

Police and Crime Panel

Draft Refreshed Police and Crime Plan and Precept 2015-17

4th December 2014



Report of Ron Hogg, Police and Crime Commissioner, 26th November 2014

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To ask the Police and Crime Panel to consider the draft of the refreshed Police and Crime Plan for 2015-17, in advance of me launching it for consultation.

Background

- 2 Section 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires me to issue a police and crime plan for the area. It also enables me to refresh and vary this plan. I have decided to issue an updated plan for consultation in December, with the intention of publishing it in March.
- 3 The Act requires that the Police and Crime Panel review a draft of the Plan, and publish a response, and that I must have regard and respond to any report or recommendations made by the Panel. I intend to bring the refreshed plan to the Police and Crime Panel for review again before I issue the final version in March, so that this obligation can be fulfilled.
- 4 However, I would also welcome comments from the Panel in advance of me issuing the draft for consultation.
- 5 I expect to issue the draft plan for consultation in the week beginning 15th December. Therefore it would be helpful to receive comments either in the meeting of the Panel, or in writing by Wednesday 10th December.

Current Position

Police and Crime Plan

- 6 I have restructured the priorities into strategic and policy, to distinguish between those priorities which cut across all aspects of policing, and those priorities which are about tackling specific types of crime and disorder.

- 7 There are currently seven priorities within the police and crime plan. I have added the following priorities:
- (a) To increase confidence in local policing;
 - (b) To reduce reoffending; and
 - (c) To improve the service provided to those with poor mental health.
- 8 The timetable for consultation has been brought forward this year in order to enable better engagement with partners and the community. I have shared drafts with both Community Safety Partnerships the Constabulary Executive, in advance of it coming to the Panel for consideration. I intend to issue it for public consultation in the week commencing 15th December. I will then use a variety of engagement mechanisms for the consultation, including AAPs and Town and Parish Councils, to take advantage of pre-existing infrastructure. The consultation closing date is to be confirmed, but is likely to be in the first half of February.

Precept

- 9 I will also consult on the precept for 2015-16 in December / January. I am unable to say at this stage precisely what or when this will be, because the parameters have not yet been set by central Government. I expect I will be allowed to increase the precept, without a referendum, by between 1 and 2 per cent. I expect to propose to increase the precept by the maximum allowable amount. However I need to wait for announcements from central Government about the grant settlement and precept limit for 2015-16 before I can consult. The precept will then come to the Panel for review on 3rd February 2015.

Recommendations

- 10 That the Police and Crime Panel
- (a) provides comments on the proposed plan for consultation by 10th December;
 - (b) notes the position on the precept.

Background Paper

Attachment: Draft Police and Crime Plan 2015-17

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