

Police and Crime Panel

1st February 2023

Victims' Champions:



Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Purpose

To inform members of the Police and Crime Panel of the work of the Victims' Champions.

Background

Following the election of PCCs in 2021, the then Victims' Commissioner, Dame Vera Baird, wrote to all newly elected PCCs and encouraged them to consider appointing Victims' Champions. A Victims' Champion was to sit outside the local police force and report directly to the PCC. Their role would be threefold:

- To advise the PCC on victim related issues
- To offer a victim perspective in respect of local policies and practices either within the police force or in respect of issues being considered by the Local Criminal Justice Board
- Acting as a point of contact for local victims and those providing support services
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In December 2021, following a selection and vetting process, Durham's PCC, Joy Allen appointed three Victims' Champions, one each for Anti-Social Behaviour; Crime; and Domestic Abuse.

Panel Members will receive a brief presentation on the role of the Victims' Champions and emerging themes from the 'lived experience' of victims.

Recommendations

That the Police and Crime Panel note the report.

Joy Allen
Police and Crime Commissioner
