



Durham Police and Crime Panel

9 January 2020

Conference Feedback Report

Report of Helen Lynch, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Electoral division(s) affected:

None

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide information to Members of the Police and Crime Panel on the content of the National Conference for Police (Fire) and Crime Panels held in November 2019.

Executive summary

- 2 The National Conference for Police (Fire) and Crime Panels is an annual event organised by Frontline Consulting.
- 3 This year's conference was held on 19 November 2019 at the University of Warwick. Cllr Lucy Hovvels, Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel and Jonathan Slee, Overview and Scrutiny Officer.

Recommendation

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

Background

- 5 The Conference programme included
- (a) the opening conference plenary, with a presentation on 'An introduction to the Strategic Review of Policing in England and Wales', Dr Rick Muir, Director, Police Foundation, and
 - (b) conference breakout sessions looking at good practice and panel development through thematic policy seminars, practitioner led workshops and forums that were held on the following topics:
 - (i) Tackling human trafficking and modern slavery (Courtenay Forbes, Unseen)
 - (ii) Reducing the arrests of women (Lorraine Atkinson, Howard League)
 - (iii) Using the Home Office grant for Panels (Dave Burn, Frontline Consulting)
 - (iv) Preparing for the P(F)CC elections in 2020 (Dr Christopher Kemp)
 - (v) Supporting a new Panel (Emma Tombs, Essex PFCP)
 - (vi) Effective scrutiny (Tim Young, Frontline Consulting)
 - (vii) Forum on rural crime (Khalid Ahmed, Thames Valley PCP)
 - (viii) Forum on tackling serious violence, knife crime and county lines (Euan Walters, Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland PCP)
 - (ix) Forum of police, fire and crime panels (Cllr Gill Mercer, Northamptonshire PFCP)

Conference Sessions attended

- 6 Cllr Hovvels and the Overview and Scrutiny Officer attended the conference plenary on The Strategic Review of Policing in England and Wales and the breakout session on 'Preparing for the P(F)CC elections in 2020. In addition, Cllr Hovvels attended the session on 'Reducing the arrests of women' and the Overview and Scrutiny Officer attended the 'Forum on rural crime'. The following provides feedback from these three sessions.
- 7 The presentation by Dr Rick Muir from the Police Foundation provided an overview of the Strategic Review of Policing in England and Wales

that is being currently undertaken by the Police Foundation. The overall aim of the Review is to set the long-term strategic vision for English and Welsh policing and present substantial recommendations for a modern service capable of meeting the challenges of the 21st century.

- 8 The review was launched in September 2019 and is scheduled to present its final report in June 2021. Further information on the review can be found from the following link <http://www.police-foundation.org.uk/project/strategic-review-of-policing/>
- 9 The session on preparing for the P(F)CC elections, provided an overview of governance arrangements within the Police, Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and election processes including qualification and nomination of candidates and implications during the purdah period.
- 10 Cllr Hovvells attended a workshop led by the Howard League for Penal Reform following publication of the first report as part of The All Party Parliamentary Group on Women in Penal System's inquiry into arrests of women. Further information on the report can be accessed from the following link <https://howardleague.org/publications/arresting-the-entry-of-women-into-the-criminal-justice-system/>
- 11 The Overview and Scrutiny Officer attended a forum style session on rural crime. The session explored activity undertaken by panels in relation to approaches undertaken by respective Commissioner's to tackle rural crime.

Main implications

Crime & Disorder

- 12 Information within this report aims to provide feedback and learning from the national conference to develop the panel's work programme and contribute to reducing crime and disorder within County Durham & Darlington.

Conclusion

- 13 Attendance to the national conference was a positive experience and provided an opportunity for learning and networking with members and officers from other police and crime panels. Information and experiences from the conference will contribute to knowledge in delivering the Panel's work programme.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None.

Finance

None.

Consultation

None.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Human Rights

None.

Climate Change

None.

Crime and Disorder

Information within this report aims to provide feedback and learning from the national conference to develop the panel's work programme and contribute to reducing crime and disorder within County Durham & Darlington.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.