

# Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

5 January 2016

## Police and Crime Panel



---

### Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive

---

#### 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.

#### Background

2. This report builds upon information previously presented to the Committee and the aim of this report is to provide an update to Members in relation to the following areas from the Panel's meeting held on 20 October 2015 and Development Session on 3 December 2015:
  - Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan Mid-year Update and Quarter 1 2015-16 Performance Report;
  - Update Reports on Checkpoint, Mental Health, Restorative Justice activities and Victims Commissioning and funding;
  - Reports on the Committee for Standards in Public Life;
  - HMIC Inspections, and
  - Police and Crime Plan Development Session

#### Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan Mid-year Update and Quarter 1 2015-16 Performance Report

3. The Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Hogg was in attendance to provide the Panel with a progress update on delivery of objectives within the Police and Crime Plan that was considered by the Panel at its meeting in March 2015. The Panel noted delivery of the Plan and a comprehensive report in relation to the PCC's objectives of 'Inspire Confidence', 'Support Victims', 'Keep all our Communities safe' and 'Deliver an efficient policing service'.
4. The Panel received a presentation on the Quarter 1 2015-16 Performance report from the PCC and Mr Alan Reiss, Chief of Staff to the PCC. The interactive report provided Members with performance information on Victim Based Crime, Public Confidence and Victim Satisfaction. The report is available from the PCC's website and provides information on key performance data linked to the Commissioner's priorities and anti-social behaviour at a local level.

## **Update Reports on Checkpoint, Mental Health, Restorative Justice activities and Victims Commissioning and funding**

5. At its meeting in March 2015, the Panel received reports on the Checkpoint programme and Mental Health. The Chief of Staff, Alan Reiss presented the Panel with an update on the Checkpoint programme and its progress to date in terms of performance, offence types, governance arrangements and evaluations. Superintendent Kevin Weir presented an update report with regard to mental health as a key area of focus for the Police and Crime Plan. The report provided Members with progress in relation communication and training, reducing demand, the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat and future actions.
6. The Chief of Staff also provided the panel with information on the application of victims commissioning and restorative justice funds in 2015/16 and the procurement of victims services in 2016/17. In addition, the Chief of Staff updated the Panel on restorative justice activities during 2015/16 and the future intention for the extension of restorative justice in County Durham and Darlington.

## **The Committee for Standards in Public Life Report 'Tone from the Top'**

7. In June 2015, the Committee for Standards in Life, published a report 'Tone from the top – leadership, ethics and accountability in policing'. The report included three recommendations in relation to 'reviewing the PCC's Annual report', 'publishing a forward plan/work programme' and 'role of the PCP if a Chief Constable's service is brought to an end'. The Committee for Standards in Public Life requested a response to the recommendations from the Chair of the Police and Crime Panel. Within this context, Members considered a report that identified that the Panel is already complying with report's recommendations and a response outlining the Panel's work be submitted to the Committee for Standards in Public Life.

## **HMIC Inspections**

8. The PCC informed the Panel and circulated information of the latest gradings of HMIC PEEL inspection for the areas of effectiveness and efficiency which ranked Durham Constabulary as being outstanding in five out of six categories and good in the sixth category. These ratings showed Durham Constabulary to be the top performing Force in the country. The Force was the only one in the country to achieve a rating of outstanding in all three efficiency categories. The PCC commented that this excellent performance reflected the work of officers, PCSOs and staff within the Constabulary, as well as work which took place with partners, communities and the voluntary sector.

## **Police and Crime Panel Development Session**

9. In December 2015, the Panel held a Development Session that focussed on preventing alcohol related crime. The Session was attended by Panel and Substitute Members and included presentations from the Director of Public Health in Darlington and the North East Alcohol Office BALANCE, Chief Superintendent Jane Spraggon and Deputy Chief Constable Steve Watson. Whilst the focus was on preventing alcohol related crime, the Panel also received a joint presentation from Lorraine O'Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive and Sweety Sahani, Staff Officer from the Office of the PCC on the Panel's responsibilities, achievements and relationship with the Commissioner's office. The session concluded with Panel Members being presented with certificates for completion of the on-line PREVENT Counter Terrorism awareness course.

### **Recommendation**

10. Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within the report and comment accordingly.

### **Background Papers**

None

---

## **Appendix 1: Implications**

---

**Finance – None**

**Staffing – None**

**Risk - None**

**Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None**

**Accommodation - None**

**Crime and Disorder** – information contained within this report is linked to Altogether Safer element of the Council Plan and establishment of a Police and Crime Panel to scrutinise the elected Police and Crime Commissioner.

**Human Rights – None**

**Consultation – None**

**Procurement – None**

**Disability Issues – None**

**Legal Implications** – the Panel's responsibilities within the Police, Reform and Social Responsibility Act is referenced within the report