Panel that he had worked to produce the report in a visual and shortened format. The PCC highlighted the following areas of the Annual Report to the Panel:

- Performance of the force during 2013-14
- Progress towards the achievement of the PCC's priorities as follows:
  - To reduce the impact of domestic abuse, particularly violence against women and girls
  - To reduce the impact of hate crime
  - To improve engagement with the local communities across the constabulary area
  - To tackle anti-social behaviour
  - To tackle harm caused to individuals and communities by alcohol and drugs
  - To improve road safety
  - To make policing services visible and accessible at all times.
- Finance and resources

Councillor Boyes praised the priorities of improving engagement in communities and also making policing services visible and asked what role the Panel had played in influencing these policies. The PCC replied that his priorities were set following community consultation and it was not the role of the Panel to influence such priorities. However, the views of the Panel were considered, along with all other feedback received, when the PCC set priorities for the forthcoming year. Councillor Boyes then referred to the lack of any reference in the Annual Report to organised crime. The PCC replied that the Plan would be amended to make reference to this. Councillor Hovvells suggested that it may be useful to explain the scrutiny role of the Panel in the Annual Report. The PCC replied that it had not been an omission to

not mention the Panel in his Annual Report, but this was the Commissioner's report, and the Commissioner then reported to the Panel.

Councillor Stoker referred to a recent University meeting, formerly a University Liaison Group, at which tensions between Durham City residents and students weighed heavily on the agenda. He asked whether it would be appropriate for the PCC to chair such bodies in a mediator role in other parts of the County. The PCC replied that he had roles around community safety and the health of communities and added that he would discuss the matter with Councillor Stoker following the meeting.

Councillor Brookes referred to page 11 of the Annual report and the reference to cyclists using footpaths. He suggested that should be balanced by reference being made to intimidation experienced by cyclists from motorists, The PCC agreed that this could be amended to reflect the point made.

Councillor Hovvells referred to alcohol licensing and outlets for alcohol. A change was needed at national level to grant local authorities and the police greater powers to combat anti-social behaviour caused by alcohol consumption. The PCC replied that local authorities and the police had no powers to refuse alcohol licences unless there was a likelihood of disorder being caused. The forces Alcohol Harm Reduction Unit took a proactive role in addressing alcohol-related problems and the APCC were pushing for changes to the powers of local authorities and the police to deal with such issues.

## **8 Hate Crime**

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive and received a presentation from Ch Supt Graham Hall on the approach taken by Durham Constabulary to tackle Hate Crime (for report and presentation slides see file of Minutes).

Councillor Brookes referred to the presentation and asked how the force dealt with both on-line hate crime and the approach to hate generated in the media. Ch Supt Hall replied that cyber hate crime was the greatest challenge for young people and could have a devastating effect. The force participated in a multi-agency community carousel which, among other things, raised the awareness of the harm which could be done by cyber-crime, and it was aimed to take this to a wider age group, and youth engagement officers worked within partnerships. Ch Supt Hall added that the force dealt with cyber-crime robustly. Referring to the media, Ch Supt Hall informed the Panel that it was important to deal with adverse publicity in a direct manner, both through electronic media and the press.

Councillor Hovvells referred to the gypsy traveller community, which had been not been mentioned in the presentation. Ch Supt Hall replied that this was large and challenging area and as such was dealt with separately. There was a need to engage with the gypsy traveller community as well as to address educational and accommodation issues. County Durham and Darlington both had excellent groups which addressed gypsy traveller community's issues.

The Police and Crime Commissioner informed the Panel that 50% of police work now involved some aspect of social media. The Commissioner's Office had run a cyber-bullying awareness competition and worked with Investors in Children around this issue.

## **9 Police and Crime Panel Work Programme 2014-15**

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which sought agreement to the Panel's Work Programme for 2014/15 (for copy see file of Minutes).

### **Resolved:**

That the Work Programme for 2014/15 be approved.

## **10 Protocol for Section 38 of the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011**

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which presented a revised protocol between the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners and the Chief Police Officers' Staff Association for Section 38 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (for copy see file of Minutes).

### **Resolved:**

That the national protocol at Appendix 3 to the report be included as an addendum to the existing Durham Protocol on Section 38 responsibilities of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

## **11 Home Affairs Committee Report - Police and Crime Commissioners : Progress to Date**

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided information on the Home Affairs Committee report '*Police and Crime Commissioners: progress to date*' (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor Boyes welcomed the recommendation in the report that the PCC publish a forward plan of key decisions which would then allow the Panel to scrutinise these decisions.

The PCC replied that in general terms, the report was seeking how best to engage the skills of PCP Members, and how to maximise its scrutiny powers without usurping the decision powers of the PCC.

Councillor Hovvells suggested that a Task and Finish Group be established to consider the future role of the Panel in light of the Home Affairs Committee report.

Mr Vaulks informed the Panel that it was the Members role to be open, constructive and critical and that the Commissioner had indicated his willingness to work with



the Panel. This was a constructive approach by the Panel and PCC, both of which were in relatively early days of existence.

Councillor Boyes welcomed the response given by the PCC. Some PCPs were more pro-active than others, in a 'select committee' type of role. There was a need for the Panel to be more pro-active in both the Policing Plan and forward decisions, and Councillor Boyes agreed that a Task and Finish Group be established to further consider this.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted and a Task and Finish Group be established to develop the Panel's Work Programme and consider future roles of the Panel.

## **12 Appointment of Independent Co-opted Members**

The Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer regarding the selection criteria for the appointment of the two independent co-opted Members to the Panel, the advertising arrangements and the membership of the appointment Panel (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Panel noted that the terms of office for the current independent co-opted Members ended on 31 October 2014, and discussed what the term of office for the independent members should be thereafter. The Panel agreed that the term of office for the co-opted Members should follow the cycle of elections for the Constituent Authorities. This would result in a term of office of three years for the next appointment, and a term of four years for subsequent appointments.

**Resolved:**

- i) That the selection criteria for advertising the positions of the two independent members be agreed.
- ii) That the advertising arrangements be agreed
- iii) That the length of term of office be three years from 1 November 2014 until 30 April 2017.
- iv) That the appointment Panel be made up of 5 members of the Police and Crime Panel with at least one representative from each of the constituent authorities.

## **13 Exclusion of the Public**

**Resolved:**

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under paragraphs 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

## **14 HMIC Inspection Feedback**

The Panel considered a report of the Assistant Chief Officer which provided feedback from the latest Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies Inspections of the Force and also outlined information in respect of civil contingencies preparations as part of the Strategic Policing Requirement (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

29 OCTOBER 2014

Police and Crime Panel

Police and Crime Plan 2013-2017

Report of the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner



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## Background

1. The Panel will recall that at their meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 they considered the draft of my refreshed Police and Crime Plan for 2014-2017. Support was given both to my personal priorities and to the community priorities along with the inclusion of mental health and integrated offender management as key areas.
2. Since the launch of my plan I have held regular monthly meetings with the Chief Constable and his Executive team, to hold him to account for the delivery of my policing priorities. I am looking to replace the current performance on a page document to strengthen the process by enabling me to present the key performance information along with context which will give added value to the data presented. The revision of the system will include updates for both this panel and for the public.

## Current Position

3. I have not yet finalised the revisions to the accountability process. Therefore I have attached a working document (appendix A) to this report which is a hybrid document between the old style of Plan on a Page and the new style document which is being developed.
4. In addition to monitoring force performance I have also been working with a range of partners to take forward actions on all of my priorities and the following is a brief synopsis of current activity.

### **A Reducing the impact of domestic abuse, particularly violence against women and girls**

- In February we held another successful Domestic Abuse Seminar in partnership with our constabulary colleagues and both the Darlington Community Safety Partnership and the Safe Durham Partnership.
- In November last year I launched the regional Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy along with my Northumbria and Cleveland counterparts. Moving forward we will be celebrating the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the strategy in December. Further details of progress against the VAWG Strategy is being presented to panel members as a separate agenda item at this meeting.

- I have supported the 'Loves me, loves me not' campaign which was launched by the Soroptimists International of Darlington and District, and the 'Love is many things' campaign with partners. Both campaigns were about the ways of recognising the signs of unacceptable behaviour in a relationship, whether it straight, bisexual, lesbian or gay.
- We have been successful in securing external funding from the Ministry of Justices' competed fund for provision of victim services, including provision of a video link between the Court and the SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) and for RSACC (Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre) for a Development Worker and Counsellors.

## **B Reducing the impact of hate crime**

- To focus and coordinate approaches to tackle hate crime I have facilitated the development of a joint Hate Crime Group across County Durham and Darlington and they have now produced a joint Hate Crime Strategy and Action Plan.
- I hosted another successful Hate Crime Seminar in April which was very well attended, and received positive feedback. It showcased the Hate Crime Resource Pack, the Safe Places Scheme and the launch of Community Hands.
- I am working with my counterpart in Cleveland to undertake a piece of joint work to look at how the police and other criminal justice agencies deal with incidents of this nature and what actions could be taken to improve the victims journey through the criminal justice system.

## **C Improving engagement with local communities**

- I am in the process of developing an extensive consultation as part of the refresh of the Police and Crime Plan for 2015-17. The consultation will seek the views of the public on my proposed objectives and plan for 2015 onwards.
- I formally met with my Community Panels in January this year with a view to meeting them again in the autumn, however to maximise resources this will be delayed until the end of the year to coincide with my public consultation on the refresh of my Police and Crime Plan for 2015-17.
- Throughout the year I have utilised a variety of engagement mechanisms ranging from newsletters, face to face meetings, social media and online forums.
- I have attended a wide range of community/public meetings and events, including the Your Police, Your Say meetings prior to Council meetings, street surgeries, MP surgeries, PACT (Police and Communities Together) meetings, Town and Parish meetings, Area Action Partnerships etc.

- I have attended meetings/ events across the county from St John's Chapel in the west, to Easington and Seaham in the east, to Hurworth and Barnard Castle in the South, to Stanley and Consett in the north. I have mapped all of my activity on a large map and In order to maximise coverage and exposure I am planning all of my future engagement activity and prioritising attendance at meetings in areas where I have not yet visited.
- I have met formally with the Voluntary and Community Sector to explain my role and how we can work together as we move forward in the future. I am planning a series of meetings with the sector to seek their views on my objectives and plan for 2015 onwards and to discuss my commissioning strategy and funding opportunities.
- I am strengthening links with young people and I am in the process of developing a Young Peoples Community Panel which will formally launch early in 2015. I have also taken part in a 'Question Time' event with young people and the Member of Youth Parliament in Darlington as part of Local Democracy Week.
- I am reassured that the Constabulary are striving to increase public confidence and they have introduced several new initiatives including 'opportunity knocks' and 'park, walk and talk' which sees officers actively engaging with the public.
- I have also fully supported the mutual gain projects which the constabulary have been working on throughout this year. The projects bring together the constabulary, key partners and most importantly the local community to work together and rebuild social capital and regain the community strength. I look forward to seeing how the lessons learnt from these projects are rolled out throughout the force area.

#### **D Tackling anti social behaviour**

- Overall anti-social behaviour figures are stabilising after a long-term downward trend.
- I have lead the consultation on Community Remedy which I am required to produce in accordance with the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill. Community Remedy provides an opportunity for victims to require the offender to do something to make up for their offending. I have agreed a list of community resolutions (actions) with the Chief Constable from which the victim can pick from. The consultation is now complete, briefing sessions have been delivered and it will available to victims from the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

#### **E Tackling harm caused to individuals and communities by alcohol and drugs**

- I continue to support the call for minimum unit pricing as a tool to tackle the harm caused by alcohol.
- I have welcomed the introduction of Operation ARIES by the Constabulary and partners to address the issue of underage drinking across the county.

- Linked to the Alcohol agenda I endorse and appreciate the work which the Constabulary are developing with Durham University and partners to raise awareness of personal safety following the recent river death tragedies that we have experienced.
- I am talking to other regional PCCs regarding funding support to Balance North East. Members may be aware that Balance was launched in 2009 following commitments made in the Regional Health and Wellbeing Strategy, “Better Health, Fairer Health”. The organisation supports partners across the region by educating and informing stakeholders and the public of the impact of alcohol misuse and the best ways to tackle it, sharing best practice and lobbying for changes in legislation.
- I am a firm supporter of health-based recovery for people addicted to drugs. I feel that treating them as criminals is inhumane and counter-productive. Not only does the current UK drug policy isolate and persecute those with the illness of addiction, but it also creates a system where organised crime groups can make huge profits. Therefore I am pressing forward with my drive on the debate on the future of drug policy. In November 2014 I am hosting a drug symposium which will pull together key professionals and academics to debate this issue.
- I recognise that all drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, can be harmful. I am not calling for the full legalisation of controlled drugs; dealing drugs should still be illegal. Instead, I believe that personal possession should no longer be treated as a criminal offence. The harms of drugs are increased when addicts, who have a health problem, are treated as criminals, creating a cycle from which there is little chance of escape. We must continue to target organised crime groups, and criminal acts perpetrated by drug users. But by getting addicts into treatment and off drugs, thereby reducing demand, the fuel for organised crime groups will be cut off. The evidence of half a century of the war on drugs shows it has failed. The evidence of fresh approaches abroad and at home offers clear support to my views. But, above all, I want a sensible debate about the issues.

## **F. Improving Road Safety**

- In order to address the concerns of residents in relation to speeding I have attended several community speedwatch operations and I have provided funding to each of the neighbourhood teams within the Constabulary for speed laser guns to ensure that concerns can be addressed swiftly.
- In response to concerns raised in a public meeting in Newton Aycliffe last year regarding parking issues outside of schools I have worked alongside the schools, Constabulary and other delivery partners and we held a very successful road safety action week, which proactively involved the school children. Due to the success of the action week, I am hoping to have similar initiatives rolled out across the force area which will be linked to national road safety week, later in year.

- Also in response to public concern and linked to road safety surrounding schools I have been liaising with Durham County Council in relation to the implementation of 20mph zones and limits.

#### **G. Making police services visible and accessible at all times**

- I remain fully committed to neighbourhood policing and plan to ensure that we remain visible within neighbourhoods. I am closely monitoring the impact of reducing officer numbers to ensure that this does not adversely impact upon visibility and accessibility.
  - I am fully supportive of the police in the promotion of the Special Constabulary and increasing the number of police volunteers.
  - I am seeking every opportunity to make savings in non-pay budget areas
5. I am also involved in a number of initiatives and links not directly identifiable with my policing priorities, including mental health, reducing reoffending, rural and wildlife crime, the transformation of rehabilitation agenda, stop and search, professional standards complaints and integrity monitoring and the collaboration agenda.
6. We have been successful with bids for a Victim Suite in south east Durham and for a project to look at the support for victims with mental health problems as part of the external funding secured from the Ministry of Justice Competed Fund.

#### **Conclusion**

6. I will endeavour to answer any questions members may have regarding progress in the achievement of my policing priorities.

Ron Hogg  
**Police and Crime Commissioner for Durham**

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Police and Crime Commissioner Performance Update to end of September 2014

**Police and Crime Plan Primary Measures**

Crime	12 months to end of September 2012	12 Months to end of September 2013	Difference	% Difference	12 Months to end of September 2014	Difference	% Difference
Victim based crime	28,702	27,443	-1,259	-4.4%	29,081*	1,638	6%

\*excluding the victims of Medomsley.

We are experiencing increases in crime in areas such as shop lifting. Specific detailed analysis is being undertaken by the Constabulary to better understand who, how and why this crime type is increasing. Our initial conclusions on this increase are that due to the continued period of austerity and changes to the benefit system etc this is impacting upon us, we are finding that people are 'steeling' to live rather than for profit, etc.

Overall we are hoping to see current performance maintained at year end. Current trajectory predictions are indicating a small increase, however this includes the Medomsley Case which despite being historic it is recorded within figures for the year that it was reported in. Therefore despite the continued period of austerity and the Medomsley Case I am assured that the Constabulary are continuing to tackle crime and feel that the projected increase is fair due to the current climate. Please be reassured that I will be closely monitoring performance on this as we move forward.

Public Confidence	12 months to end of March 2013	12 months to end of March 2014	Difference
'taking everything into account I have confidence in the police' (CSEW)	72 %	76%	4 %
% of people who think the police do a good job (CSEW)	60 %	60%	-
	4 Months to end of July 2013*	3 Months to end of June 2014*	Difference
'taking everything into account I have confidence in the police' (local survey)	72 %	77%	5%
% of people who think the police do a good job (local survey)	60 %	72%	12%

*\*You will note that the time periods for the local survey indicators above are not fully comparable, as we are comparing slightly different time periods, however this is the only data that we have available to us at this time. This is due to the time it takes to send out the survey information, have it returned to us and for the data to be processed and validated. CSEW= Crime Survey for England and Wales.*

My vision for Co Durham and Darlington is **'to achieve excellence in local policing and the highest levels of public confidence by working alongside partners to address matters locally'**. The Constabulary have been focusing on increasing confidence and as you can see from the table above we are seeing good increases. I am satisfied that the confidence delivery plans which targets activity within the three strands of Community Engagement, Police Effectiveness and Service behaviour are now coming to fruition. I am delighted with the success that the Constabulary are seeing with their Park, Walk and Talk, Opportunity Knocks and Mutual Gain initiatives.

<b>Victim Satisfaction</b>	The number of victims who stated they were satisfied with the:				<b>12 Months to end of June 2013</b>	<b>12 Months to end of June 2014</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Whole Experience (Local Survey)					89.0%	89%	-
Case of Contact (Local Survey)					96.0%	97%	1%
Arrival time (Local Survey)					89.0%	88%	-1%
Actions taken (Local Survey)					88.0%	89%	1%
Follow Up (Local Survey)					83.0%	84%	1%
Treatment (Local Survey)					96.0%	96%	-

I am extremely pleased with the consistent satisfaction rates which the Constabulary is achieving in relation to victims of crime and that we remain as one of the best in the country for performance with victims of crime with top quartile results. I believe that the victim is at the heart of Durham Constabulary and the figures above demonstrate this.

### Overall Crime

<b>Crime Type</b>	<b>12 months to end of September 2012</b>	<b>12 Months to end of September 2013</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>% Difference</b>	<b>12 Months to end of September 2014</b>		<b>% Difference</b>
					<b>12 Months to end of September 2014</b>	<b>Difference</b>	
All Crime*	32,551	30,833	-1,718	-5.3%	32,616	1,783	5.8%
Victim based crime*	28,702	27,443	-1,259	-4.4%	29,081	1,638	6%
Violence Against the person	4,659	4,430	-229	-5.1%	6,046	1,616	36.4%
Sexual Offences**	378	561	183	32.6%	960	573	102.1%
Burglary	4,504	4,104	-400	-8.9%	4075	-29	-0.7%
Vehicle Crime (Inc. arson)	3,536	3,425	-111	-3.1%	3,055	-370	-10.8%
Criminal Damage	7,460	6,766	-694	-9.3%	6,834	68	1%
Metal Theft	2,044	1,344	-700	-52.1%	1,112	-232	-17.2%
<b>Outcome rates</b>	<b>12 Months to end of September 2013</b>		<b>12 Months to end of September 2014</b>		<b>Difference</b>		<b>Difference</b>
All Crime Outcome Rate*		36%		45%			9%
Victim based crime Outcome Rate*		29%		40%			11%
Violence Against the person Outcome Rate		61.4%		61.3%			-0.1%
Sexual Offences Outcome Rate**		26.7%		38.4%			11.7%
Burglary Outcome Rate		14%		20%			6%
Burglary Dwelling Outcome Rate		23%		30%			7%
Vehicle Crime (Inc. arson) Outcome Rate		16%		22%			6%
Criminal Damage Outcome Rate		19%		29%			10%
Metal Theft Outcome Rate		11%		10.3%			-0.7%

\*Excludes Medomsley \*\* Includes Medomsley

You may notice that the figures for Violence against a person above are showing increases, this is nothing to be alarmed by and I have received reassurances that this is due to improved recording of such offences, rather than a particular issue within the crime type.

**To reduce the impact of domestic abuse, particularly violence against women and girls**

Whilst we would like to provide more details on our performance in relation to Domestic Abuse we are currently in the process of ensuring that we report the correct things to you to ensure that what you receive is meaningful and accurate.

Although I don't have any specific figures to report to you on this priority at this time I would like to raise attention to the HMIC national report 'Everyone's business: Improving the police response to domestic abuse' published in March 2014 which commended Durham as one of only eight forces across the Country who were doing a good job in this area. HMIC quote: *"The communities of County Durham and Darlington can have confidence that the police provide a good service to victims of domestic abuse and help keep them safe. Tackling domestic abuse is a priority for the force and staff demonstrated a high level of commitment and awareness, they exercised appropriate discretion and worked well with partners. "HMIC found that there is a strong focus on victim care and safety at each stage in the process. There are many positive examples of good practice that the force has developed and there are sound and robust processes in place to help to keep victims safe. However, this report outlines a number of areas where force could further strengthen its response."*

**Hate Crime**

Crime Type	12 Months to end of September 2013	12 Months to end of September 2014	Difference	% Difference
Racially Aggravated Crime	172	165	-7	-4%
Racially Aggravated Crime Outcome Rate	60%	55%	-	-5%

Hate crime continues to be a priority for both myself and the constabulary. I am pleased to see the partnership working developing between my office, the constabulary and partners to tackle this issue.

## To improve engagement with local communities across the force area

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Crime Type	4 Months to end of July 2013*	3 months to end of June 2014*	Difference
% of people who are aware that the police hold regular public meetings (PACT) to discuss with members of the public the issues the police should deal with (local survey)	60.6%	56 %	-4.6%
% of people who agree that they are fairly well informed about what the police have been doing in the last 12 months (local survey)	34.9%	46%	11.1%

*\*You will note that the time periods for the local survey indicators above are not fully comparable, as we are comparing slightly different time periods, however this is the only data that we have available to us at this time. This is due to the time it takes to send out the survey information, have it returned to us and for the data to be processed and validated.*

Whilst there has been a dip in performance in relation to PACT meetings, as mentioned in the main report and in the confidence section above the Constabulary utilise many engagement techniques in addition to PACT. Park Walk and Talk, Opportunity Knocks and Mutual Gain are all currently being used and feedback being measured and evaluated and initial indications are that these methods are working well and I hope to report further details of the evaluations to you in the future.

## Anti-social Behaviour

Crime Type	12 months to end of September 2012	12 Months to end of September 2013	Difference	% Difference	12 Months to end of September 2014	Difference	% Difference
Anti-social Behaviour	34,042	31,008	-3,034	-8.9%	29,164	-1,844	-5.9%
Alcohol related incidents	18,674	20,158	1,484	7.9%	21,063	905	4.4%
Alcohol related anti-social behaviour	5,040	4,624	-416	-8.3%	4,190	-434	-9.3%

	12 Months to end of March 2013	12 Months to end of March 2014	Difference
% of people who agree that 'the police and local council are dealing with ASB and crime issues that matter in this community' CSEW	59.0%	60%	1%
	4 Months to end of July 2013*	3 months to end of June 2014*	Difference
% of people who agree that 'the police and local council are dealing with ASB and crime issues that matter in this community' Local Survey	65.4%	66%	0.6%

*\*You will note that the time periods for the local survey indicators above are not fully comparable, as we are comparing slightly different time periods, however this is the only data that we have available to us at this time. This is due to the time it takes to send out the survey information, have it returned to us and for the data to be processed and validated. CSEW= Crime Survey for England and Wales.*

Anti-social behaviour incidents are generally falling, and however despite these reductions anti-social behaviour remains a concern within our communities. I am reassured that the Constabulary are committed to maintaining this good performance and working in partnership with the communities and other agencies to address the issues.

### To tackle the harm caused to individuals and communities by alcohol and drugs

Crime Type	12 Months to end of September 2013	12 Months to end of September 2014	Difference
Alcohol related incidents (% change)	7.9%	4.4%	3.5%
Drug offences	1250	1,506	256
Drug offences outcome rate	96.6%	97%	0.4%
Local Survey Indicator	Rolling 4 months to July 2013*	Rolling 4 months to June 2014*	Difference
% of people who think people drinking and causing a nuisance is a problem (local Survey)	36 %	36%	

*\*You will note that the time periods for the local survey indicators above are not fully comparable, as we are comparing slightly different time periods, however this is the only data that we have available to us at this time. This is due to the time it takes to send out the survey information, have it returned to us and for the data to be processed and validated.*

The data above on drugs is not of concern to me as it is excellent to see such good outcome rates; however this is due to the excellent targeted activity operations which the constabulary undertake.

It is reassuring to see consistent levels of perception in relation to alcohol from the local survey data, this is reassuring that the police are tackling issues in relation to alcohol.

### To improve road safety

Local Survey Indicator	Rolling 4 months to July 2013*	Rolling 3 months to June 2014*	Difference
No of people who think that parking is a problem (Local Survey)	44.2%	47%	2.8%
% of People who think that dangerous driving is a problem Local Survey)	44.0%	49%	5%
% of people who think that speeding vehicles are a problem Local Survey)	61.4%	67%	5.6%
Indicator	12 Months to end of August 2013	12 Months to end of August 2014	Difference
No of road traffic collisions where person(s) killed or seriously injured (and as a percentage of Road Traffic Collisions)	219 19%	204 16%	-15 -3%
No of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions (and as a percentage of all casualties of road traffic collisions)	238 14%	239 12%	1 -2%

*\*You will note that the time periods for the local survey indicators above are not fully comparable, as we are comparing slightly different time periods, however this is the only data that we have available to us at this time. This is due to the time it takes to send out the survey information, have it returned to us and for the data to be processed and validated.*

Road safety remains a concern of residents within Co Durham and Darlington, and as you can see from the figures above that people think that parking, dangerous driving and speeding are a problem and that the figures have all increased therefore we need to provide reassurance to the public that we are tackling this issue. I have provided funding to each of the neighbourhood beat teams for mobile hand held speed cameras so that they can address local concerns swiftly. In addition we have planned activities for Road Safety Week and beyond for tackling these issues.

	At July 2013		Current Figure - August 2014		Difference
	Budgeted	Strength	Budgeted	Strength	
Police Officer budgeted/ actual posts	1353.98	1338.54	1291.78	1249.39	-2.20%
Police Staff budgeted/ actual posts (inc PCSO)	970.07	912.21	1025.53	954.36	-0.90%
Special Constabulary budgeted/ actual posts	200	76	200	90	7%

	As at 18 June 2013	As at February 2013	Difference
<b>Volunteers</b>			
No. of Active Volunteers	186	204	18
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>		At April 2014	Difference
No of Neighbourhood Watch schemes	3281	3593	312
No of Neighbourhood Watch - households covered by schemes	87,246	89,221	1975
% of households covered by Neighbourhood Watch	32.4%	33.0%	0.6%

I am always encouraged by the increasing number of volunteers we have within the constabulary and wider community who do so much to help others and keep our community safe.

	At July 2013	at August 2014	Difference
<b>All staff sickness</b> (hrs per person)	55.9	23.32	-32.58
<b>Police Officer Sickness</b> (hrs per person)	66.5	25.73	-40.77
<b>Police staff sickness</b> (hrs per person)	39.9	20.91	-18.99

I am pleased to see that the sickness rates within the constabulary are reducing which assures me that the strategies the Constabulary are deploying to address this issue are being effective.

**Police and Crime Panel****28<sup>th</sup> October 2014****Budget Monitoring: Actual to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and  
Outturn to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015****Report of PCC Chief Finance Officer****Purpose**

The purpose of the report is to outline the performance of the 2014/15 revenue and capital budgets as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and provide a forecast outturn to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

**Context**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014, the Police and Crime Panel considered the Precept Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Panel agreed to the draft budget for 2014/15, which incorporated a rise in precept of 2%.

**Background**

2014/15 is the fourth year of the government's austerity programme and it is widely expected that austerity will now last until 2020. This has significant implications for the forces' financial position in terms of:

- **Risk:** Austerity brings with it risks such as rising service demand. Rising demand can mean rising or unexpected costs which requires a prudent financial planning process so as to offer a degree of flexibility should cost pressures emerge during the year. Clearly, too much flexibility can be seen as poor planning, but equally, too little flexibility can result in the need to use reserves in year or overspend budgets.
- **Reserves:** Given the on-going imposition of grant cuts, council tax capping and nationally imposed cost increases, the need to maintain reserve balances within the current year and over the short term is important. Reserves can only be used once and ideally should only be used for investment as opposed to support day to day expenditure.
- **Stability:** Protecting service provision requires financial stability. This in turn is underpinned by an ethos of maximising income (e.g. through precept income), keeping ahead of the 'cost reduction curve' by ensuring that costs fall faster or at least in time with falling overall spending limits and clear workforce planning.

It is important that the above contextual statements are understood when considering the performance of the revenue and capital budgets in the current year.

## Revenue Budget – Force

The table below shows the 2014/15 revenue budget for the force.

Budget Heading	Budget to date	Actual to date	Variance to date Fav / (Unfav)	Revised Budget 2014/15	Forecast Outturn 2014/15	Variance Fav / (Unfav)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Employees</b>						
Police Officer Pay	32,923	33,436	(513)	65,279	64,451	828
Police Overtime	926	881	45	1,983	1,983	0
Police Staff Pay	14,054	13,646	408	28,173	27,402	771
Police Pensions	708	1,318	(610)	1,415	2,493	(1,078)
Other Employee Expenses	187	253	(66)	652	646	6
<b>sub total</b>	<b>48,798</b>	<b>49,534</b>	<b>(736)</b>	<b>97,502</b>	<b>96,975</b>	<b>527</b>
<b>Premises</b>	1,635	1,662	(27)	4,049	4,232	(183)
<b>Transport Expenses</b>	1,429	1,367	62	2,790	2,429	361
<b>Supplies &amp; Services</b>						
Equipment	361	595	(234)	722	928	(206)
Stationery	193	176	17	357	340	17
Uniform	149	93	56	298	298	0
Doctors	403	374	29	1,424	1,432	(8)
Communications	950	930	20	1,900	1,923	(23)
Computing	1,227	1,349	(122)	1,676	1,807	(131)
Other Supplies	510	649	(139)	1,040	1,310	(270)
<b>sub total</b>	<b>3,793</b>	<b>4,166</b>	<b>(373)</b>	<b>7,417</b>	<b>8,038</b>	<b>(621)</b>
Air Support	265	265	0	529	529	0
Joint & Other Authorities	644	640	4	2,190	2,190	0
Police National Computer	287	287	0	577	577	0
Forensic Science Services	417	382	35	930	930	0
Support Service Charges	2	4	(2)	3	23	(20)
<b>less Income</b>						
Customer & Client Receipts	(560)	(924)	364	(1,322)	(1,537)	215
Secondment Income	(152)	(323)	171	(385)	(585)	200
Interest	0	(2)	2	0	0	0
Council Tax Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Grants	(490)	(434)	(56)	(980)	(989)	9
Capital Financing Costs	0	0	0	1,443	1,048	395
Transfer to/from (-) Reserve	0	(64)	64	(433)	(497)	64
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>56,068</b>	<b>56,560</b>	<b>(492)</b>	<b>114,310</b>	<b>113,363</b>	<b>947</b>
<b>Central Govt Funding Precept</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Gap)</b>	<b>56,068</b>	<b>56,560</b>	<b>(492)</b>	<b>114,310</b>	<b>113,363</b>	<b>947</b>



**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

Reasons for over/under spending are as follows:

- Police Officer Pay. Although this has overspent for the year to date, this is predicted to underspend for the full year due to:
  - a) A number of officers have taken voluntary severance in the six months to 30 September. While these payments have taken the year to date figure over budget, the full year position will remain under budget due to the reasons below and the salary savings for the remainder of the year. Overtime is used where considered necessary to support on-going service delivery.
  - b) Officers on half or zero pay. The force takes a firm, but fair stance when it comes to managing officers who are absent due to sickness. A number of officers are currently on either half or zero pay which is generating a revenue saving. (The budget is set to assume that all officers are on full pay during the year).
  - c) Police officers are continuing to retire earlier than expected for a variety of reasons. The budget assumes that officers will retire 60 days after they achieve 30 years' service. Unless the Constabulary adopts Regulation A19 (and forces officers to retire after 30 years), it can be difficult to accurately predict when officers will retire.
- Police Staff Pay. This is underspent for the year because:
  - a) Vacancies. A number of vacancies exist across all parts of the force which is generating savings. The budget is set to assume a vacancy factor of 2%. Any vacancy level above this indicates that the budget is underspent.
  - b) Early retirement/voluntary redundancies. A number of ER/VRs have been granted in the current year which has contributed to the pay budget being underspent.
- Police Pensions: This budget is set anticipating around six police officer medical retirements in a financial year. The outturn expects to exceed that number of retirements and part of the additional cost will be offset by underspends in the police officer salary budget. This overspend is due to an increase in officers seeking medical retirement.
- Equipment and supplies are showing overspends due to additional equipment necessary for modern methods of working and office relocation costs for the new HQ, Warehouse and refurbished police stations
- Customer & Client Receipts are overachieved due to recovery of overtime and the cost of external operations.

Overall, the revenue budget is expected to be underspent by £0.948m which is 0.83% of the budget. This is considered reasonable.

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

## Revenue Budget – PCC

The table below shows the 2014/15 revenue budget for the PCC.

Budget Heading	Budget to date	Actual to date	Variance to date Fav / (Unfav)	Revised Budget 2014/15	Forecast Outturn 2014/15	Variance Fav / (Unfav)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Employees</b>						
Police Officer Pay	0	0	0	0	0	0
Police Overtime	0	0	0	0	0	0
Police Staff Pay	204	168	36	507	503	4
Police Pensions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Employee Expenses	0	(22)	22	0	(22)	22
<b>sub total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Premises</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Transport Expenses</b>	13	6	7	26	26	0
<b>Supplies &amp; Services</b>						
Equipment	12	0	12	23	8	15
Stationery	1	0	1	2	2	0
Uniform	0	0	0	0	0	0
Doctors	0	0	0	0	0	0
Communications	1	0	1	3	3	0
Computing	11	3	8	22	22	0
Other Supplies	62	37	25	123	73	50
<b>sub total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>65</b>
Air Support	0	0	0	0	0	0
Joint & Other Authorities	517	475	42	833	1,448	(615)
Police National Computer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forensic Science Services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Support Service Charges	65	18	47	130	130	0
<b>less Income</b>						
Customer & Client Receipts	0	(5)	5	0	(5)	5
Secondment Income	0	0	0	0	0	0
Interest	(48)	(4)	(44)	(95)	(30)	(65)
Council Tax Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Grants	0	(250)	250	0	(585)	585
Capital Financing Costs	0	2	(2)	0	0	0
Transfer to/from (-) Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Net Expenditure</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Central Govt Funding</b>	<b>(45,277)</b>	<b>(45,277)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(90,554)</b>	<b>(90,554)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Precept</b>	<b>(14,773)</b>	<b>(14,773)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(25,430)</b>	<b>(25,430)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Gap)</b>	<b>(59,212)</b>	<b>(59,622)</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>(114,410)</b>	<b>(114,411)</b>	<b>1</b>

Reasons for under/over spends are as follows:

- Staff Pay. This is expected to be under or on budget at the end of the financial year. The budget reflects the savings mentioned in last year's financial reports.
- The Community Safety Fund (shown under Joint & Other Authorities) is likely to be on or near budget.
- Special Grants for commissioning of victims support services and other new activities to the Office of the PCC have been received in 2014/15 (not budgeted for) and will be distributed carefully following a thorough assessment of needs.
- Interest. The interest receivable budget will not be achieved due to lower than expected interest rates and timing of capital receipts

### **Capital Budget – Force**

Appendix 1 shows the capital budget. The appendix seeks to match inputs (the budget) to outputs and benefits. Capital resources are scarce and the force needs to maximise the return from its investment. This means in practice that close attention is paid to ensure benefits are realised against any expenditure incurred.

This year the primary focus is to complete the delivery of the Estates Strategy by: finishing construction of the new HQ (including ICT requirements); fitting out of the police building in Peterlee; delivering other police building improvements; and decanting of employees to vacate the old HQ. These actions will enable the delivery of savings associated with the Estates Strategy that have now been absorbed into the revenue budgets.

### **Summary**

A key function of the PCC's role is to set and monitor a revenue and capital budget for the year. This report demonstrates that revenue and capital expenditure will be below budget for the year for the reasons identified. The PCC and staff will continue to closely monitor expenditure and seek to maximise outputs and outcomes in terms of overall performance.

### **Recommendations**

The Police and Crime Panel is asked to consider the content of the report.

Gary Ridley  
**PCC Chief Finance Officer**

## Appendix 1

Area	Scheme	Output	Outcome	Capital Funding 2014/15	Spend & Commitment	Variance under / (over)	Expected Spend 2014/15	Potential Carry Forward
				£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Property				6,150	5,431	719	6,176	510
IT				4,396	2,029	2,367	2,657	1,848
Vehicles				900	800	100	966	0
Equipment				650	253	397	442	209
<b>Total</b>				<b>12,096</b>	<b>8,513</b>	<b>3,583</b>	<b>10,241</b>	<b>2,567</b>
Property	Darlington - Improvements	Backlog maintenance improvements	Extend life of building bringing up to acceptable condition with zero backlog maintenance and reduce running costs	100	71	29	90	10
Property	Accommodation Improvements	Improvements to Peterlee, Spennymoor and Durham City police stations	Facilitating the wider Estates Programme through conducting improvements to stations to accommodate teams from headquarters	100	9	91	100	0
Property	Custody Improvements	Improvements to Custody Suites in line with Home Office Guidance and arising from quarterly condition inspections	Legislative Compliance	50	6	44	50	0
Property	Whitehouse Way	Fit out of new police building	Facilitating the wider Estates Programme through conducting fit out to accommodate teams from headquarters	800	1,332	-532	1,300	0
Property	Newton Aycliffe Police Station	Rationalisation of Estate	Facilitating Estates programme	84	5	79	120	0
Property	Chester le Street Improvements	Improvements to Chester le Street police station	Facilitating the wider Estates Programme through conducting improvements to accommodate teams from headquarters	0	2	-2	0	0

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Capital Funding 2014/15</b>	<b>Spend &amp; Commitment</b>	<b>Variance under / (over)</b>	<b>Expected Spend 2014/15</b>	<b>Potential Carry Forward</b>
Property	Public Safety Unit Classroom Extension	Improvements to Meadowfield Public Safety Unit Facility	Facilitating the wider Estates Programme through conducting improvements to centralise training team from headquarters	16	16	0	16	0
Property	HQ Redevelopment	New Headquarters Building	Environmentally efficient and flexible building with reduced running costs	5,000	3,990	1,010	4,500	500
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>6,150</b>	<b>5,431</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>6,176</b>	<b>510</b>
IT	Mobile Data	Improvements to mobile data infrastructure	Promote agile working and visibility	157	13	144	25	132
IT	Origin	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	15	4	11	5	10
IT	Server Virtualisation/Consolidation	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	50	18	32	50	0
IT	Replace Covert Airwave Terminals	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	200	0	200	0	200
IT	Identity Access Management	Buildings Access System	Improved Ease of Access	69	53	16	69	0
IT	Microsoft Licences	Improvements to License Arrangements	Licensing Compliance	28	28	0	28	0
IT	Electronic Record Document Management System	Data Management Solution	Reduced Physical Storage Space Requirement	207	7	200	10	197
IT	Dynamics	Consolidation and Upgrade of Police Business Applications	Improved Data Quality and Reduced Support Costs	317	277	40	290	27
IT	Darlington Custody	Improvements to Police Station	Legislative Compliance	20	20	0	20	0
IT	Case & Custody Replacement	New Case & Custody System	Improved Data Quality and Reduced Support Costs	653	448	205	200	453

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Capital Funding 2014/15</b>	<b>Spend &amp; Commitment</b>	<b>Variance under / (over)</b>	<b>Expected Spend 2014/15</b>	<b>Potential Carry Forward</b>
IT	Port line equipment	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	13	13	0	13	0
IT	CCTV Upgrade	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	0	-5	5	0	0
IT	Holmes Upgrade	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	25	0	25	25	0
IT	Telephone System	New Headquarters Building	Cost Effective Telephony	286	229	57	325	0
IT	New HQ ICT Infrastructure	New Headquarters Building	Modern ICT Infrastructure	526	492	34	525	1
IT	Airwave Mobile Terminals	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	80	0	80	150	0
IT	Peterlee ICT Infrastructure	Improvements to Police Station	Reduced Premises Costs	35	3	32	30	5
IT	Chester-Le-Street ICT Infrastructure	New Police Building	Extend Life of Building and Reduced Premises Costs	1	1	0	1	0
IT	Cycoms	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	333	333	0	333	0
IT	COMPASS Migration	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	70	5	65	56	14
IT	ORIGIN Migration/Upgrades	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	110	0	110	110	0
IT	PSN (Public Service Network)	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	100	21	79	21	79
IT	Central 999 Recorders	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	50	43	7	43	7
IT	Expand Video Conferencing Lync - External Conference - Virtual Courts	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	65	0	65	0	65
IT	Security Works (CCTV)	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	5	5	0	5	0
IT	Police National Computer interfaces	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	21	21	0	21	0

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Area	Scheme	Output	Outcome	Capital Funding 2014/15	Spend & Commitment	Variance under / (over)	Expected Spend 2014/15	Potential Carry Forward
IT	Cyber Crime	System Upgrades	Improved data quality	5	0	5	0	5
IT	Unallocated	Not yet allocated	Not yet allocated	955	0	955	302	653
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>4,396</b>	<b>2,029</b>	<b>2,367</b>	<b>2,657</b>	<b>1,848</b>
Vehicles	New vehicles 2014_15	Delivering the vehicle replacement programme	More cost effective, efficient and safer fleet	820	729	91	820	0
Vehicles	Vehicle write off replacements 2014_15	Delivering the vehicle replacement programme	More cost effective, efficient and safer fleet	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicles	Upgrade fuel storage	Improvements to Infrastructure	More Cost Effective Maintenance	80	5	75	80	0
Vehicles	New vehicles 2013_14	Delivering the vehicle replacement programme	More cost effective, efficient and safer fleet	0	66	-66	66	0
<b>Sub total</b>				<b>900</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Equipment</b>		<b>New Equipment</b>		<b>650</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>209</b>

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**Appendix 2: Risks and Implications**


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**Finance**

As outlined in the report.

**Staffing**

Pay budgets are underspent which results in fewer officers and staff being employed within the force.

**Equality and Diversity**

N/A

**Accommodation**

The majority of the force's capital expenditure relates to improving accommodation which will result in revenue savings in the current and future years.

**Crime and Disorder**

N/A

**Children's Act 2004**

N/A

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

N/A

**Environment**

N/A

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

N/A

**Value for Money and Productivity**

N/A

**Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

N/A

**Commissioning**

N/A

**Other risks**

N/A

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## **Durham Police and Crime Panel**

**28 October 2014**

### **Task & Finish Group Activity – Work Programme Development**

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#### **Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive**

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##### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To present findings and consider proposals to develop the Panel's work programme following work through 'task and finish' group activity.

##### **Background**

2. At its meeting on 24 June 2014, the Panel agreed to establish a task and finish group to look at further developing the Panel's work programme with activity to enhance constructive challenge to the PCC as its critical friend.
3. The Task & Finish Group consisting of Councillors Hovvels, Jones, Boyes and Brookes met on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014. In gathering its evidence, the group gave consideration to:
  - The Centre for Public Scrutiny publication "PCPs one year on";
  - Home Affairs Select Committee Report: Police and Crime Commissioners: progress to date;
  - PCC's individual priorities at PCP meetings or through Task & Finish activity;
  - Research on approaches including review activity that has been taken by other PCPs that could be beneficial to Durham PCP;
  - Explore any training and development for the Panel; and
  - Suggestions from the Task & Finish Group.
4. Throughout discussion, the Task and Finish Group acknowledge the PCC was elected into office in November 2012 and to date has a professional and positive relationship with the Panel. The Group welcomed the PCC's openness to share information, develop protocols and engage the Panel in seminars and events relating to his priority areas. In addition, it is also noted that the Panel has been in operation for two years and it is timely to build upon these foundations. Findings from the Group's work are reported through the following headings:
  - Standard Agenda items

- Engagement with the public
- Task & Finish activity
- Communications
- Training & Development

## Key Findings

### Standard Agenda Items

5. The Police and Crime Panel hold five scheduled meetings throughout the municipal year and agenda items are generally linked to considering or receiving progress reports to the core responsibilities of the Panel within the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The Group welcome reports and presentations on topics outside these areas but feel that an agenda could be strengthened through consideration of the following areas as standard items at each Panel meeting.
6. ***Decisions by the PCC***  
The Home Affairs Committee Report included a recommended that the Home Office brings forward proposals to amend the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specific Information) Order 2011 to require Commissioners to publish a forward plan of key decisions, where these are known in advance, and to publish background information on each decision when it is made. At the time of producing this report, a response to the Committee has not been published but the Task and Finish Group feel that a report to this nature would be beneficial for the Panel to consider at its meetings.
7. ***PCC's Commissioning Activity and Finance***  
The Task and Finish Group welcome the approach by the Commissioner to provide a budget update to the Panel's October meeting but feel that the Panel should receive information at each meeting on commissioning activity of the PCC in relation to priority areas of the Police and Crime Plan.
8. In addition, the Panel's meeting in February of each year is scheduled to consider the PCC's proposed budget for the forthcoming year. The Group note the timeframe of grant allocations from the Government but request that at its meeting in December of each year, a report is presented to the Panel on the PCC's budget and precept consultation.
9. ***Police and Crime Plan Priorities***  
The PCC's Police and Crime Plan presented to the Panel's meeting on 3rd March 2014 and identified the Commissioner's priority areas. In its response to the Plan, the Panel requested a specific report on activity to address hate crime and at its June meeting received a comprehensive presentation from Chief Supt. Graham Hall on activity of the Hate Crime Action Group. The presentation led to a constructive debate and was well received by the Panel. Within this context, the Task & Finish Group may wish to include an item on each Panel meeting relating to the PCC's priorities.

10. ***HMIC reports and Topical Issues***

The feedback report to appraise the Panel of recent HMIC inspections was welcomed by the Panel and feel that future reports following inspections would be beneficial. In relation to receiving information, the Task and Finish Group believe the Panel's agenda could be strengthened with an item on "Hot issues" with the aim to provide an opportunity to receive a report from the PCC on any "Hot Issues" to inform the Panel of the Durham Force area position in relation to national or important topical issues. It is acknowledged that due to sensitive nature and confidentiality this item may be categorised within Part B of the Agenda.

**Engagement with the Public**

11. Police and Crime Panel meetings are open to the public and to date there has been attendance by both members of the public and press. The CfPS report, 'PCPs one year on' calls for Panels to have greater visibility and representing the public voice. This reference includes use of social media and information on the Panel's website, but through undertaking research some Police and Crime Panels' meetings also include a public question time.
12. Within this context, the Panel's Terms of Reference includes a procedure for members of the public to ask questions with the Chairman's agreement. In addition, within its response to the PCC's Annual report in June 2014, the Panel acknowledged the PCC's approach to continuously engage with communities across the Force area through a variety of formats including attendance at meetings, use of social media and press/media releases. Information regarding the Panel, its Members and meeting details are available online but consideration could be given to use of social media to raise awareness of Panel meetings.

**Task and Finish Activity**

13. The Group acknowledge the benefit of undertaking task and finish group activity but feel this should only be undertaken when linked to a specific topic area to either develop the role of the Panel or add value or provide challenge linked to the PCC's priority areas.

**Communications with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

14. The Group commented on the positive and professional relationship with the PCC and his Office and welcomed the approach by the PCC's office to share information on performance, community newsletters and events but in order to keep the Panel appraised of activity of the PCC, request that all press releases from the PCC to be circulated to Panel Members.

***Training & Development***

15. The Group commented that when the Panel was established, a number of training and development events were held to raise awareness of the Panel's roles and responsibilities, policing priorities and performance management. The Panel has also been invited to the PCC's seminars on hate crime, domestic abuse and drugs, Durham Constabulary's Problem Orientated

Policing conference and held a Restorative Approaches awareness session with Durham Constabulary in November 2013.

16. Prior to the meeting of the Task and Finish Group, the PCC's Office has offered to undertake training on Policing Governance, and Finance and an overview of Police Structure (operational). In considering this request by the PCC's Office, the benefit of previous training and development sessions and practices undertaken by other Panel areas, the Task and Finish Group feel consideration be given to hold two half day sessions throughout the year to focus on training and development. It is suggested these sessions be held in November and at the end of May, with the first session in November focussing training in relation to commissioning, finance and priority setting. The session to be held at the end of May could be focused on evaluating Panel activity of the previous year and developing a work programme for the forthcoming year.

## **Conclusion**

17. The Task and Finish Group feel that this has been a timely and valuable exercise to build upon work undertaken to date by the Panel. In conclusion, this report identifies a number of recommendations to develop the Panel's work programme with activity to enhance constructive challenge to the PCC as its critical friend.
18. This report and these recommendations have been discussed with the PCC and his Office. He is supportive of all of them; their implementation should bring greater structure and clarity to the working relationship between the PCC and the Panel, and increase the effectiveness of the dialogue between the two. As always, he considers that these arrangements should be kept under review to ensure that we are looking for ways to continuously improve.

## **Recommendations**

19. Members of the Police and Crime Panel are asked to agree:
  - i) Standard items on the Panel's agenda include reports on:
    - a. Decisions by the PCC;
    - b. Commissioning activity of the PCC in relation to priority areas of the Police and Crime Plan;
    - c. A presentation that focuses on an area on delivery of a priority area within the Police and Crime Plan; and
    - d. Feedback reports from HMIC inspections and topical issues
  - ii) That the Panel's meeting in December includes a report on the PCC's Budget and precept consultation.
  - iii) That the Office of the PCC include Members of the Police and Crime Panel within its circulation of all press releases from the Commissioner.
  - iv) That two half day panel training and development sessions are arranged throughout the municipal year.

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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**Finance – None**

**Staffing – None**

**Risk – None**

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None**

**Accommodation – None**

**Crime and Disorder – None**

**Human Rights – None**

**Consultation – None**

**Procurement – None**

**Disability Issues – None**

**Legal Implications – None.**

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Item No.

**Police and Crime Panel**

**28<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

**HMIC Inspection Feedback**

**Report of PCC Chief Finance Officer**



**Purpose**

To present to members feedback from the latest Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabularies Inspections of the Force.

**Background**

As part of the process of holding the Force to account, the PCC receives a regular update on external inspection work. This report has been prepared following agreement with the Chair of the Panel, and outlines the most recent HMIC inspections.

HMIC provide a regular inspection of all Forces, including Durham Constabulary, and they have increased the volume of inspection for each Force in recent months in order to drive improvement at bot a Force and national level. This report contains feedback from two recent inspections, each of which is outlined below:

**Core business: An inspection of crime prevention, police attendance and use of police time**

Between January and April 2014, HMIC carried out inspection fieldwork across all 43 forces in England and Wales. This inspection, called ‘Making best use of police time’ (now known as ‘Core business: An inspection of crime prevention, police attendance and use of police time’) assessed three areas of police work. These were:

- how well forces are preventing crime and anti-social behaviour;
- how forces respond to reports of crime, including investigating crime and bringing offenders to justice; and
- how well forces are freeing up the time of their staff so they can focus on core policing functions.

Each of these areas is considered below:

**Preventing crime**

- Although the inspection found references to crime reduction and prevention in some of the force’s plans and documents, there is no overarching crime prevention strategy. This would provide greater clarity to officers, staff and the public, of the importance to the force of preventing crime and anti-social behaviour and how it will be achieved.

□ HMIC found some good examples of where the force has undertaken long-term crime prevention initiatives. In addition, HMIC found that the daily management meetings in the force were being used well to focus staff towards crime prevention activity.

□ The crime prevention message is reinforced by the Chief Constable's delivery of problem-solving master classes delivered to partners and staff, which has captured 955 staff so far and which will capture a further 465 staff between now and the end of July 2014.

□ The use of social media, particularly 'Facebook' and 'Twitter' is at an advanced stage within the force and used effectively to get key messages into the community and update the public about activity in their areas with strong prevention messages.

□ The force has an electronic database that is updated with information that helps officers and staff prevent crime in neighbourhoods. We found clear evidence that this is used regularly and consistently to record activity to resolve and prevent community issues. The inspection also identified that some evaluation and sharing of good practice takes place. However, evidence of subsequent evaluation was absent.

□ Although the force has provided some training to officers and staff, formal crime prevention training has not been delivered to staff who frequently deal with victims of crime and anti-social behaviour. HMIC believes that by providing training, the force would be able to make the most of opportunities to prevent future crimes and provide a better quality service to the public.

□ Dedicated crime prevention officers are under-utilised and do not appear to be included within strategic initiatives.

### **Crime recording and attendance**

□ The force is clear about how it will respond to calls for service from the public. It is one of the few forces that have a policy requiring officers to attend all reports of crimes and incidents.

□ Within the force, there is a team approach to attendance which includes routine attendance by specialist units, and the Criminal Investigation Department to priority crime types.

□ There is good quality assurance process in place by supervisors in the communication centres. Reality testing showed 100% compliance with the force deployment protocol.

□ During discussions and observations in the force's call-handling centre, the inspection team identified that the force has clear policies and procedures to enable it to consistently identify vulnerable and repeat victims of crime and anti-social behaviour.

□ Crime is recorded by the force, initially through creating an incident on the command and control system and then subsequently entering the details onto the crime recording system. The force has systems in place to identify how many crimes that it attends.

Page 36 □ During the inspection, HMIC reviewed a number of crime investigations, including reports of crimes that were not attended. HMIC found that, in general, there was



clear evidence of officers recording updates of the progress of the investigation and supervisory oversight.

- HMIC found that the Integrated Offender Management scheme, in place to manage those offenders likely to cause most harm to the communities, to be well managed. There are regular meetings with key partners and a structured approach is used to identify and assess risk.
- The force was unable to provide HMIC with the number of suspects, but was able to provide the numbers who had failed to answer their police bail. Without this information, the force may be unable to ensure that it has effective arrangements to manage outstanding named suspects and offenders.
- A small sample of named suspect files, including those circulated as wanted on the police national computer, provided clear evidence that activity had been documented and properly supervised in a number of cases.

### **Freeing up time**

- HMIC identified that the force is taking steps to build up a more sophisticated understanding of demand and how its resources are distributed. This includes analysis of different types of incidents and policing activity.
- However, more work can be done in relation to identifying and addressing those tasks that are not believed to be the responsibility of the police.
- The inspection found that there is a clear structure to assist supervisors in assessing the workload and performance of front-line officers and staff.
- The force is not able to identify the amount of savings in staff time that has been made as a result of changes introduced or as a result of new technology it has implemented.
- The use of mobile devices, (such as tablets and mobile phones) to enable officers to access force systems while on patrol is limited.

**Comment:** the force considers the above findings to be generally positive. HMIC have made a number of recommendations at a national level for all forces to implement. This will form the basis of an action plan within force and will be reported to the PCC.

### **Valuing the police**

During May 2014 the force was inspected by HMIC in relation to its response to austerity. The inspection team examined three specific areas as follows:

- To what extent is the constabulary taking the necessary steps to ensure a secure financial position for the short and long term?
- To what extent has the constabulary an affordable way of providing policing?
- To what extent is the constabulary efficient?

The overall assessment of the force was “good”, with the following narrative:

Durham Constabulary has made good progress and is well placed to manage further austerity in the future. It has achieved its savings ahead of schedule and is in a good position to face future challenges.

Durham Constabulary has already achieved the savings it needed to make by March 2015 – twelve months in advance of the end of the spending review timetable.

At this time the constabulary has clear plans in place to achieve all of the savings needed in 2014/15 and most of those in 2015/16. The plans for 2016/17 and beyond are less well developed, but there is an agreed timeline for developing and refining these plans and it is likely that the savings needed can be achieved.

The constabulary is now looking ahead and beginning to develop how it can make further savings, while investing to save in its estate and its use of technology, and also securing the future efficiency and effectiveness of the constabulary.

Overall, the constabulary understands the issues facing it. Its problem-solving approach is used in all areas of its policing. HMIC was reassured by leaders’ ability and determination to make changes while fighting crime and keeping communities safe.

Each of these areas is considered below:

**To what extent is the constabulary taking the necessary steps to ensure a secure financial position for the short and long term?**

Durham Constabulary has clear plans in place to achieve all of the savings needed in 2014/15. It is likely that the savings needed for 2016/17 and beyond can be achieved, although plans are less well developed.

It has a strong track record of achieving planned savings. In May 2014, it had already achieved the savings it needed to make by March 2015.

It is now looking ahead and beginning to develop ways to make further savings, while investing to save in its estate and its use of technology, and securing the future efficiency and effectiveness of the constabulary.

The constabulary has the capability, capacity and governance structures to achieve the required savings and organisational change.

**To what extent has the constabulary an affordable way of providing policing?**

The way the constabulary has reorganised policing to the County Durham and Darlington areas has successfully supported the achievement of savings for the spending review, with a considerable reduction in its police officer numbers. However, it has protected frontline policing and increased the proportion of officers working on the front line.

During the course of its change programme, the constabulary reviewed demand across local policing. The way it allocates its resources as a result of that review means they are now used more effectively for neighbourhood policing.

So far, it has achieved the bulk of the required savings through reducing pay costs. It has also reduced non-pay costs effectively.

## **To what extent is the constabulary efficient?**

The constabulary carries out regular and comprehensive assessments of demand, threat, risk and harm.

The constabulary has a strong focus on preventing crime through a problem-solving approach.

A wide range of contact methods is available to the public; Durham has also retained all public enquiry counters.

The constabulary's performance is mixed. Crime has fallen over the spending review period, but not by as much as elsewhere. In the last 12 months, there has been an increase in crime compared to a small decrease in England and Wales. However, the rate of detecting crimes is high, as is victim satisfaction with the constabulary.

**Comment:** overall the force considers "good" to be a fair assessment. It has made sound progress to date on responding to austerity and has clear plans in place to cover 2015/16 and 2016/17.

## **Conclusion**

The two HMIC reports outlined in this report are generally positive in content and portray a force which is well managed and led. Where there are aspects of service delivery to be improved, this will be addressed, and will no doubt be re-inspected at a future date.

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Members consider the report.

**Alan Reiss  
Chief of Staff**

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## Appendix 1: Risks and Implications

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### **Finance**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Staffing**

The ongoing delivery of high quality services may be impacted by further funding cuts, which the Constabulary will seek to manage to the best of its ability.

### **Equality and Diversity**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Accommodation**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Crime and Disorder**

The first report (Core business: An inspection of crime prevention, police attendance and use of police time) relates directly to crime and disorder and generally shows the force in a positive light, subject to any areas identified for improvement.

### **Children's Act 2004**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Environment**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Collaboration and Partnerships**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Value for Money and Productivity**

The second report (Valuing the Police 4) concentrates on VFM and sustainability. It shows the Constabulary in a positive light. However, it is acknowledged that more needs to be done in this area to ensure that the challenge of austerity is met.

### **Potential Impact on Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Commissioning**

No direct implications arising from this report.

### **Other risks**

No direct implications arising from this report.

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## **Agenda Item 13**

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