



## **Police and Crime Panel**

**21st September 2023**

### **Missing People and Protecting the Vulnerable**

#### **Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

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#### **Purpose**

1. For Panel Members to gain a wider understanding about an issue raised by the Durham Police and Crime Commissioner with the Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary as part of her "holding to account" role, relating to demand on policing from missing people and protecting the vulnerable.

#### **Background**

2. The Durham Police and Crime Commissioner has a statutory obligation to:
  - a. secure that the police force is efficient and effective;
  - b. hold the chief constable to account for the exercise of their functions and the functions of the persons under their direction and control, namely the police force of which they are chief constable.
3. One of the areas focussed on in the weekly Chief Constable/Police and Crime Commissioner meetings relates to the demand placed on policing from children and young people who go missing from home.
4. The PCCs quarter four 2022/23 Performance Report was presented to the Police and Crime Panel in June 2023 whereby discussion took place about missing people and the Panel requested the Police and Crime Commissioner provide further information.

#### **Missing People and Protecting the Vulnerable**

5. Temporary Superintendent David Williams will be in attendance at the Police and Crime Panel to provide a presentation to members with an overview of the profile of

people who go missing and are reported to the police, the police response and prevention measures in place with partners.

### **Recommendation**

6. That Panel Members note the Missing People and Protecting the Vulnerable presentation and note this area of work is a focus of the PCC holding the Chief Constable to account in order to reduce demand on policing, ensure vulnerable people who are missing are found safely and by each partner taking ownership of their responsibilities, including Councils as Corporate Parents.

**Andrea Petty**

Chief of Staff / Monitoring Officer

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**Appendix 1: Risks and Implications**

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**Finance**

All decisions with financial implications are made with value for money as a key consideration and are affordable within budgets.

**Staffing**

n/a

**Equality and Diversity**

n/a

**Accommodation**

n/a

**Crime and Disorder**

n/a

**Children's Act 2004**

n/a

**Stakeholder/Community Engagement**

n/a

**Environment**

n/a

**Collaboration and Partnerships**

The Durham Safeguarding Children and Adults Partnerships have a role to support people who go missing and may come to harm.

**Value for Money and Productivity**

n/a

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

Decisions will impact directly or indirectly on the pursuit of Police and Crime Plan priorities.

**Commissioning**

n/a

**Other risks**

n/a

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