



Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner

To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Executive

Date: 11 August 2016

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN DEVELOPMENT: COMMUNITIES

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Business Coordination Board (“the Board”) on the development of the Communities section of the new Police and Crime Plan.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is recommended to note the update and consider key issues for inclusion in the Police and Crime Plan.

3. Background

3.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner is required to issue a Police and Crime Plan as soon as practicable after taking office - specifically before the end of the financial year which they are elected (March 31, 2017).

3.2 The plan being developed will focus on four strategic themes:

1. Victims
2. Offenders
3. Communities
4. Transformation

3.3 Each theme has its own **aim** and suggests a framework through a series of **shared outcomes to** enable all agencies with a part to play in community safety and criminal justice to strategically direct the future delivery of services through these common goals.

3.4 This paper focusses on the strategic theme of Communities.

4. Context

- 4.1 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
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 The Strategic Policing Requirement³ has a requirement that PCCs and chief constables should take the lead in identifying and establishing the appropriate way of bringing together local authorities and other agencies, to ensure the full range of powers and all available information is brought to bear against those engaged in organised criminal activity. It also sets out a requirement that policing capabilities should be able to connect effectively with key partners.
- 4.5 At a time when the government is trying to manage public spending, all organisations have a duty to operate efficiently. One of the main ways of achieving this is through collaboration and partnership working, avoiding duplication, aligning resources and sharing information.
- 4.6 The Code of Ethics has been produced by the College of Policing. It sets and defines the exemplary standards of behaviour for everyone who works in policing. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act requires the Commissioner to handle complaints against the Chief Constable and monitor complaints more generally. The Policing Protocol requires adherence to the seven Nolan principles.
- 4.7 In February 2016 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) reported on their Police Effectiveness, Efficiency, and Legitimacy (PEEL) inspection⁴. For Legitimacy, the HMIC found the Constabulary to be "Good" stating "The chief officer team takes seriously the need for an ethical and inclusive workforce and there is an effective approach to improving the wellbeing of its staff. Local teams have a good understanding of their neighbourhoods and engage positively with the public and

¹ The Policing Protocol Order 2011

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

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategic-policing-requirement>

⁴ <https://www.justiceinspectors.gov.uk/hmic/cambridgeshire/>

decision-making by Taser-trained officers is fair and appropriate. The constabulary has more to do in order to comply with the Best Use of Stop and Search scheme.”

- 4.8 The Constabulary’s Strategic Assessment considers current and future demands on the Constabulary to inform prioritisation and resourcing decisions, using a risk-based approach. The 2016 Strategic Assessment identified the following strategic priorities:

Six High Priority Areas: Emergency Response, Dwelling Burglary, Child Abuse (including Child Sexual Exploitation), Domestic Abuse, Serious Sexual Offences, Counter Terrorism

Cross Cutting Themes: Foreign National Offenders, Cybercrime, Organised Crime Groups, Mental Health

Intelligence Requirement (emerging threats): Modern Slavery.

Emergency response falls within the Communities strategic theme and also has a supporting role in tackling all the other areas.

- 4.9 Public feedback to both the PCC and the Constabulary from the public shows the greatest levels of concern is police visibility in addressing issues such as speeding traffic, inconsiderate parking and anti-social behaviour. The public want the police to tackle these issues.
- 4.10 The Chief Constable clearly stated the Mission and Values he expects from the Constabulary. The values include respect, openness, integrity and trust. The Mission includes reassuring the public.
- 4.11 In recognition of the importance of community engagement the OPCC and the Constabulary have produced a Joint Engagement Strategy. This strategy sets out the joint commitment to engage with the people of Cambridgeshire. The strategy is set around four key strands: Listen, Respond, Inform, Involve
- 4.12 The 999 service receives around 9,000 calls a month. It is estimated that around 70% of these are not emergencies. The 101 service receives around 30,000 a month. Again, many of these calls are seeking non police services. People are often dissatisfied with the amount of time they have to wait to get a response. The information is often available from other routes and online resources. Nationally, 84 per cent of what the police do is not crime related. This ‘other’ demand includes mental health, concern for welfare, missing people and non-injury road traffic collisions.
- 4.13 Cambridgeshire County Council’s Community Resilience Strategy⁵ sets out a vision for stronger communities. The strategy states: “We have a vision for a stronger future for our communities where strengths are recognised and where people can easily find the information and advice they need to be happy and healthy citizens. Cambridgeshire will be a place where people are part of well-networked communities, and where they get the right help to play an active role within their neighbourhoods.
- 4.14 The possibility of a devolution deal for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and the potential option of Police and Crime Commissioners taking on responsibility for the Fire Authority will lead to increased integration of services.

⁵ http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/4176/community_resilience_strategy

4.15 The Police and Crime Commissioner made a number of commitments in his election manifesto related to Communities and Public engagement. These included:

- Protecting frontline police services – using innovation and collaboration to create savings and protect key services
- A commitment to listening to the concerns of the public and making sure public priorities become police priorities
- A recognition that prevention is better than cure and a pledge to ensure the police and partner agencies continue to work with the most vulnerable to keep them safe
- A commitment to partnership working to support victims, tackle local crime and support community schemes such as Neighbourhood Watch, Speedwatch and Countryside Watch.

4. Current work

4.1 There is already considerable partnership work taking place. Examples include:

- The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) brings social care, police, health and other agencies together to deal with domestic abuse and the safeguarding of both vulnerable adults, children and missing persons.
- Integrated Offender Management (IOM) brings a cross-agency response to the crime and reoffending threats faced by local communities. The most persistent and problematic offenders are identified and managed jointly by partner agencies working together.
- ECINS - a cloud based neighbourhood management tool that allow victims, offenders and vulnerable persons to be managed on one system. The system allows partners to end and share information on one system.
- Community Safety Partnerships – each district has a Community Safety Partnership that focusses on local crime and disorder issues and takes a partnership approach to tackling the priority issues identified. Community Safety Grants are issued to Community Safety Partnerships in each district to tackle locally identified priorities.
- Safer Peterborough Partnership – In Peterborough local agencies have joined together under a single management structure comprising police, fire and local authority staff. The staff are co-located and work together to set priorities and address community safety issues.
- A business case is being considered by Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Cambridgeshire Constabulary for the collaboration of public contact. This includes the 999 and 101 service.

4.2 Community involvement and active citizenship is already happening across the county. Examples include:

- Neighbourhood Watch, Speedwatch and Countryside Watch all tap into local knowledge and a desire to support their local community, neighbours and businesses

- PCSOs are working in local communities and provide reassurance as well as collecting local intelligence on crimes and potential problems
- Each district engages continually with local people to understand the issues and also explain police activities. This includes community meetings, contact points and use of social media.
- Independent Custody Visitors volunteer to visit detainees to check on their welfare and conditions.

4.3 Cambridgeshire Constabulary has a management culture that places a high priority on maintaining the highest ethical values. It has an open and honest culture where staff and officers can express their views and not be afraid to criticise.

4.4 The Constabulary has a culture of supporting everyone to achieve their full potential and to be the best they can be. In any organisation, financial constraints limit the number of people that can be employed. It is vital that each person is supported to develop their full potential and be both productive and fulfilled in the work they do. It is recognised that this is difficult during times of change and uncertainty.

5. Next Steps

5.1 We will build on the work already underway to ensure that:

- The police work in partnership with other organisations to tackle crime and disorder and support the most vulnerable members of our communities
- To listen to and respond to the people of Cambridgeshire, to keep them informed of what we are doing and to involve them in keeping their own communities safe
- Building community resilience and understanding through increased levels of active citizenship, community involvement and a more representative police service
- To maintain the high level of integrity with the Constabulary and to support staff to develop their skills and manage change
- To work more effectively and efficiently through innovation, collaboration and integration

6. Recommendation

6.1 The Board is recommended to note the update and consider key issues for inclusion in the Police and Crime Plan.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document(s)	
Contact Officer(s)	Charles Kitchin – Director of Public Engagement and Communications



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