

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

17 February 2020

Police and Crime Panel



Report of John Hewitt, Corporate Director of Resources

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with progress of the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) for the Durham Constabulary Force area.

Executive summary

- 2 The report provides Members of the Committee with an update of agenda items presented to the Panel's meeting on 9 January 2020.

Recommendation

- 3 Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within this report.

Background

- 4 Prior to the commencement of the meeting, members of the Panel stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect for the sad death of Ron Hogg, Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner.
- 5 The Panel's agenda included the following items:
 - (a) Countering Terrorism
 - (b) Precept Consultation
 - (c) Quarterly Performance Report
 - (d) Commissioning Update and PCVC Decision records
 - (e) Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Inspection report
 - (f) National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels

Countering Terrorism

- 6 The Panel considered a presentation on the approach taken nationally and also locally by Durham Constabulary to prevent counter terrorism. The presentation highlighted partnership work with organisations and communities at a local level, how the Office of the PCVC held the constabulary to account and related to priority areas within the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan.

Precept Consultation

- 7 The Panel received a report from the Acting PCVC that informed Members that at the time of the Panel's meeting the level of government grant and precept capping proposals was unknown. Members were advised that formal consultation would be undertaken once this is known and the Panel are scheduled to consider the precept at its meeting on 6 February 2020.

Quarterly Performance Report

- 8 The Panel considered a report on quarterly performance from the Acting PCVC. The report provided Members with performance information on key performance questions in relation to reoffending, rehabilitation and confidence. The Panel commented on measurements that reported Durham had dropped from quartile three to four for confidence in how the police and council were dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour in their area. The Panel were advised that a working group to look at

potential reasons for this area had been established and was led by Durham County Council.

Commissioning Update and PCVC Decision records

- 9 The Panel received reports providing a summary of the Commissioning Board activity between July and December 2019. The Panel were advised that funding decisions for 2020/21 were currently on hold until the Board's meeting on 29th January when the government funding position is clarified.
- 10 In addition, the Panel considered a report detailing the PCVC's decision records that have been undertaken since the panel's previous meeting and a forward plan of decisions. A copy of the decision record is available from the Office of the PCVC's website.

HMICFRS Inspection Report – Joint Inspection of police custody

- 11 The Panel noted a report on findings following an unannounced Joint Custody inspection of Durham Constabulary by HMI Prisons and HMICFRS.

National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panels and Conference Feedback

- 12 The Panel considered a report and agreed that they wish to become a member of the National Association of Police, Fire and Crime Panel.
- 13 Cllr Hovvels, Chair of the Police and Crime Panel and the Overview and Scrutiny Officer provided feedback from sessions that they had attended at the National Police, Fire and Crime Panel conference in November 2019.

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

- 14 Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Council Plan and Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing crime and disorder.

Conclusion

- 15 The attached provides the Committee with a summary of agenda items considered at the Panel's meeting on 9 January 2020.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

None.

Finance

None.

Consultation

The report includes information on the OPCVC's precept consultation.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Human Rights

None.

Climate Change

None.

Crime and Disorder

Information with this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Council Plan and Safe Durham Partnership plan to reducing crime and disorder.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.