



Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Executive

Date: 23 June 2016

JOINT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Business Coordination Board (“the Board”) with the Joint Engagement Strategy for Cambridgeshire Constabulary (“the Constabulary”) and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (“the OPCC”).

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is recommended to endorse the report attached in Appendix 1.

3. Background

3.1 Both the OPCC and the Constabulary have a duty to engage with the public.

3.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner has a statutory duty and electoral mandate to hold the police to account on behalf of the public. He has a duty to provide the local link between the police and communities, working to translate the legitimate desires and aspirations of the public into action¹

3.3 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011², sets out the roles and responsibilities of Police and Crime Commissioners and includes the requirement for Commissioners to obtain the views of people about the policing of their area, their co-operation with the police in preventing crime and for obtaining the views of victims of crime.

¹ The Policing Protocol Order 2011

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents/enacted>

- 3.4 Section 34 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act sets out the requirement for Chief Officers of Police to engage with local people. It includes the requirement to obtain the views of people within each neighbourhood about crime and disorder in that neighbourhood and to inform people in each neighbourhood about policing in that neighbourhood.
- 3.5 The Police and Crime Plan includes a number of commitments to community engagement to ensure that both the Commissioner and the Police are accountable to the people. The Commissioner and the Chief Constable see effective engagement with the public as crucial to further improving further trust and confidence in the police.
- 3.6 The Constabulary and the OPCC have a legal and moral obligation to ensure they are open and transparent, publishing financial and decision making information for scrutiny by the public.
- 3.7 While the Constabulary and the OPCC are separate organisations the two work closely together to understand the concerns of the public and to inform the public of the action being taken to respond to these concerns. Because both organisations have similar ambitions in this area it is logical that the two have a joint approach to public engagement.
- 3.8 This strategy also takes note of the Constabulary's mission and values, set by the Chief Constable. The values include respect, openness, integrity and trust. The Mission includes reassuring the public.



4. Content

- 4.1 This high level document sets out the principles of how we will engage and who we will engage with.
- 4.2 “How we will engage” is structured around four principles: Listen, Respond, Inform, Involve
- 4.3 While we will engage with everyone who lives in , works in and visits Cambridgeshire we will pay particular attention to ensuring we are proactively engaging with children and young people, underrepresented groups and vulnerable communities
- 4.4 The strategy recognises the importance of engaging with staff so everyone feels informed and involved in the changes we all face.

5. Implementation

- 5.1 The Engagement Board, Chaired by Temporary Chief Superintendent Vicky Skeels, has oversight of the Engagement Strategy. The Board includes representatives from the Constabulary and the OPCC.
- 5.2 An Engagement working group has been established and is chaired by Insp Marcia Pringle with representatives from across the force and the OPCC. The working group has identified a number of possible risks related to communication and engagement. Appropriate plans are being developed to mitigate these risks.
- 5.3 The overarching strategy will be supported by individual plans and delivery plans. For example Corporate Communications and the OPCC have individual plans that support delivery of this strategy. A report template has also been developed to coordinate and collate action taken in delivery of the strategy.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 The Board is recommended to endorse the report attached in Appendix 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document	
Contact Officer	Charles Kitchin Director of Public Engagement and Communications, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner