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Mr Stephen White
Acting Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner
Police Headquarters
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28 October 2019

Police and Crime Panel Response to Police, Crime and Victim's Commissioner's (PCVC) Annual Report 2018-19

Dear Mr White,

As Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel, I would like to thank you as Acting Police, Crime and Victim's Commissioner for attending the Panel's meeting on 17 October 2019 and presenting the PCVC's Annual Report 2018/19.

The Panel acknowledged the revised format to provide a concise report that is focused on priority areas and achievements linked to the revised PCVC Plan and aims to increase engagement with activity of the Office of the PCVC. Members would encourage that the annual report is actively promoted and widely circulated with residents and communities.

The Panel welcome Durham Constabulary's continued rating of 'Outstanding' for Efficiency and Effectiveness within the HMICFRS PEEL inspections and the desire to aim for an outstanding rating for Legitimacy. Within this context, the panel also appreciate reports from your office to appraise members of outcomes following HMICFRS inspections at panel meetings.

The annual report includes campaign activity undertaken by the PCVC and following a request within our response to the 2017/18 annual report, I would like to thank the Commissioner for providing the panel with reports on this activity within our 2018/19 work programme. In addition, panel Members made specific reference to continue work on the campaign for 'fair funding' to ensure Durham is not adversely affected within any revised formula for police funding. Within this context, I ask that the Panel is kept informed of progress with campaign activity.

Panel Members welcome the recent announcement to recruit an additional 68 police officers to Durham Constabulary within the first year of a three-year

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national recruitment campaign, but also note potential challenges to competition for recruitment within a national campaign.

To conclude, I would like to pass on the Panel's best wishes to Ron Hogg, PCVC and my appreciation to all involved with publication and delivery of the annual report. In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I trust you find the Panel's views are constructive and I look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. The signature reads "Cllr Lucy Howvels M.B.E." in a cursive script.

Councillor Lucy Howvels M.B.E.
Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel