

# Public Document Pack

## Police & Crime Panel for Lancashire

Tuesday, 20th July, 2021

1.00 pm

Blackburn King George's Hall

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### AGENDA

1. Appointment of Chairman
2. Appointment of Deputy Chairman
3. Membership 2021/22  
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4. Apologies
5. Minutes of the last meeting  
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6. Declarations of Interest
7. Public Questions
8. Police and Crime Commissioner Annual Report 2020/21  
PCP - PCC's Annual Report 2020 - 2021  
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9. Introduction to the new Police and Crime Commissioner
10. PCC Decisions  
Decision Report 38 - 39
11. Police and Crime Plan  
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12. Independent Review of Deaths and Serious Incidents in Custody

	<b>Independent Reviews of Deaths and Serious Incidents in Custody</b>	<b>44 - 51</b>
	<b>Independent Custody Visitor Scheme - Appendix A</b>	
<b>13.</b>	<b>Task and Finish Groups 2020/21 Verbal Feedback and Updates</b>	
<b>14.</b>	<b>Forward Plan and Timetable for allocation of Task and Finish Groups</b>	
<b>15.</b>	<b>PCP Administration Update</b>	
	<b>Administrative Update 2021 22</b>	<b>52 - 59</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b>Budget Statement 2020/21</b>	
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<b>18.</b>	<b>Urgent Business</b>	
	An item of urgent business may only be considered under this heading where, by reason of special circumstances to be recorded in the Minutes, the Chairman of the meeting is of the opinion that the Item should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. Wherever possible, the Secretary of the Panel should be given advance warning of any Members intention to raise a matter under this heading.	
<b>19.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
	13 <sup>th</sup> October 2021, Venue TBC, at 2pm.	

Date Published: 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## **Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire**

Meeting to be held on the 20th July 2021

### **Membership Update**

Contact for further information: David Fairclough, Secretary to Police & Crime Panel, [david.fairclough@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:david.fairclough@blackburn.gov.uk)

#### **Executive Summary**

To consider the membership of the Police and Crime Panel for 2021/22, the Appointment of the Secretary to the Panel, the Appointments to the Complaints Sub Committee, the Streaming of Police & Crime Panel Meeting, the Appointment of a Recruitment Panel for the appointment to the vacancy of Independent Co Opted Member.

#### **Recommendation**

Panel is asked to:

Confirm the Panel Membership for 2021/2022 as 15 core Elected Members (plus 2 Independent persons) plus agree subject to Home Office approval 3 additional elected members as set out in this report, to achieve as far as reasonably practicable political balance.

### **Membership Update 2021/22**

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced Police and Crime Panels (PCP) as formal joint committee of all the local authorities in a police force area.

For Lancashire the Police force area includes the County Council, 12 District Councils and the two Unitary Councils. The first meeting of the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire was held on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012.

#### **Constitution of the PCP**

As previously reported, in Lancashire the Panel is made up of 15 Elected Members, one from each Authority. Up to an additional 3 elected members can be added in order to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' so that when taken together the Members of the Panel represented the political make up of all the relevant local authorities for the police area and had the skills, knowledge and experience necessary for it to discharge its functions effectively.

Having considered the provisions in the legislation and options available for applying a political balance to the Panel, it was agreed that the constitution of the PCP for 2012/13 be based on calculation of the then political balances across the whole membership of authorities, with the Independent Members being grouped together as a whole. At that time, it was also agreed to appoint an additional three Elected Members to achieve political balance and the Home Secretary subsequently approved this basis in order to achieve the political balance objective. This has been the arrangement for most years since.

It was also previously agreed that Council Members of the Panel would serve a 12 month term on the Panel and that the political balance of the Panel would be reviewed after the Local Elections each May. After the elections, each Council being invited to nominate their representative for the Panel.

Councils were therefore requested to confirm their nominations for this new municipal year given the previous agreement that Council Members would serve 12 monthly terms.

In addition to the above Members, the Panel also appoints 2 Independent Co-opted Members, who are not elected representatives, to serve on the Panel. One of these seats is currently vacant.

From nominations received for 2021/22 the Panel's core membership of 15 Councillors (plus 2 co-opted members) resulted in a political balance of

Labour 9	Conservative 5	Lib Dem 0	Independent/Other 1
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The Regulations and Guidance however require the Panel to seek to be politically balanced. To assess the balance, all the current council seats held from across Lancashire, were added together to identify the target balance that would achieve political balance which would be:

Labour 6	Conservative 6	Lib Dem 1	Independent Member 2
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The Regulations and Guidance then provide for the Councils as a first step in terms of seeking to address any such issue arising to invite the core member councils to reconsider their individual nominations to see if this would bring the balance more into line, i.e. to seek to achieve the political balance objective.

As discussed by Lancashire Leaders, however no Council was agreeable to changing their nomination.

**If however a change is made in nominations following the publication of this Agenda this will be reported and this report updated at the meeting.**

In anticipation however that the position may remain unchanged, i.e. no Council is willing to change their nomination, the next step, is to then seek to add councillor membership up to the maximum allowed of 18 elected members to seek to address

the political balance objective. This was the action taken up to 2019/20 by the Panel to seek to address this issue to the best possible outcome within the restrictions of the regulations. The additional 3 seats proposed and the names of those proposed additional councillors require the unanimous agreement of the 15 Council's core membership. These Councillors would also require the approval of the Home Office with an explanation of the reasoning for their appointments.

An 18 seat (Councillor membership) would result in an amended ideal political balance of:

Labour 7	Conservative 8	Lib Dem 1	Independent Member 2
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As referenced above in the absence of a council(s) under stage 1 of the process not wishing to agree a change of nomination a proposal is presented to the AGM for the following utilisation of the potential additional 3 seats for 2021/22 (subject to Home Office approval).

**18 Elected Members** (plus 2 Independent persons) on the following basis

Labour 9	Conservative 8 (+3)	Lib Dem 0	Independent Member 1
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The Secretary advises the Panel that whilst the option does not make it possible to achieve the exact political balance, the Local Government Association [LGA] Guidance on Panel Arrangements and the Balanced Appointment Objective states:

*'In some cases it may be difficult to achieve political balance, especially where it is not possible to co-opt additional councillors on to the panel. Councils may not be persuaded to nominate opposition members to achieve complete political balance and as the Home Office legal clarification points out, in recognition of this the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act states that the balanced appointment objective must be secured 'as far as is practicable'. As the Home Office has also pointed out, whatever membership is eventually agreed on, the rationale for doing that needs to be robust enough to withstand legal challenge.'*

The Secretary has also advised that the Local Authorities combined must 'agree' to the balance of the Panel and that the Home Office has powers to intervene and make appointments if agreement cannot be reached locally, though it has been made clear that the best Panel arrangements are those which are locally determined.

In previous years the position has been subject to consultation with the Home Office. On 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 the Home Office wrote to respond to the Panel as regards the issue of membership and the 'balanced appointment objective'. A copy of the response was circulated to Lancashire Leaders and Panel Members on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and again on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

The Home Office confirmed the advice of the Secretary at the time that:

*“It is the responsibility of the Panel to agree nominations which are acceptable to all of its members. As noted in your letter, the balanced appointment objective must be secured ‘as far as reasonably practicable’ – if you feel the disagreement on co-option is irreconcilable, then the Panel may have reached the limit of this definition.”*

Given this advice that Panel are asked to confirm their membership for 2021/22 as a minimum of the current 15 members plus 2 independent persons or in the alternative the Panel could review co-opting additional elected members, under the balanced appointment objective (example option above). However these additional 3 seats would need to be agreed by the whole Panel and then be approved by the Secretary of State.

## **Consultations**

All Local Authorities represented on the PCP are consulted in relation to the Constitution/Membership and political balance on the Panel as set out in this report.

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk Management**

The requirement for an Independent Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire is in accordance with the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

## **Legal Implications**

The legal implications of this report are set out in the body of the report. The Panel is set up in accordance with Part 2 of Schedule 6 of the The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Schedule 6 part 4 [Paragraph 31] makes provision for the duty to produce a balanced panel and secure that (as far as is reasonably practicable) the balance appointment objective is met.

The legislation specifies that Police and Crime Panels must be balanced in terms of geography, political make-up and the skills, knowledge and experience of panel members.

In particular, the LGA guidance explains the legal requirement to have a Panel that represents all parts of the police area and represents the political make-up of the relevant local authorities, when taken together.

Local authorities could look to achieve this, in the first instance, by considering the proportion of councillors from each political party across the force area. This approach is the closest to the spirit of the legislation.

The legislation also requires that the “balanced appointment objective” includes that the Panel members (when taken together) “have the necessary skills, knowledge and experience necessary for the Police and Crime Panel to discharge its functions effectively”.

The Home Office confirmed as reported in December 2019 how the legislation should be interpreted in respect of the balanced appointment objective.

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**  
**List of Background Papers**

Responses received from  
Individual Local Authorities  
regarding nominated  
Representatives

June/ 2021

David Fairclough  
Secretary to the  
Police & Crime Panel

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A

## **Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th March 2021**

#### **Present:**

#### **Chair**

Councillor Alistair Bradley, Chorley Borough Council

#### **Committee Members**

Councillor Mohammed Khan, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council  
Councillor Afrasaib Anwar, Burnley Borough Council  
Councillor Munsif Dad, Hyndburn Borough Council  
Councillor Keith Iddon, Lancashire County Council  
Councillor Jason Wood, Lancaster City Council  
Councillor David Whipp, Pendle Borough Council  
Councillor Simon Hore, Ribble Valley Borough Council  
Councillor Sue Bibby, Ribble Valley Borough Council  
Councillor Andrew Walmsley, Rossendale Borough Council  
Councillor James Flannery, South Ribble Borough Council  
Councillor Gareth Dowling, West Lancs Borough Council  
Councillor Roger Berry, Wyre Borough Council  
Councillor Peter Le Marinel, Wyre Borough Council  
Dave Spellman, Independent Co-opted Member

#### **Also in attendance**

- Clive Grunshaw, Police and Crime Commissioner
- Angela Harrison, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ian Dickinson, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- David Fairclough, Secretary
- Asad Laher, Head of Governance and Legal
- Phil Llewellyn, Corporate and Democratic Lead

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair, Councillor Alistair Bradley welcomed all to the meeting, and advised how the remote meeting would operate. Apologies had been received from Councillors Ivan Taylor and Jackie Oakes.

#### **2. Appointment of Independent Co-opted Member**

The Chair, with the agreement of the Panel, moved this item up the agenda in order that, if ratified, the proposed new Independent Co-opted Member Dave Spellman could join the meeting.



The Chair explained that following the recent recruitment process it was proposed that Dave Spellman be appointed as he was the successful candidate following the interview process.

Councillor Bradley also reported that the other Independent Co-opted Member, Mimi-El-Khattan, had recently resigned, as she had a new role with the Police which would impact her ability to effectively contribute to the Panel.

**RESOLVED** – 1). That Dave Spellman be appointed as Independent Co-opted Member for a term of four years, effective from the date of this meeting.

2) That the resignation of Mimi-El-Khattan be noted and that the Secretary send a letter of thanks on behalf of the Panel.

3) That recruitment for the remaining vacancy commence post Elections May 2021.

*(Dave Spellman now present in the meeting).*

### **3. Minutes of the Meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

### **4. Declarations of Interest**

No Declarations of Interest were submitted.

### **5. Public Questions**

No public questions had been received.

### **6. Performance Monitoring**

The PCC presented his latest report, and in doing so, passed to his thanks and best wishes to outgoing Chief Constable, Andy Rhodes, and also welcomed the incoming Chief Constable, Chris Rowley.

The PCC highlighted in particular the external funding secured over the last 12 months from a variety of sources, including the Ministry of Justice, Safer Streets, Lancashire Violence Reduction Network and Police Surge Fund.

In response to a question on the rises in figures relating to Domestic Abuse and Modern Slavery reported in the performance monitoring information, and what the Constabulary would do differently, the Commissioner advised of the trauma informed approach, with staff in hospitals to assist victims and also the use of technology to record incidents and information, plus training for officers, and additionally there would be more officers in neighbourhoods soon with the national uplift funding.

The Commissioner was also asked about increases in anti-social behaviour and declining satisfaction rates, and of the criteria for accessing/allocating the additional

funding the Commissioner had highlighted. In response, the PCC advised that in terms of anti-social behaviour and satisfaction rates, these were undoubtedly Covid related and a better perspective would be achieved post Covid. In terms of funding criteria, this tended to be issue based rather than geographical, although some schemes were being delivered in conjunction with local authorities.

The Commissioner was also asked about funding for CSPs in terms of Violence Reduction and the difficulty of utilising the funding in the current climate, with the PCC confirming that the deadline for expenditure had been extended and all or part of the £20k funding could be carried forward.

The Chair requested that the Commissioner report back to a future meeting on the spread of the additional funding in local authority areas and how bids could be made, as well as an update on the funding for Knife and Violent Crime, highlighting any Covid impacts, delivery to date and future plans.

**RESOLVED** – 1) That the report be noted.

2) That the Commissioner report back to a future meeting on the spread of the additional funding in local authority areas and how bids could be made, as well as an update on the funding for Knife and Violent Crime, highlighting any Covid impacts, delivery to date and future plans.

3) That the Secretary write a letter of thanks to outgoing CC Andy Rhodes on behalf of the Panel.

## **7. Covid Action and Recovery**

The Commissioner updated Members of the Panel on the impact of the Covid pandemic.

Since 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, there had been over 30,000 Covid-19 related incidents and almost 25,000 were categorised as Anti-Social Behaviour. The report gave figures relating to Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN), since March 2020, with a total of 736 issued during Lockdown 3, which commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021, with the majority being issued to people aged 31 or under.

In response to a question on attendance of Police Officers during the pandemic and on Lateral Flow Testing, the PCC advised that attendance had been good, with a great willingness from Officers to attend work, with childcare being the biggest reason that staff generally were unable to work. Angela Harrison advised that 250 Officers had been tested to date using Lateral Flow Testing, and that most staff who had been unable to attend work due to Covid had carried on working at home.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be noted

## **8. PCC Decisions**

The Panel received a report highlighting decisions made by the PCC since the last meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

**RESOLVED** – That the report be noted.

### **9. Task & Finish Groups 2020-21 Update**

The Panel received verbal updates on the progress of the Task & Finish Groups for 2020/21 (Local & Neighbourhood Policing, Police Response Team, Violence Reduction Network and Community Cohesion – Building Confidence in Local Communities) with work continuing into the new Municipal Year for all four groups, with the Violence Reduction Network Group needing additional volunteers to assist the Chair, Councillor Sue Bibby.

**RESOLVED** – That the updates be noted.

### **10. Verbal Update from Members who attended the ESN Briefing on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021.**

Members of the Panel discussed the Emergency Services Network Briefing delivered by Chief Inspector Eddie Newton, which had been an informative session, outlining the ongoing process to replace the existing Airwave system with the Emergency Services Network.

The escalating costs of the transition were referred to, with the need for grant funding from the Government, otherwise savings would need to be made to deliver the project, which it was envisaged would not be complete until at least 2025.

The Commissioner advised that this was an issue that he was constantly lobbying the Government about, in terms of the need for additional funding.

**RESOLVED** – That the update be noted.

### **11. PCC Elections**

The Head of Legal & Governance from Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council provided information relating to the arrangements for the forthcoming PCC Elections, advising that a briefing session would be held on 10<sup>th</sup> March for prospective Candidates and Agents.

**RESOLVED** – That the update be noted.

### **12. Forward Plan Update**

A report was submitted, and the Secretary verbally updated, on changes to the Forward Plan for 2020-21, relating to reporting timescales for the four Task & Finish Groups (March 2021) now extended into 2021/22, and also that rather than having a

dedicated Task & Finish Group, a report would be submitted to the AGM Meeting on the Independent Review of Deaths & Serious Incidents in Custody.

**RESOLVED** – That the report and update be noted.

### 13. Timetable of Meetings 2021-22

A report was submitted, setting out the Timetable of Meetings for 2021/22 for approval.

At the time of writing, Covid-19 Regulations were still in place, but it was hoped that by the time of the AGM Meeting, ‘in-person’ meetings would be happening once again. Venues may need to be booked that could accommodate any remaining social distancing measures, therefore venues were not currently listed in the table (below). The Government had not introduced Primary Legislation to enable the continuation of Virtual Meetings, so planning of meetings was focussed on ‘in person’ meetings, but if circumstances changed, for instance ‘Hybrid’ meetings were allowed, this solution would be investigated. An agreement was made with Auditel to broadcast meetings into later 2021, so officers would work with Auditel on any potential solutions in this regard.

Members of the Panel indicated that the option to have Hybrid meetings would be preferable, if this option was available going forwards.

**RESOLVED** – That the Timetable of Meetings be agreed as follows:

<b>DATE/TIME/VENUE</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 –AGM &amp; Annual Induction Session</b> 10am, followed by Annual Induction after lunch.
<b>Wednesday 15th September 2021</b> 2.00pm.
<b>Monday 6th December 2021</b> 6.00pm.
<b>Monday 17th January 2022 (Precept only)</b> 6.00pm.
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 (if required –dependant on Precept decision)</b> 6.00pm.
<b>Monday 7th March 2021</b> 10am.
<b>Monday 4th July 2022 – AGM &amp; Annual Induction Session</b> 10am.

#### **14. Monitoring of Complaints**

The Panel received a report setting out the current position with regard to communications relating to potential complaints received up to 22nd February 2021 in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

**RESOLVED** – That the update be noted.

#### **15. Urgent Business**

There were no items of Urgent Business.

The Chair advised that he had just received a response from Kit Malthouse MP to the letter sent on behalf of the Panel relating to the funding of the Police as requested at the Precept Meeting, and asked that this be circulated to the Panel.

#### **16. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Panel (AGM) would be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 10am.

Signed.....Chair  
2021

## Lancashire Police and Crime Panel

Meeting to be held on 20 July 2021

### Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2020/2021 (Appendix A refers)

Contact for further information:

Ian Dickinson, (01772) 533462, [Ian.Dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.Dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk)

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report sets out the Commissioner's Annual Report for 2020-2021 for consideration by the Police & Crime Panel.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Police and Crime Panel is asked to review the Annual Report (attached at Appendix A) and make a report or recommendation (as appropriate).

## **1. Purpose**

This report is being presented to the Lancashire Police & Crime Panel (the "Panel") to enable it to review the Annual Report issued by the Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner (the "Commissioner") under Section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the "Act").

## **2. Recommendations**

The Panel is asked to review the Annual Report (attached as Appendix A) and make a report or recommendation (as appropriate).

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 This report is presented to enable the Panel to carry out its statutory functions, as the Panel is required to review the Annual Report.
- 3.2 Under Section 12 of the Act, the Commissioner must produce an Annual Report on the exercise of the organisation's functions in the financial year.
- 3.3 As soon as practicable after producing the Annual Report, the Commissioner must send the Annual Report to the Panel. The Commissioner must attend before the Panel at a public meeting present, present the Report to the Panel and answer the Panel's questions on it.
- 3.4 The Commissioner must arrange for the Annual Report to be published

## **4. Key Issues**

- 4.1 The Annual Report covers the period from April 2020 to March 2021.
- 4.2 This Annual Report provides an opportunity to review the work carried out over the last financial year to deliver the priorities as set out in the previous Commissioner's Plan, which was launched in 2016.
- 4.3 It should be noted that the crime data for 2020/21 has been provided from Lancashire police sources. This data will be verified by the Office for National Statistics for England and Wales and will be published in July.

## **5. Next Steps**

The Commissioner will respond to the Panel's report and any recommendations they may have on the Annual Report and then publish the Annual Report.

## **6. Appendix**

Appendix A – Police and Crime commissioner's Annual Report 2020-2021.

2020/21

# ANNUAL REPORT

Lancashire Police and  
Crime Commissioner





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# YEAR AT A GLANCE .....

**These are just some of the highlights from the past year to show key achievements and milestones delivered by the office.**

**APR 2020**

PCC Clive Grunshaw welcomed the news that Lancashire Constabulary had recruited 66 new police officers but continued to challenge the Government over their allocation of funding calling on the Prime Minister to match Lancashire's ambition to recruit the 750 police officers lost since 2010.

**MAY 2020**

Mr Grunshaw called on Policing Minister Kit Malthouse to provide clarity around funding to cover the rising costs of responding to the pandemic and to ensure that this doesn't impact on recruitment targets.

**JUN 2019**

The office secured a 500k funding boost from the Home Office to support local domestic abuse and sexual violence services in their response to the pandemic ensuring availability of support services whilst keeping both victims and service providers safe.

**JULY 2019**

In July Mr Grunshaw committed another 100k to projects which tackle reoffending across Lancashire through his dedicated fund which supports organisations which make Lancashire a safer place.

**AUG 2019**

The Commissioner's annual 'Let's talk policing' survey received more responses than ever before with residents sharing their views on local policing and their priorities.

**SEP 2019**

In September PCC Clive Grunshaw launched the search for Lancashire Constabulary's new Chief Constable. This is a key part of the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner as the public's voice in policing and one of the biggest decisions a commissioner will make during their time in office.

**OCT 2019**

October saw the launch of Lancashire's Youth Commission on Crime Reduction and Prevention giving young people the opportunity to influence the work carried out by the office, Lancashire Police and our partners.

**NOV 2019**

Lancashire Constabulary's dedicated local taskforces marked twelve months since they were rolled out across the county. Taskforces have made a real impact at local level tackling crime, antisocial behaviour, drug dealing and other issues highlighted by local communities.

**DEC 2019**

December saw the Youth Commission on Crime Reduction and Prevention hold its first meeting to determine its priorities for the year ahead. The Commission brings together around 30 young people from across Lancashire to help inform the Police and Crime Commissioner's priorities and feed into the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network's programme on serious violence prevention.

**JAN 2020**

In January the Commissioner was able to confirm Chris Rowley as the new Chief Constable for Lancashire. Appointing the Chief Constable is one the biggest decision any PCC will make in their role and Mr Grunshaw was delighted to have appointed Chris who was an exceptional candidate for the role and will put his vision for Lancashire Constabulary into action.

**FEB 2020**

The OPCC secured another £1.16m in funding to tackle serious and violent crime here in Lancashire which will be used to continue the important work of the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network.

**MAR 2020**

Mr Grunshaw visited Burnley to see how the Safer Streets funding secured by the office will be used to make a difference to local residents and improve safety in targeted areas where it is needed most.





## Covid-19

The past year has been filled with challenges. The pandemic has required everyone, including this office, to adapt, to look at new ways of working and to respond to the added difficulties brought on by an international health crisis.

Despite these added difficulties, there have been opportunities to make positive contributions right here in Lancashire.

The office joined the county wide response to the pandemic by supporting the work of the Lancashire Resilience Forum. This has included practical, administrative support, sharing of key messages through our communication channels and strategic planning through representation at various groups formed to support the fight against Covid-19.

The office has worked hard to secure extra funding for local services, with over £598,000 secured to support sexual violence and domestic abuse charities in their response to the pandemic.

The office was also successful in securing surge funding of over £1.18 million to support the Constabulary in the delivery of additional, targeted activities to prevent, enforce and investigate serious violent crime.

We saw the vast majority of Lancashire residents play their part in fighting the pandemic and pulling together when the going got tough. The sacrifices made were clear to see. It was touching to see the amount of people offering their time to support the most vulnerable by volunteering at local support hubs, by becoming telephone befrienders or supporting the vaccine drive through the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership.

Over the course of the last year the office has explored and embraced new ways of working to overcome the challenges posed by the pandemic and to continue to offer the best possible service to the people of Lancashire.

# PROGRESS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PRIORITIES

## 1 Protecting Local Policing

### Local Taskforces

November saw the one-year anniversary of Lancashire Constabulary's local taskforces. Nine local taskforces, one dedicated to each policing area or place, have been proactive in responding to community concerns, tackling organised crime such as drug dealing, anti-social behaviour and other issues raised as priorities by the people of Lancashire.

There are 40 officers in total dedicated to the taskforces, which were created with support from the public and saw the first investment into additional officers since reductions in funding from central Government in 2010.

The Commissioner joined officers across the county to thank them for their hard work and dedication which is having such a valuable impact, even in spite of the additional challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic.



*"Thanks to support from the public, I was delighted that for the first time since 2010, last year saw investment into policing here in Lancashire with additional officers going into every district, focusing on reducing and preventing crime and dealing with the issues that matter most to people."*

*"This has helped us reconnect with our communities across Lancashire and increased our ability to carry out proactive policing and deal with community concerns. This has been just the start of our investment back into the force and the taskforces will remain a vital part of this, with growing the community teams a key priority and testament to the positive impact they are having."*

**Clive Grunshaw, Lancashire Police and Crime Commissioner until May 2021**

## Rural taskforce

The rural task-force teams launched in Lancashire in March 2021 to target the issues that matter most to rural communities including machinery theft, rural, wildlife and heritage crime.

A total of 20 officers have been funded through the police officer uplift programme. The teams now form part of the local policing teams that already cover the rural communities and are based at Morecambe, Garstang, Ormskirk, Clitheroe and Waterfoot.

The new officers provide extra resources to target, disrupt and address crime in rural communities, over 150 officers across the have now undertaken a two-week rural course. This course is delivered across all forces in North West and is seen as best practice and leading in the region.



## 2 Tackling Crime and Reoffending

### Lancashire Violence Reduction Network

The Police and Crime Commissioner has secured £1.16million to continue the important work of Lancashire's Violence Reduction Network (VRN) The VRN is working with partners to develop a trauma informed and sustainable approach to tackling serious violence and knife crime.

Lancashire Violence Reduction Network is one of 18 violence reduction units across England and Wales which were launched two years ago to tackle the root causes of knife and violent crime.

Taking a public health approach, the network works with more than 20 partner agencies to support interventions including the DIVERT intervention programme, Emergency Department Navigators and projects working directly to support young people most at risk of being involved in violent crime.





## Lancashire Violence Reduction Network

Developing a trauma informed approach to the way partners operate and services are delivered is a key element of the LVRN and is supported through the roll out of training and awareness raising sessions.

Over the last year Lancashire Violence Reduction Network projects have directly supported over 5,600 individuals and seen the introduction of several new multi-agency programmes of work. Lancashire Violence Reduction Network has also led police enforcement activity around knife and violent crime including weapon sweeps, knife bins, and community engagement resulting in over 2,600 knives being taken off Lancashire streets since April 2020.



Target population	Programme Name	Reach
Known risk / potentially high risk	Divert programme (excluding Covid-19 reach, e.g. food parcel deliveries)	93
Known risk / potentially high risk	Emergency Department Navigators	416
High risk	MARRAC	106
Universal cohort / early help	Parents (direct contact through EPEC and Caring Dads)	34
Universal and targeted at risk	Children and young people (educational presentations)	Approx. 15,000
Known risk / potentially high risk	Children and young people (Encompass)	Approx. 1,200
Universal and targeted at risk	Children and young people (community engagement)	Approx. 2,700
Universal	Professionals (workforce development and training)	Approx. 1,140
Universal	Social media ("Believe You Can" campaign, 13-22 year-olds)	618,000
<b>APPROX. TOTAL</b>		<b>638,689</b>

### Trauma Informed Lancashire

Lancashire's Violence Reduction Network has developed 'trauma informed' training and resources for Lancashire professionals.

Training delivered to over **650** professionals including:

- Teachers
- Probation Officers
- Social workers
- Police officers
- PCSOs

17 'Impact of parental incarceration' training sessions delivered, reaching over:

**400**

education settings

**100**

professionals individuals

**1k**

case study copies distributed

### Lancashire Violence Reduction Network

Our work in numbers

**2,600** knives taken off Lancashire streets

Funded projects have directly supported over **600** individuals.

The 'Believe You Can' social media campaign engaged with **618k** young people

**264k** parents and carers to divert young people away from criminal activity including knife crime.

More than 20 agencies are working in partnership with LVRN and 2020-21 saw the introduction of 7 new multi-agency programmes of work to tackle serious violence across Lancashire.



## Surge Funding

Further funds of over £1.18 million has been secured by the Police and Crime Commissioner from the Police Surge Fund to support the Constabulary in the delivery of additional, targeted activities to prevent, enforce and investigate serious violence crime. The Surge Fund is led by the VRN to ensure there is consistency in the approaches taken and a co-ordinated response to serious violence.

As well as supporting a dedicated Serious Violence Sergeant in each Police Division the Fund has also supported the investigation and local follow up responses to a number of high profile serious and fatal incidents in Lancashire.

## Reducing Reoffending

In April 2020, the Commissioner appointed Paul Withers to the role of Independent Chair of the Local Reducing Reoffending Boards. Paul has brought a wealth of experience and knowledge around crime, reoffending and the criminal justice system as a former Detective Superintendent in Lancashire Constabulary.

One of his key responsibilities is ensuring the different Boards link in with the Commissioner's priorities, as set out in his police and crime plan. Identify the key priorities emerging from the local and strategic boards and make recommendations for allocating the Commissioner's Reducing Reoffending Fund.

Other key responsibilities include maintaining a consistent approach across each local board, providing an objective, independent and experienced overview of work on reducing reoffending and maintaining their strategic direction.

When Paul commenced the role as Independent Chair there were four operating local boards operating across Lancashire however the North board was only functioning as an IOM screening panel with minimal partnership involvement.

As of March 2021 Lancashire now has four fully functioning boards which are all working hard to progress their maturity, support a cohort of individuals and work towards the completion of delivery plans.

Paul has worked hard to raise awareness of IOM (Integrated Offender Management) internally within Lancashire Constabulary to raise police officer awareness around the opportunities available for offenders which has resulted in an increase in referrals to the screening panels across Lancashire.

In his role Paul continues to increase knowledge of IOM across other partner agencies, in particularly Community Safety Partnerships.

Going forward the OPCC has managed to secure funding from the newly merged Probation Service following an amalgamation of the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and National Probation Service (NPS) towards admin support across the four local reducing reoffending boards.

*"Breaking the cycle of offending is not an easy task and requires a highly coordinated approach.*

*This is why the boards are working hard to identify local issues and bringing organisations together to address the risk posed to our communities.*

*This approach has been a factor in supporting the projects identified when allocating this funding."*

**Paul Withers, Independent Chair of the Local Reducing Reoffending Boards**

## Reducing Reoffending Fund

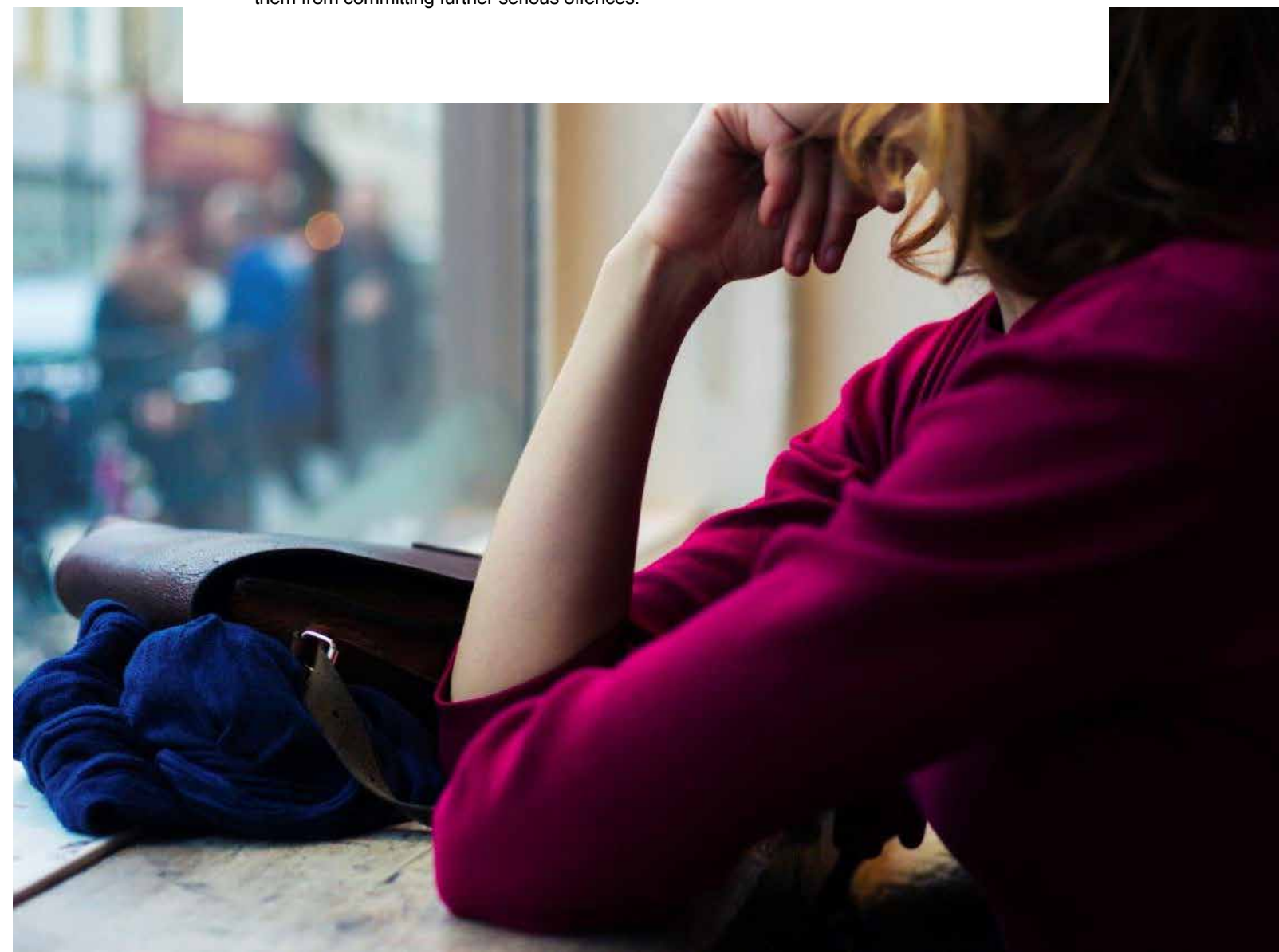
The Commissioner's Reducing Reoffending Fund continues to support projects aimed at breaking the cycle of reoffending. Since the fund launched in 2018 it has supported dozens of projects which work with ex-offenders and address the root causes of offending, through group work, one-to-one sessions and other support.

This has seen around £400,000 invested back into community organisations to help deliver this work. The criminal justice system is about more than just punishing those who break the law but also providing the opportunities and support to ensure that they do not reoffend having been through the system.

In August 2020 the Commissioner allocated £89,350.00 to four projects through his Reducing Reoffending Fund.

## Example - Lancashire Women

£25,000 was allocated to Lancashire Women for The Recourse Project. The Pan-Lancashire initiative aims to divert women who have committed low level offences away from the criminal justice system. The early intervention project aims to address the needs of clients to prevent them from committing further serious offences.





## Criminal Justice

The Commissioner is represented on all the groups reporting to the Lancashire Criminal Justice Board and the office has been involved in the work that has taken place to manage and coordinate the response to the Covid-19 pandemic in relation to Criminal Justice. The Commissioner lobbied Government around backlogs for court, caused by the pandemic, impacting on victims.

As part of the Local Criminal Justice Recovery Board the OPCC has been the link between victims

and witnesses and the criminal justice sector. The office surveyed victims and witnesses for their views and opinions to feed back to criminal justice agencies in Lancashire.

As part of this work, the PCC chaired a stakeholder event which allowed services supporting victims and witnesses to hear about criminal justice challenges, ask questions and to advocate on behalf of victims.

## Modern Slavery

### Training

The OPCC, with support from the Pan-Lancashire Anti Slavery Partnership, coordinated two training sessions in partnership with the Rah Rah Theatre Company to raise awareness of modern slavery and how to spot the signs of trafficking through an online theatre production and workshop "My Mind Is Free". Across September and October over 60 colleagues from a range of agencies (Police, Councils, Victim Services, Housing Associations, Substance Misuse Services, Football Clubs, Charities) accessed the online training.

Following excellent feedback the OPCC applied for funding from the modern slavery small grants fund to run a further three sessions: the first aimed at partner agencies within the Regional Organised Crime Unit, the second aimed at businesses and the third aimed at frontline safeguarding professionals.

This resulted in a further 125 professionals accessing modern slavery training. This included:

- Police officers
- Council officers
- Health colleagues
- Substance misuse services
- University of Central Lancashire
- Early Help services
- Victim support services (including specialist domestic abuse services)

Along with staff from well-known businesses such as Boohoo, Pretty Little Thing, BAE, ASDA, Morrisons, TK Maxx and Home Sense.



## Pan Lancashire Anti Slavery Partnership (PLASP)

The PLASP has continued to hold monthly meetings and has increased its membership over the past year. The team has been offering support across the region supporting training and awareness raising activities.

In the past 12 months the PLASP facilitated premises and offered support to operations within Lancashire. The team have also been working with Victim Support across Lancashire

and Cumbria and have rolled out a victim pathway for Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery. This has been shared across all partners in both areas.

Further, the PLASP has been involved in supporting the roll out of Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship Services across Lancashire.

## No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) Fund

Following Lancashire's (including Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool) successful application to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) the OPCC administrate the No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) fund.

Funding is available to support victims entering refuge who have NRPF as a result of:

- Them being in the country on a spousal visa
- A delay in receiving benefits
- Not having settled status as an EU national

The fund supported 22 victims totalling £21,699.38.





## Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Funding

To enable CSPs to better address the issues of serious violence the Commissioner allocated £20,000 to each district Community Safety Partnership for projects and initiative that support the Commissioner's priorities along as well as the four Violence Reduction Network priority areas:

- Prevention and Enforcement Surge Activity
- Targeted Interventions
- Child Exploitation
- Improving engagement with children and young people

Due to the pressures the pandemic brought and the need for community safety partners to respond immediately only two initiatives were approved by the Commissioner:

### 1. Operation Provide – East Division

Burnley CSP, Rossendale CSP, Hyndburn CSP and Pendle CSP utilised £3,500 from their allocations towards the roll out of Operation Provide across East Division. Operation Provide aims to provide

victims of Domestic Abuse the chance to access support at the earliest opportunity. An Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) works directly alongside East Division safeguarding officers and responds to domestic abuse incidents to provide immediate safety advice, emotional support and criminal justice advice to victims.

As of March 2021 the IDVAs have responded to 128 incidents of which 73 have been repeat victims. 65 victims have engaged with safeguarding measures and 49 have engaged with the Police. IDVAs have also attended 26 Police briefings to raise awareness of domestic abuse and how better to support and reassure victims upon first contact.

Funding has been secured to extend this project for an additional two years via the Ministry of Justice Top Up Fund.

### 2. Safe Communities and Confident Young Citizens Project

Fylde CSP in partnership with local PCSOs, LCC Youth Service, Progress Housing, YMCA,

Streetwise and AFC Fylde Community Foundation will target vulnerable young people with the aim to divert them away from criminal activity.

The Safe Communities and Confident Young Citizens Project consists of two themes:

Theme One: to engage up to 45 young people aged 13-17 per week through a range of multi sports sessions in a friendly and safe environment over a 50-week period.

Theme Two: is aimed at young people aged 18 – 24 who are not in employment or education, those

at risk of addiction and ex-offenders by working with the Divert programme. Work will focus on employability skills and work experience. Over the 50 week period up to 30 participants per week will take part in sessions that focus on confidence building, healthy relationships, courses and volunteer opportunities.

The Safe Communities and Confident Young Citizens Project are still in its infancy with outcome data expected in the next financial year.

## Street Pastors, Street Angels and Similar Organisations Fund

Preston and South Ribble Street Pastors were awarded £12,000. Their 41 volunteers have assisted 463 people within the past 12 months through 225 volunteer hours.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the street pastors adjusted their hours to offer support at the busiest times for example when the 10pm curfew was brought in.

The past year has seen the volunteers support mainly the homeless whilst the night time economy closed however they also assisted other vulnerable groups to such as young people and street sex workers.





## Innovation and technology

### Drones

An additional £30,000 investment has included a for-purpose vehicle being able to rapidly respond to incidents that require air support, with drones being a quicker, more accessible and cost-effective alternative to a police helicopter.

The drone team also supports officers at large events, during investigations and the execution of warrants and this investment allows more use of this resource and helps to diversify the operations they can get involved in, all to keep people safe.

### Tasers

Last year has seen investment in new technology following a successful bid by the PCC's Office to secure over £300,000 for Tasers in March 2020.

The money has since been used to bring over 380 Tasers into use across the force. This allows for greater flexibility and capacity when making operational decisions all aimed at keeping people safe from harm.

### Body worn video

The Police and Crime Commissioner funded a multi-million-pound investment which will see over 2000 cameras being used across the force, representing a significant investment in front line policing.

Body worn video (BWV) technology was first introduced in Lancashire in 2014, with a limited number of cameras being made available to operational staff.

The latest investment sees these cameras being replaced with a much larger pool of state-of-the-art equipment from Motorola which is of higher quality and more reliable.

They also include features such as an automatic 30 second video pre-record so officers never

miss the beginning of an incident. Lancashire is the first police force to be able to review and tag footage on work-issued phones, while out and about, reducing the time officers spend in the office and freeing them up to focus on protecting the public.

Body worn video is an incredibly valuable tool for officers. It enhances opportunities for evidence capture, supports transparency, trust and confidence in the police, reduces the reliance on a victim's evidence, particularly those who may be vulnerable or reluctant to attend court, provides independent evidence to improve the quality of prosecution cases and ensures officer safety and can increase early guilty pleas.

### Digital transformation

Through PCC investment the Digital Media Investigations Unit (DMIU) are piloting training staff and officers through virtual reality. Virtual reality training is the digital simulation of lifelike scenarios for training purposes. This training will enable staff to explore and participate in real life situations in a controlled environment.

The equipment purchased will include a 360 degree camera that will allow DMIU to create their own virtual scenarios using footage from real life cases. Purchasing the camera means the unit will build training packages in house and therefore future development costs will be kept to a minimum.

DMIU are purchasing 15 headsets at the cost of £8,659. LANPAC have agreed to match fund £4,392.50. Commitment from the Commissioner together with the support from LANPAC will allow DMIU to purchase a further 15 headsets meaning the unit will have 30 headsets to trial virtual reality training.

## Counter Terrorism

The PCC committed £30k of funding for the provision of online counter extremism training aimed at engaging 250 young people to prevent radicalism, terrorism and other harms experienced by young people online.

Due to Covid-19 the training moved online and delivered information around online safety including gaming, county lines and radicalisation.

## Business crime

The PCC's Office works closely with the Constabulary's Business Crime Co-ordinator, a role which was originally created by the PCC.

The coordinator works alongside the Business Improvement Districts, Chambers of Commerce, Lancashire Partnership Against Crime Community Safety Partnerships and delivers training across the division to raise awareness and promote their role to prevent and tackle business crime in Lancashire.

The PCC and the Business Crime Co-ordinator have worked together on events around shopworker violence which has been on the rise during the pandemic. The PCC also assisted with funding for £12,000 worth of crime prevention items which will be disseminated across the force for officers.

Together with the Business Crime Co-ordinator the PCC has continued to create and build on partnerships within large retailers at a regional managers level. This will be useful as restrictions continue to ease so that any issues can be addressed swiftly.



## Restorative Justice (RJ)

The Restorative Justice Team received a total of 240 referrals over the past year. The team of 10 is supported by 40 trained Restorative Justice volunteers.

Prior to Covid-19 the scope of RJ delivered across Lancashire had continued to expand resulting in an increase in referrals and the recruitment of additional staff. Despite the various restrictions and deployment of core staff into essential areas of policing, Restorative Justice, on a lesser scale, has continued to be offered across Lancashire.

Over the Summer, with the easing of restrictions in some areas, the team resumed some face to face work, primarily these were referrals relating to community cases or cases whereby offenders had recently been released from custody. The community work was delivered in 'safe' COVID community venues, away from home addresses, where all participants could socially distance with the added protection of PPE. Microsoft

Teams was also utilised in order that the team could continue to promote Restorative Justice and deliver training, throughout the COVID pandemic.

The team has continued to deliver all the frontline Police Officer new recruit RJ training sessions and also RJ Training for our Lancashire Youth Offending Teams. The further easing of restrictions in 2021 allowed the RJ team to fully resume their work in the community which is resulting in a significant increase in monthly referrals.

As part of the Out of Court Recovery Group, a member of the team was also involved in a joint piece of work with the Crown Prosecution Service which reviewed suitable cases in the magistrate's court backlog system for out of court disposals. This presented a good opportunity to identify cases for Restorative Justice in the best interests of the victims.

## Victim feedback

"I would just like to say how excellent the service was. From the start of the process we were given 100% support and advice. Having the opportunity to meet the offender was so beneficial to us, to actually have answers to our questions and find out why events that had happened in his life led to the incident. Being able to let him know exactly how it made us feel and how awful it was for us, meant we were able to try and put a closure to the event."



## 3

## Supporting Vulnerable People and Victims

### Lancashire Victim Services

Over the past year LVS have received over 49,000 referrals for support. The team were able to continue to offer support and to quickly moved to remote services across all crime types in response to the pandemic.

#### Domestic abuse

Over the past year LVS have supported 3,525 victims of domestic abuse, including 1,137 cases at high risk of serious harm/homicide. Domestic abuse is an area that has been closely monitored internally throughout the pandemic and LVS have been involved in many multi-agency meetings and worked with partners to enable the team to get a better understanding of what is happening locally to ensure that the

service is responding appropriately. This has included a number of targeted interventions such as a partnership with the safeguarding team at Preston under the provision of 'Op provide' to identify hard to reach high risk cases. LVS identified the most appropriate professionals or means of contact to engage clients to put in place a bespoke safety plan. LVS also developed COVID safety plan's and reinforced key messages with all victims supported. LVS have achieved Leading Light accreditation for their team of Independent Domestic Violence Advisers



LANCASHIRE  
VICTIM  
SERVICES



## Sexual Violence

The sexual violence service has seen a significant and steady increase in demand with 2,064 referrals for the year 2020/21. The service has supported 177 children and young people and 553 adults who are victims/survivors of sexual abuse this year. LVS started the year with a team of seven ISVAs but have been able to expand thanks to additional funding secured by the OPCC from the Ministry of Justice. This has allowed the team to employ three Children's Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (CHISVAs) to work specifically with young people and two additional Independent Sexual Violence Advisers who work with adults.

CHISVA's support children and young people who have been raped/sexually assaulted or abused regardless of whether they want to report the crime or not. Their role is very similar to the role of an adult ISVA however, it includes more multi-agency working and safeguarding. CHISVAs complete a full needs and risk assessment with the child and young person to ensure the support is tailored to the needs of the child/young person.

The CHISVA team are currently developing a peer support group programme with the aim to start in July 2021.

## Young people – Nest Lancashire

The Nest service for 8 to 18 year old victims of crime supported 923 in 20/21 children and young people with an average case length of 6 to 12 weeks, providing a range of interventions to support them to build resilience, coping strategies, improve safety, confidence and self esteem.

The team introduced a triage system and appointed a new post with the aim of managing demand across the whole service by having a dedicated single point of contact for families and young people during their initial involvement with NEST. This has helped to reduce waiting times, speed up the allocation process and increase capacity within the team.

In turn, this has improved the experience for young people and their families which has supported the service's trauma informed approach.

The Nest website now has a Live Chat function staffed 9:00am – 18:00pm, 5 days per week. The service offers text messaging, a contact form and direct phone number, all with the focus on enabling young people to directly approach NEST for support. A social media campaign funded by the OPCC has improved the visibility of the service on Facebook and Instagram.



## Additional funding for victims of crime

The PCC's Office secured over £598,000 in additional Home Office funding to support local domestic abuse and sexual violence services in their response to the pandemic. The funding has been used to set up remote support for victims of crime. This includes online chat facilities, telephone services, additional counselling hours and work with Independent Domestic Violence Advisors.

16 local services have benefitted from this additional funding to ensure that victims can continue to receive the best possible support.

***"This is really welcome news both for services and for anyone affected by abuse here in Lancashire. As a collective, services across the county work really hard to support abuse survivors and the extra funding will help us to further adapt our services in response to the pandemic so that we can continue to help people in the best way possible."***

Debbie Fawcett, CEO at HARV and Chair of the Lancashire Domestic Abuse Forum

## Additional Funding to Support Victims



## Case study: Fylde Coast Women's Aid (FCWA) – Operation Provide

FCWA worked in partnership with Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Lancashire Constabulary to launch and deliver Operation Provide across west division, as a direct response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The operation sees victims receive "real-time" support from an Independent Domestic Violence Adviser in the immediate aftermath of an incident, with the key aim of engaging victims who may decline traditional safeguarding

approaches as well as offering the face-to-face support which was largely unavailable during the 2020 lockdown.

Between April 2020 and March 2021, the operation attended 599 incidents. Of these, 385 involved repeat victims. Previously, 32% of this cohort had engaged in safeguarding measures, which rose to 76% following engagement with Operation Provide.

## Covid-19 support for Vulnerable Children’s Charities

The PCC, through the Lancashire Violence Reduction Unit administered over £98,000 to support vulnerable children’s charities.

The emergency Home Office funding was used to support local charities who experienced immediate financial hardship, significantly increased level of demand or an urgent need to adapt services as a result of the pandemic.

## Health Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (HISVAs)

The Health ISVA service places specialist sexual violence support in hospital settings across Lancashire. The service has been project managed by the PCC’s Office since its inception and was initially funded by the Office through grant funding secured from the Home Office. The Office has since secured further funding from NHS England to continue and expand the service. Over the past year support has been rolled out to include Lancashire Teaching Hospitals and Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trusts.

## Health Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (HIDVAs)

The PCC’s Office continued to fund Health IDVAs who offer specialist support for victims who disclose domestic abuse in health settings. Posts currently cover East Lancashire Hospitals Trust and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

## Home Office Perpetrator Fund

The PCC’s Office led a partnership bid to secure funding of £250,392 for the delivery of the Respect Young People’s Programme, adult perpetrator programmes, the development of a programme for perpetrators of abuse from BAME backgrounds and the evaluation and strategic mapping of perpetrator programmes in Lancashire.

## Domestic Abuse stakeholder event

The PCC chaired a stakeholder event for domestic abuse practitioners in Lancashire. Domestic Abuse Commissioner Nicole Jacobs delivered a key note speech as part of the event and engaged with local services to hear their views, suggestions and concerns around domestic abuse in Lancashire. Partners shared best practice and information about future ways of working in the county.



# 4

## Developing Safe and Confident Communities

### Safer Streets Funding

The PCC’s Office has secured over £745,000 in Safer Streets Funding. The money will be targeted at crime hotspots in the county to improve the safety and security of local residents. Funding will be invested in CCTV, improved street lighting, alley gates, motorcycle barriers and in improving home security in high risk areas.

Both Burnley and Skelmersdale are set to benefit from these improvement measures and the OPCC is working closely with the local councils, Community Safety Partnerships and the police to ensure the money is utilised in the best possible way.

**Safer Streets Funding**

Over **£745k** secured to invest in crime hotspots





## Community Action Fund

The Commissioner's Community Action Fund is designed to provide small grants to assist groups in tackling local concerns and helping to deliver the priorities of his Police and Crime Plan.

Over the past year the Community Action Fund has provided £141,621 funding to 56 local projects which will support over 5,600 individuals across Lancashire. Projects continue to address issues by strengthening local communities, providing diversionary activities and tackling anti-social behaviour.

Projects were funded across the county, aimed at strengthening and bringing together communities, reducing crime and demand on the emergency services and stopping people getting involved in crime or becoming victims themselves.



Community  
Action Fund

## Public Engagement

Despite the pandemic the OPCC has continued to engage with the public, partners and stakeholders across Lancashire.

## Surveys

The Commissioner's surveys have seen a higher response rate than ever before with more than 4,000 residents responding to the annual priorities survey as well as this year's survey around the Commissioner's budget for 2021/22.



## Campaigns

Despite the pandemic the Commissioner and his office have continued sharing key information with the public through county wide campaigns

### The #NoExcuseForAbuse partnership campaign

- Partnered with the 230+ SPAR stores in Lancashire to advertise the help and support available across the county at key points of sale
- Had 2,047 unique visits to the campaign website
- Developed and deployed 20 social media adverts
- Distributed 10, 400 posters across the county
- Had 342 radio spots for the campaign radio advert on Rock FM
- Shared an In The Know message with 33, 703 members
- Reached over 1.3 million people on Twitter with dedicated campaign messages
- Produced 20 additional social media adverts
- Enabled a campaign branded advertising van to visit 28 towns over 12 days

### The This.Is.Hate. campaign

"WHO DO THEY  
THINK THEY ARE  
TAKING OUR JOBS  
AND MONEY?"

Let's spell it out  
THIS. IS. HATE.

- Distributed over 2,000 posters requested by partners including Colleges, Probation Service, Councils, Constabulary and Victim Services.
- Social media partner pack shared with partners and stakeholder across Lancashire
- Reached over 20,000 people through Facebook
- Over 50,000 impressions on Twitter
- Featured on BBC Radio Lancashire, Rock FM, Global Radio, That's Lancashire TV as well as in the Lancashire Evening Post, Blackpool Gazette, Champion newspapers



“He forces me when I don’t want to”

Being in a relationship does not mean that your partner has a right to be intimate with you whenever and however they want. Using force, fear or guilt to make you do things you don't want to is not normal and it is not ok.

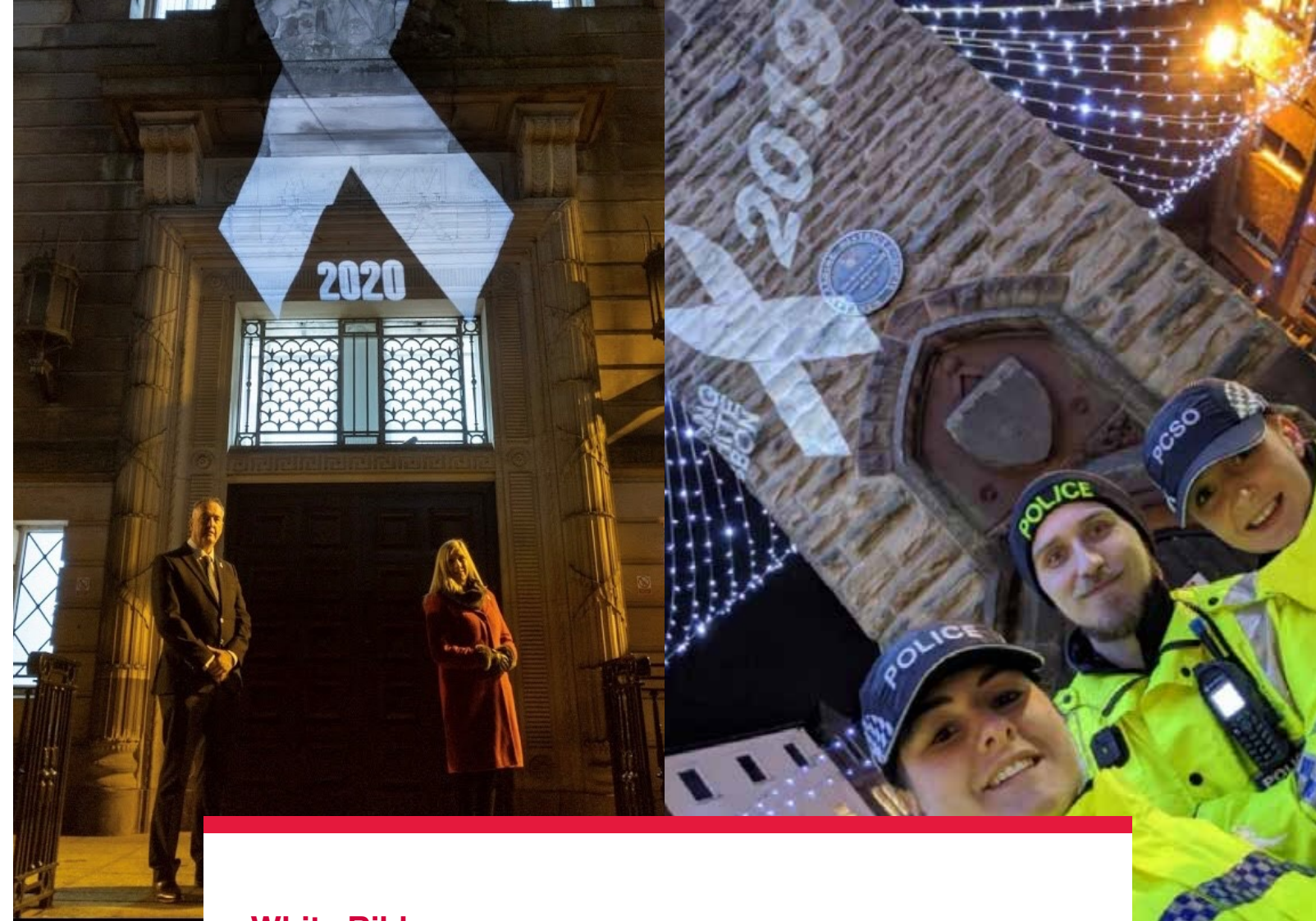
If it's happening to you, we are here to help.

## Sexual Violence

- Social media adverts to promote services available through Lancashire Victim Services reaching over 12,000 people
- Over 5,000 views of promotional videos.
- Social media pack created and shared with partners across Lancashire including Community Safety Partnerships, Local Authorities, Lancashire Constabulary
- Featured in Lancashire Resilience Forum stakeholder bulletin

## Nest Lancashire

- A social media campaign was launched to reach young people and increase awareness of the support available
- Messages for young people were shared on Instagram with messages for parents, carers and professionals shared on Instagram
- A social media pack was created for partners who supported the campaign by sharing campaign graphics and messages through their channels
- Messages reached over 150,000 people across Facebook and Instagram with over 1,600 click throughs for further information



## White Ribbon

- The Police and Crime Commissioner's Office continues to hold White Ribbon Accreditation having completed the re-accreditation process in October 2020 which will last until October 2023.
- The Office once again are leading on the White Ribbon campaign for the County and have supported Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council, South Ribble Borough Council, Lancaster City Council, Rossendale Borough Council, Pendle Borough Council, West Lancashire Borough Council and Hyndburn Borough Council to re-obtain accreditation with other partner agencies currently progressing their accreditation applications.
  - To celebrate White Ribbon Day which is held annually on the 25th November to coincide with International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the following 16 days of action the Commissioner lit up three Lancashire Landmarks with the White Ribbon and key messages; County Hall in Preston, Progress House in South Ribble and the Emily Davison Centre in Hyndburn



## Events

Despite the pandemic the Commissioner and his Office have continued to host and to contribute to key events to inform stakeholders and professionals across the county. The following are examples of this work.

## Domestic Abuse

In December the PCC was able to welcome Nicole Jacobs, Domestic Abuse Commissioner for England Wales, as part of an online event for professionals working to tackle domestic abuse in Lancashire.

## Modern Slavery

The PCC's Office organised two training events with the Rah Rah Theatre Company to share key messages around the signs of modern slavery and what professionals can do if they spot them. The PCC's Office and the theatre company worked together creatively to turn two live theatre productions into two interactive online theatre shows to get key messages across to stakeholders.

## Student Q&A

As part of a digital question and answer session the Commissioner talked to more than 70 local crime and policing students to share information about his role and the way he works with Lancashire Police.

"I just wanted to pass on my sincere gratitude to you, Mr Grunshaw for delivering a fantastic and very informative session on your role as Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner.

"The session really allowed my students to fully understand the work and dedication you have for Lancashire and you further enhanced their knowledge and understanding surrounding the nature of your role, crime within the area and the sheer dedication in which you have for the residents and the police of Lancashire."

**Sarah Rodriguez, Programme Leader in Public Services and Policing, Blackpool and The Fylde College**

## The Youth Commission

The Youth Commission was established in November 2020 with the aim of enabling young people to support, challenge and influence decisions about policing, crime and violence reduction in Lancashire.

The Commission will work in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Lancashire Violence Reduction Network and other partners to inform, support and shape their organisational priorities.

25 Youth Commissioners will engage more than 1,200 young people across Lancashire as part of 'The Big Conversation'.

Since its conception the Youth Commission has identified six local priorities covering mental health, drug and alcohol abuse, relationships with the police, social media and its impact, domestic violence and hate crime.

Youth Commission members are already involved in reviewing campaign materials aimed at tackling issues including county lines and promoting support services for young victims of crime.



## Lancashire Volunteer Partnership

The Commissioner established the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership (LVP) together with public service partners just over four years ago, with the aim of bringing public service volunteers together by creating a one-stop-shop for people wanting to support their local communities.

The LVP recognised the enormous impact volunteers could make in supporting people, and with the onset of the Covid-19 national public health crisis in March 2020, the service was ready for the challenge.

Over the past year LVP changed their entire operation to support the response effort by:

- Opening up the Community Support Befriending Programme to anyone who was vulnerable, isolated or in need
- Signposting volunteer enquiries to district hubs for support services, delivering much needed food parcels and support to vulnerable people
- Creating a new Telephone Befriending Service for the lonely, isolated or those shielding.

- Supporting the NHS vaccination programme processing almost 1,500 Volunteer Covid Marshals.
- LVP volunteers have been filling 3259 time slots (Shifts) a week at vaccination centres across Lancashire and South Cumbria, that's nearly 16,000hrs of volunteering time a week over a sustained period of time.





## Our Lancashire

The Commissioner funded the creation of Our Lancashire in November 2019.

As well as bringing together small local groups, clubs and associations Our Lancashire has been able to provide a place where people can network and find activities to get involved in; from boxing to knitting, litter picking, residents' associations, book clubs, coffee clubs and support groups. Our Lancashire has become a platform to make new friends and make communities stronger, by providing a support network – hosted by the community, for the community.

In response to the pandemic, the Our Lancashire team quickly rearranged its structure to form a bridge between public services and those groups who were able to help the response effort. Over the past year Our Lancashire

- Worked with 14 Lancashire Local District Hubs in response to the pandemic

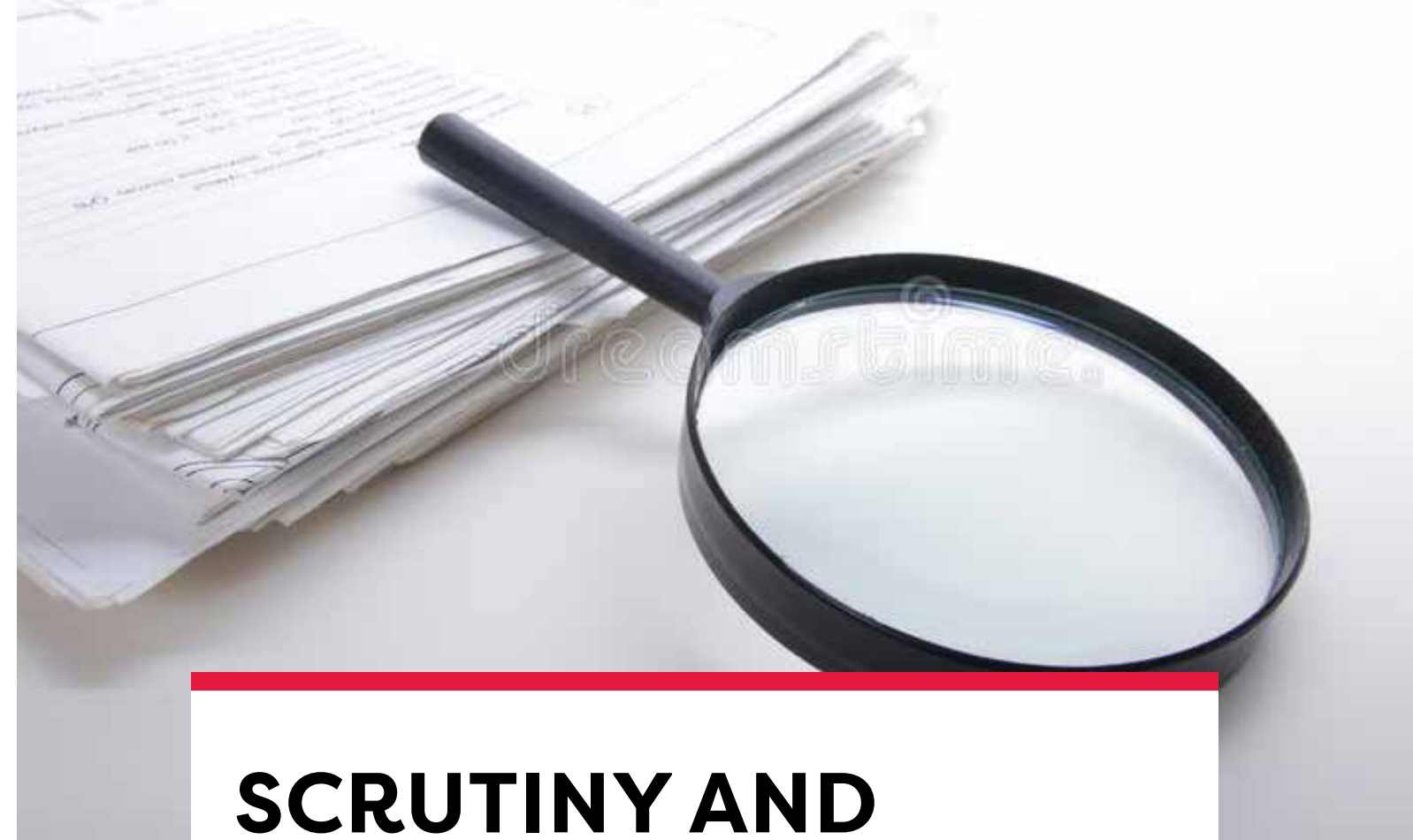
- Supported the Lancashire Volunteer Partnership in the processing of nearly 1,500 Volunteer Covid Marshals
- Reached over 100,000 people on social media
- Continued to support groups in funding the vital work they do and worked with local partners supporting them to access the £1.8M fund distributed to groups and charities across Lancashire.
- Made over 50 online training and development opportunities available
- Provided Covid-19 volunteering safety guide to over 1,100 group leaders
- Recorded over 12,000 website visits
- Despite the challenges over 1647 groups have registered to be part of the Our Lancashire Network
- These groups have access to over 150,000 members across Lancashire

THANKS TO OUR LANCASHIRE, WE'VE RECEIVED FUNDING WHICH WILL HELP US SUPPORT MORE VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN LOCKDOWN.

I DON'T FEEL AS SCARED BECAUSE NOW I KNOW WHO TO CONTACT FOR HELP.

OUR LANCASHIRE HAS HELPED ME ARRANGE FOOD DELIVERIES FROM LOCAL SHOPS FOR MY 83-YEAR-OLD MUM FROM OVER 250 MILES AWAY!

I WILL TREASURE YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS.



# SCRUTINY AND TRANSPARENCY

## During 2020/21 the Police and Crime Commissioner has

- Engaged in 4 Police and Crime Panel meetings where members scrutinised and supported the work
- Made 49 formal decisions and published them
- Dealt with 13 complaints against the Chief Constable – none of which were upheld
- Held 5 Strategic Business Meetings giving the opportunity to discuss matters of immediate concern, trends in performance and incidence of crime that may impact on priorities included in the Police and Crime Plan, strategic finance and policing matters
- Had ongoing one-to-one meetings with the Chief Constable
- Held 6 formal Scrutiny meetings giving an opportunity to challenge and question the Chief Constable and his Officers
- Held 4 Joint Audit and Ethics Committee (JAEC) meetings focusing on governance and risk management
- Held Joint Asset Management Board meetings focussing on the Estate, vehicles and equipment for officers and staff.
- Answered 48 Freedom of Information requests
- Responded to 5 Subject Access Requests
- Administered 3 Police Appeal Tribunals
- Undertook 74 reviews in relation to police complaints



## Independent Custody Visitors

On 30th March 2020 the decision was made to suspend the Independent Custody Visitor Scheme due to COVID-19 to comply with Government guidance and local restrictions. However, to ensure that monitoring of detainee welfare remained in place, a number of measures were implemented including:

- Telephone monitoring
- Agreement with Child Action North West to offer Detainees a call to the ICV Scheme. Manager as an independent party.
- Weekly meetings with custody inspectors.
- Online meetings and training for ICVs continued throughout.

Visits briefly resumed in September 2020 although the high levels of infections in the North West and guidance from Constabulary Custody Management meant two Custody Suites were closed. As a result the scheme was again suspended.

Physical visits were re-instated at the end of January 2021 (due to low number of infections in the County) with the agreement of the Custody Management team and an appropriate risk assessment.

All decisions made in relation to the operation of the scheme throughout the pandemic was one of having a duty of care to

## Chief Constable

Christopher Rowley took up his post as Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary in April 2021, following a challenging recruitment process, assisted by the College of Policing.

Chris has quickly set about establishing his vision for Lancashire Constabulary and is focussed on delivering the objectives set by the PCC to drive forward service delivery improvements over the next five years.

## Neurodiversity

The OPCC have continued to support the Constabulary's Autism Network to improve the awareness of neurodiversity which affects not only the communities of Lancashire, but also Police Officers and Police staff with autism and wider neurodiverse spectrum conditions.

During 2020/21 the Office has been assisting with the introduction of an Autism Alert Card which will help frontline officers understand the complexities facing some members of the community living with neurodiversity conditions. This is a huge step forward for the Constabulary and highlights its commitment to neurodiversity matters.



## Complaints reviews

The Commissioner's Office has successfully implemented a new system to review police complaints

The model implemented means that the PCC's Office now holds the Chief Constable to account for the exercise of the Chief Constable's function in relation to handling complaints. This includes hearing appeals that would previously have been the responsibility of the Chief Constable.

The Commissioner has delegated the authority to the Director to undertake reviews in relation to complaints made against police officers under the Policing and Crime Act 2017 and associated regulations.

Supported by the Standards & Compliance Policy Officer, the Director reviews complaint cases to ensure that they have been dealt with reasonably and proportionately. Where there are failings or issues, the Director can request further action from the police in order to assist service recovery and resolve conflict. There have been 67 reviews submitted to the Office since the new legislation went live which is significantly higher than was originally anticipated. At the time of reporting 37 (55%) have been completed.

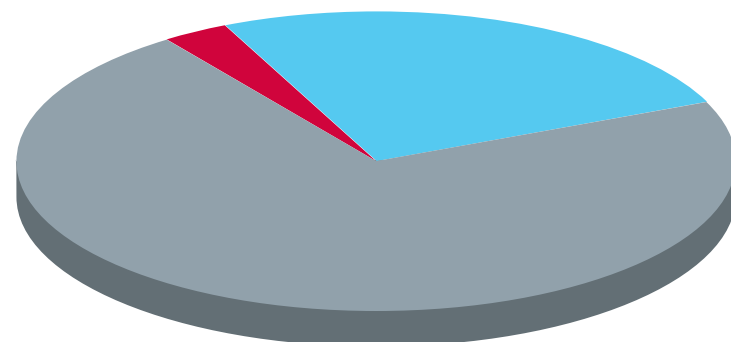
To ensure that all feedback is captured the Office is maintaining accurate and consistent information about the reviews to help identify opportunities for learning and improvement. This information will also be used to identify issues and trends and contribute to a sound evidence base that informs the development of future policy and practice at local and national levels.

# FINANCES AND RESOURCES

## Revenue budget 2020/21

	£m
<b>Budget Requirement 2019/20</b>	<b>289.563</b>
ADD: Cost pressures	
Uplift	14.252
Pay Award	6.121
Cost pressures	5.002
Spending Requirement 2020/21	314.938
LESS: Savings and cost reductions	-2.008
<b>Budget Requirement 2020/21</b>	<b>312.930</b>

	£m	
<b>Funded by:</b>	<b>289.563</b>	
Government 'core' grant	207.285	66.2%
Specific grants	10.738	3.4%
Council tax	94.906	30.3%
<b>Funding 2020/21</b>	<b>312.930</b>	



Funding 2020/21 (£m)

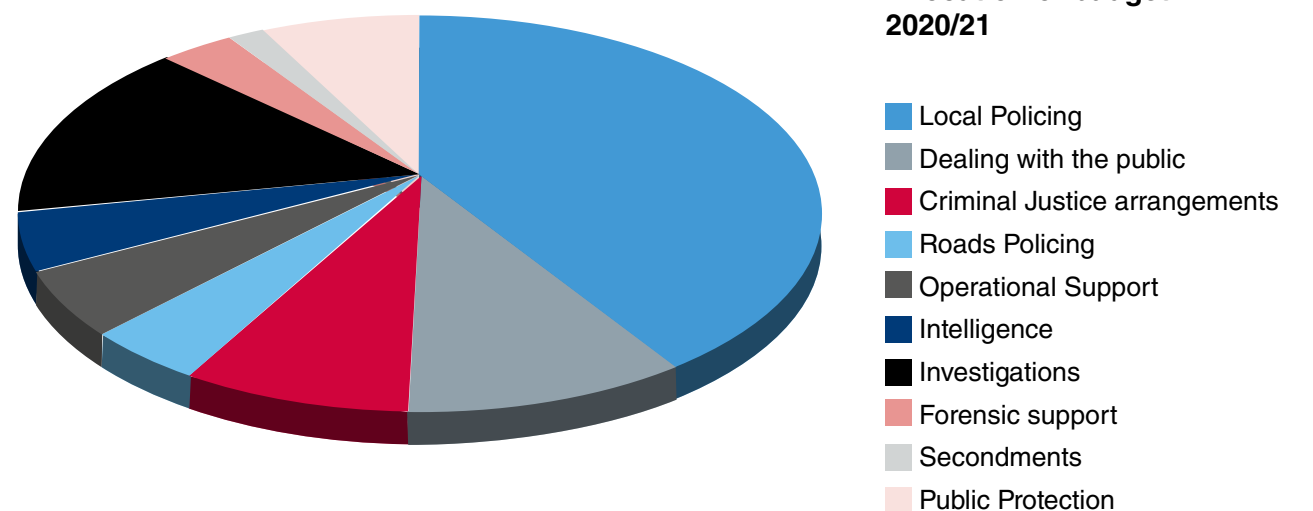
- Specific grants, 10.738
- Council Tax 94.906
- Government 'core' grant, 207.285

## Specific grant funding 2020/21

Included in original budget decision:	£
Uplift grant	4,275,849
Pension grant	3,104,174
Counter terrorism grant	1,626,000
	<b>10,728,023</b>

Additional grant funded awarded DURING 2020/21:	£
Domestic Abuse emergency funding	506,228
Increased Victim services funding - CHISVA	131,552
Increased Victim services funding - ISVA	65,897
Domestic Abuse perpetrator fund	250,392
VRN funding	1,160,000
Support for charities emergency funding	98,101
SURGE funding	1,189,610
Project ADDER	1,275,000
Safer Streets Fund	47,010
Taser	235,125
	<b>5,658,915</b>

Frontline policing - Allocation of budget 2020/21



# APPENDIX A

<b>Community Safety Fund</b>		
Community Action Fund	Various projects	£141,261
District Community Safety Partnerships	Various projects	£29,300
Blackpool Council	Contribution to community safety	£91,000
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	Contribution to community safety	£70,000
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council	Contribution to Pennine Coordinator Role	£6,000
Lancashire County Council	MADE	£39,850
Lancashire County Council	TIIG Data Service	£12,500
Blackpool and the Fylde Street Angels	£13,500	£20,000.00
Chorley Street Pastors	£5,000	£25,000.00
IMO	£11,990	£7,964.00
Ormskirk Street Pastors	£3,000	£19,680.00
Preston and South Ribble Street Pastors	£12,000	£17,452.00

<b>Crime &amp; Reoffending Funding</b>		
Lancashire County Council	Contribution to substance misuse services	£265,000
Lancashire County Council	LDIS	£2,500
Rural Crime		£12,000
Business Crime		£10,000
Modern Slavery	Training and materials	

<b>Reducing Reoffending Fund</b>	
Lancashire Women	£25,000
Red Rose Recovery	£25,000
Headssup CIC	£18,750
The Foxtan Centre	£20,600

# APPENDIX A

<b>Victims Fund</b>		
Blackpool Council	Contribution to domestic abuse services	£51,000
Blackburn with Darwen Council	Contribution to domestic abuse services	£78,000
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals	IDVA	£33,939.53
East Lancashire Hospitals	IDVA	£15,357
Blackpool Teaching Hospitals	Op Provide	£34,087.32
White Ribbon	Accreditation and Awareness	£1,376

<b>MoJ Domestic Abuse &amp; Sexual Violence Fund</b>	
Fylde Coast Womens Aid	£90,424.25
Lancashire Victim Services	£114,916
The Wish	£91,028
Flowhesion	£17,255
HARV	£14,979.07
Pendle Action in the Community (PDVI)	£12,485
Paladin	£15,821
Red Rose Recovery	£20,451.80
Safenet	£17,155
Sahara in Preston	£25,461.40
The Birchall Trust	£13,358.50
The Emily Davison Centre	£29,483
Trust House	£16,650.39
Liberty Centre	£26,760

<b>MoJ Covid-19 Top Up Funding</b>	
Flowhesion	£5,318.39
Paladin NSAS	£7,070.78
The Birchall Trust	£3,381.42
HARV	£5,935.15
The Emily Davidson Centre	13,407.72
Fylde Coast Women's Aid	£8,938.47
Safenet	7,719.27
The Wish Centre	19,689.67
Preston Domestic Violence Services	1,442.67
Trust House	18,744.65
Red Rose Recovery	£536.30



# APPENDIX B

It should be noted that this data has been provided by Lancashire Constabulary and is expected to be published by the Office of National Statistics as part of the national crime data report in July.

PROTECTING LOCAL POLICING			
Measure	Previous Equivalent period Apr '19 - Mar '20	In Year Performance versus Previous 12 months period	In Year Performance April 20- March '21
Proportion of Force Budget Spent on Front Line Policing: visible	£103.7M (38.7%)		£108.7M (38.6%)
Proportion of Force Budget Spent on Front Line Policing: non visible	£87.1M (32.5%)		£90.0M (32%)
Measure	Previous 12 Month Period April 19- March '20	In Year Performance Vs Previous 12 Month Period	In Year Performance April 20- March '21
Grade 1 - Emergency Response Median Time to Arrive (Target <15 Mins)	10.3	-0.1 min	10.2
Grade 2 - Priority Response	33.2 min	+ 0.6 min	33.8 min
Median Time to Arrive (target <1 hour)	33.8	+0.7 min	34.5
Grade 3 - Routine Response Median Time to Arrive (<48 hours)	975.3	-677.8 min	297.5
999 Calls - Service Level < 10 secs	77.3%	+6.5%	83.8%
999 Calls - Time To Answer (Average)	8.81	-2.3 sec	6.48
101 Calls - Service Level	44.3%	+10.1%	54.4%
101 Calls - Time To Answer (Average)	192.59	-87.41 sec	105.18

TACKLING CRIME & RE-OFFENDING			
Measure Taken from Recorded Crime dashboard unless stated with *	Previous 12 Month Period April 19- March '20	In Year Performance Versus Previous 12 Month Period	In Year Performance April 19- March '21
All Crime	142,374	Decrease (16%, - 22,859)	119,515
Violence with injury	16,140	Decrease (13%, - 2,072)	14,068
Violence without injury	22,926	Decrease (17%, -3,986)	18,940
Burglary Residential	7,234	Decrease (22%, - 1,614)	5,620
Robbery (Personal)	1,085	Decrease (20%, -220)	865
Public Order	10,539	Decrease (13%, -1,342)	9,197
Number of Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	57,031	Increase (69%, +39,360)	96,391

SUPPORTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE & VICTIMS			
Measure Taken from Recorded Crime dashboard unless stated with *	Previous 12 Month Period April 19- March '20	In Year Performance Versus Previous 12 Month Period	In Year Performance April 19- March '21
Rape	1,358	Decrease (12%, -168)	1,190
Other Sexual Offences	3,003	Decrease (10%, -287)	2,716
CSE Crime	529	Decrease (1%, -5)	524
Modern Slavery Crimes (Only introduced 1st April 2015)	120	Increase (16%, +19)	139
Domestic Abuse Crime	20,409	Increase (11%, +2149)	22,558
Hate Crime	2,598	Decrease (0.5%, -12)	2,586
Missing Person Incidents	13,912	+1%,109	14,021
*Responding Dashboard	9,804	Decrease (20%, -1602)	8,202
Number of Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	50,464	+13%, 6,769	57,233

DEVELOPING CONFIDENT COMMUNITIES			
Measure	Previous 12 Month Period April 19- March '20	In Year Performance Versus Previous 12 Month Period	In Year Performance April 19- March '21
Confidence - CSEW (Overall Confidence)	74.3%	-	N/A

2020/21

# ANNUAL REPORT

Lancashire Police and  
Crime Commissioner

## POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 20 July 2021

### Police & Crime Commissioner Decisions

Contact for further information: Ian Dickinson, 01772 533462, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, [ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk)

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is to highlight decisions made by

- i) the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, and
- ii) the Director, or authorised officer, under delegated authority in the period since the last meeting of the Panel on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to consider the report and raise any issues identified on the decisions presented.

### 1 Background

- 1.1. Under Section 28(6) of the Police Reform and Social responsibility Act 2011, the Panel is obliged to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner's functions and, where necessary, make reports or recommendations to the Police and Crime Commissioner with respect to the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.
- 1.2. The Commissioner is under a statutory obligation under the terms of the Specified Information Order to publish details of decisions of significant public interest. In more general terms under Section 13 of the 2011 Act, the Commissioner is obliged to ensure that he provides the Panel with any information that it might reasonably require to allow it to carry out its functions. This would include the provision of information regarding the Commissioner's decisions and actions, irrespective of whether they were to be considered to be of 'significant public interest'.
- 1.3. In this respect, the Commissioner publishes on his website all decisions he has made.
- 1.4. Further details on all these decisions are available for scrutiny on the Commissioner's Website at:-  
<https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/decisions/>
- 1.5. Additionally, Members may access the Strategic Scrutiny Agenda and Minutes at  
<https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/meetings-reports/strategic-scrutiny-meetings/>  
and the Joint Management Board papers at  
<https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/meetings-reports/joint-management-board/>

## 2 Decisions made and/or published since the last scheduled meeting of the Police and Crime Panel

2.1 Drawing on the information published on the Commissioner's website, a number of decisions have been made since the report to the Panel at its last meeting on 8 March 2021. These are set out in the table below.

Decision Reference	Decision Title	PCC Priority	Date of Decision
03/2021	Pension Forfeiture	-	16 June 2021
06/2021	Appointment of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner	-	3 June 2021
07/2021	Safer Streets – Round Three	-	25 June 2021
08/2021	Financial Position as at 31 March 2021	Governance	23 June 2021
09/2021	Community Safety Partnership Funding	-	25 June 2021

## 3. Director's Delegated Decisions

3.1 The Panel will recall that the Commissioner has agreed to the Director's delegated decisions being published.

3.2 A report detailing the exercise of her delegations made since the last meeting was presented to the Commissioner on the 19 July 2021. This report has been published along with all other decisions made by the Commissioner on the website and is available for inspection via the following link.

<https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/decisions/>

## 4. Conclusion

4.2 In accordance with its statutory duty, the Panel has the opportunity to scrutinise and review the decisions made and published as set out in the report now presented.

## POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 20 July 2021

### Police & Crime Plan

Contact for further information: Ian Dickinson, 01772 533587, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, [ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk)

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Police and Crime Commissioner for a Police area must issue a Police and Crime Plan within the financial year in which each ordinary election is held, as soon as practicable after the commissioner takes office. The purpose of this report is to advise the Panel of the legislative process and proposed timetable for the development of the Police and Crime Plan.

#### RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to note the report and timescale

### 1 Background

Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Police and Crime Commissioner must issue a Police and Crime Plan. The key provisions from the Act relating to the Plan are set out below. (In the Act, the police and crime commissioner is sometimes referred to as the elected local policing body.)

#### Section 5

- (1) The police and crime commissioner for a police area must issue a police and crime plan within the financial year in which each ordinary election is held.
- (2) A police and crime commissioner must comply with the duty under subsection (1) as soon as practicable after the commissioner takes office.
- (3) A police and crime commissioner may, at any time, issue a police and crime plan.
- (4) A police and crime commissioner may vary a police and crime plan.
- (5) In issuing or varying a police and crime plan, a police and crime commissioner must have regard to the strategic policing requirement issued by the Secretary of State under section 37A of the Police Act 1996. (The strategic policing requirement is issued by the Secretary of State for the Home Office and sets out her view on what the national threats are at the time of writing and the appropriate national policing capabilities that are required to counter those



threats. The strategic policing requirement supports chief constables and police and crime commissioners to ensure they fulfil forces' national responsibilities, and helps commissioners, in consultation with their chief constable, to plan effectively for policing challenges that go beyond their force boundaries.)

(6) Before issuing or varying a police and crime plan, a police and crime commissioner must—

- (a) prepare a draft of the plan or variation,
- (b) consult the relevant chief constable in preparing the draft plan or variation,
- (c) send the draft plan or variation to the relevant police and crime panel,
- (d) have regard to any report or recommendations made by the panel in relation to the draft plan or variation (see section 28(3)),
- (e) give the panel a response to any such report or recommendations, and
- (f) publish any such response.

(7) In complying with subsection (6)(c), the police and crime commissioner must ensure that the relevant police and crime panel has a reasonable amount of time to exercise its functions under section 28(3).

(8) A police and crime commissioner must consult the relevant chief constable before issuing or varying a police and crime plan if, and to the extent that, the plan or variation is different from the draft prepared in accordance with subsection (6).

(9) A police and crime commissioner must—

- (a) keep the police and crime plan under review, and
- (b) in particular, review the police and crime plan in the light of—
  - (i) any report or recommendations made to the commissioner by the relevant police and crime panel under section 28(4) [section 28 (4) relates to the police and crime commissioner's annual report], and
  - (ii) any changes in the strategic policing requirement issued by the Secretary of State under section 37A of the Police Act 1996; and exercise the powers under subsection (3) or (4) accordingly.

(10) A police and crime commissioner who issues or varies a police and crime plan must—

- (a) send a copy of the issued plan, or the variation, to the relevant chief constable and to each of the other persons and bodies that are, for the purposes of section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, responsible authorities in relation to local government areas that are wholly or partly within the relevant police area, and
- (b) publish a copy of the issued plan, or the variation.

(11) The duty under subsection (10) to send or publish a copy of the variation may instead be satisfied by sending or publishing a copy of the plan as varied.

(12) It is for the commissioner to determine the manner in which—

(a) a response to a report or recommendations is to be published in accordance with subsection (6)(f), and

(b) a copy of the plan or variation is to be published in accordance with subsection (10)(b).

## Section 7

(1) A police and crime plan is a plan which sets out, in relation to the planning period, the following matters—

- (a) the elected local policing body's police and crime objectives;
- (b) the policing of the police area which the chief officer of police is to provide;
- (c) the financial and other resources which the elected local policing body is to provide to the chief officer of police for the chief officer to exercise the functions of chief officer;
- (d) the means by which the chief officer of police will report to the elected local policing body on the chief officer's provision of policing;
- (e) the means by which the chief officer of police's performance in providing policing will be measured;
- (f) the crime and disorder reduction grants which the elected local policing body is to make, and the conditions (if any) to which such grants are to be made.

(2) The elected local policing body's police and crime objectives are the body's objectives for—

- (a) the policing of the body's area,
- (b) crime and disorder reduction in that area, and
- (c) the discharge by the relevant police force of its national or international functions.

(3) The Secretary of State may give guidance to elected local policing bodies about the matters to be dealt with in police and crime plans.

(4) An elected local policing body must have regard to such guidance. The guidance indicates that the Police and Crime Plan must be a 5 year plan.

## Section 8

(1) A police and crime commissioner must, in exercising the functions of commissioner, have regard to the police and crime plan issued by the commissioner.

(2) The chief constable of the police force for a police area listed in Schedule 1 to the Police Act 1996 must, in exercising the functions of chief constable, have regard to the police and crime plan issued by the police and crime commissioner for that police area.

## Section 28

(3) A police and crime panel must—

(a) review the draft police and crime plan, or draft variation, given to the panel by the relevant police and crime commissioner in accordance with section 5(6)(c), and

(b) make a report or recommendations on the draft plan or variation to the commissioner.

## Development of the Police and Crime for Lancashire - Planned Activity

- Scoping work has begun on the Police and Crime Plan.
- Development of the Plan is being undertaken jointly between the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office and the Constabulary.
- Supporting and reference documents are being collated
- The proposed timetable for the development of the first Police and Crime Plan is:

6 May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCC Elections</li> </ul>
May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New FMS available – 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021</li> </ul>
June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSP meeting 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021</li> <li>• Consultation with the CC on what should be in the plan – what do we know /what are the issues? / where are we going? / identification of priorities /CC vision and Plan for Constabulary</li> </ul>
July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch online and telephone survey - Your Commissioner-Your Voice</li> <li>• Key stakeholder meetings and consultation including MPs, Council Leaders and Portfolio Holders</li> <li>• Report to PCP 20<sup>th</sup> July on PCP plans for the new PCP process</li> </ul>
August 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your Commissioner- Your Voice public face to face and online events</li> <li>• Ongoing key stakeholder meetings and consultation including victims, Youth Commission, CSPs and minority ethnic groups</li> <li>• Engagement event with Panel on draft Plan - Task and finish group approach</li> <li>• Draft to go to CC before it goes to panel</li> </ul>
September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 Draft PCP goes to Panel for review and recommendations</li> <li>• PCC will consult public and victims of crime on the draft plan consultation 15<sup>th</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> of October 2021</li> </ul>
October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCP to provide their views on the draft Plan</li> <li>• Post close of consultation PCC will respond back to the PCP on their comments received</li> </ul>
November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCC must consult CC before final version goes to panel –</li> <li>• PCC make final decision on new plan target date W/C 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021</li> </ul>
December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCP meeting date 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2021</li> <li>• Final PCP to Panel for information only</li> <li>• Formal Launch PCP, including video and event</li> </ul>

### Recommendations;

Panel is asked to note the report and proposed timescale

## **Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire**

Meeting to be held on the 20 July 2021

### **Independent review of deaths and serious incidents in custody**

Contact for further information: Ian Dickinson, 01772 533462, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, [ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk](mailto:ian.dickinson@lancashire-pcc.gov.uk)

#### **Executive Summary**

The purpose of the report is to advise the Police and Crime Panel how the PCC provides independent scrutiny of Lancashire Constabulary to ensure that detainees in custody are being treated fairly and in accordance with Code C, G and H of the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE).

#### **Recommendation**

The Panel is asked to consider this report.

#### **Information**

The Panel will recall that at its meeting in December 2020 that consideration was given to how the Commissioner's response on the independent review of deaths and serious incidents in custody chaired by Dame Elish Angiolini DBE QC - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/deathsand-serious-incidents-in-police-custody> reported in January 2017 should be presented to the Panel. Accordingly, the Panel asked for a briefing paper to be presented to the July meeting.

In the report pages 160-164 it refers to the PCC's statutory duty to have an Independent Custody Visitors scheme in place, and to ensure that appropriately trained medical staff are available in police station custody suites.

In a communication in September 2020, it was suggested by NAPFCP that Police and Crime Panels may wish to scrutinise the work of the PCC in custody and how he holds the Chief Constable to account for the operational running of custody. The purpose of this report is therefore to provide assurances about the position in Lancashire and how this is monitored.

Attached at Appendix A is a briefing paper setting out how the Commissioner through his office provides independent scrutiny of Lancashire Constabulary to ensure that detainees in custody are being treated fairly and in accordance with Code C, G and H of the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE).

## **Consultations**

N/A.

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk Management**

The requirement for an Independent Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire is in accordance with the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The role of the Panel is to scrutinise.

## **Legal Implications**

The role of the Panel includes the scrutiny of the actions of the PCC in respect of his Police & Crime Plan and use of resources to deliver effective Policing across Lancashire. This report is in accordance with those responsibilities.

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

NAPFCP Note and documents September 2020

David Fairclough  
Secretary to the  
Police & Crime Panel

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A

## **Briefing Paper for the Police and Crime Panel in relation to the Independent Custody Visitor Scheme in Lancashire.**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Lancashire, like all other PCC offices in England and Wales, has a duty to implement and co-ordinate an Independent Custody Visiting Scheme. The primary purpose of the Scheme is to provide independent scrutiny of Lancashire Constabulary to ensure that detainees in custody are being treated fairly and in accordance with Code C, G and H of the 1984 Police and Criminal Evidence Act (PACE). The full version of the Act can be found at <http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk>. The Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act placed a statutory obligation on all PCCs in England and Wales to have in place an effective independent Custody Visiting Scheme.

The Commissioner, through his office, is responsible for organising and overseeing the delivery of custody visiting in Lancashire. Arrangements are kept under review and are revised as necessary and in accordance with any changes made to the Code of Practice and National Standards. Volunteers are supported in their role through contact with the office and regular meetings and training.

### **2. INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITORS**

During the year 2020-2021 the scheme had 34 Independent Custody Visitors. In the year 2020-2021 there were 14 male visitors and 20 female visitors, spanning a range of ages and backgrounds. Only 1 ICV is from diverse ethnic background and ideally the ratio should be increased.

Eight new Custody Visitors joined the Scheme during the year and five left the Scheme for a variety of reasons. We are looking to recruit at least another 8 new members across the County once the COVID-19 national restrictions allow. Potential applicants who express an interest in the Scheme are invited to interview to fulfil vacancies. Wherever possible, recruitment needs to be specifically targeted towards groups that are underrepresented on panels, especially young people, and individuals from black and minority ethnic communities.

### **3. INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITS AND THE REPORTING MECHANISM**

Lancashire has 6 custody centres: Greenbank (Blackburn), Burnley, Skelmersdale, Preston, Blackpool and Lancaster. Visits take place to each Custody Suite at a minimum every week as this is considered an adequate number of visits.

ICVs complete a duplicate report form, the bottom copy of which stays within the Custody Suite. This allows access to the most recent report for the Custody Management Inspector (CMI) and the ICVs visiting the following week to be able to check any outstanding issues or matters which need further attention. The top copy is sent to the Scheme Administrator at the OPCC who sends an electronic copy to the Panel Co-ordinator and to the CMI.

Issues of immediate concern are raised by the visiting pair with the Custody Sergeant. Unresolved issues or those requiring a response from the OPCC are brought to the attention of the Scheme

Administrator. Feedback is given to ICVs on comments raised following discussion with the CMIs or, in more serious instances, following discussion with the Custody Liaison Chief Inspector.

The ICV Scheme Administrator attends Custody Practitioners Group and the Custody Management Policy Group meetings which is attended by representatives from all custody stakeholders/partners including:-

- Health care providers
- Civilian Detention Officers Managers
- Appropriate Adult Service (Child Action North West)
- Youth Offending Teams (County and two Unitary authorities)
- Criminal Justice, Liaison & Diversion Teams
- Health & Safety Team (Lancashire Constabulary)
- Prisoner Transport (Geo Amey)
- Professional Standards Department (Lancashire Constabulary)

#### **4. ICV SCHEME OVERSIGHT**

Through his office, the Police & Crime Commissioner has oversight of the operation of the Scheme and is actively involved in recruitment, meetings, training and thank-you events. Lancashire is a participating member of the national Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA) and Lancashire's Scheme Administrator is the North West & North Wales Region's representative on ICVA's National Expert Forum and attends quarterly meetings with Scheme Administrators from across the UK. Scheme Administrators from Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside and North Wales hold regular meetings to share good practice, examine benchmarking data and provide feedback to the Association.

#### **5. OVERVIEW OF 2020/2021**

##### **COVID-19**

In March 2020 the OPCC decided to suspend the Independent Custody Visitor Scheme due to COVID-19 to comply with Government guidance and local restrictions. To ensure that monitoring of detainee welfare remained in place, several measures were put in place including:

- Telephone monitoring process
- Agreement with Child Action North West to offer Detainees a call to the ICV Scheme Administrator as an Independent party.
- Weekly meetings with Custody Inspectors
- Online meetings for ICVs continued throughout.

Visits briefly resumed in September 2020 although the high levels of infections in the North West and guidance from Constabulary Custody Management (who had closed two Custody Suites due to increased risk of infection) the Scheme was re-suspended within a few weeks.

With the agreement of the Custody Management team and an appropriate risk assessment, physical visits were reinstated at the end of January 2021 (due to low number of infections in the County). All ICVs were asked to complete a COVID-19 Self-Assessment Form regarding returning to physical visits.

All decisions made in relation to the operation of the Scheme throughout the pandemic was one of having a duty of care to the volunteers and maintaining as much as possible the scrutiny function of the PCC.

### **Medical Provision**

The medical provision for Lancashire Constabulary is provided by CRG (Castle Rock Group) who provide a 24/7 service. They are not embedded within custody but are aligned to an area and utilised via a 'call out system'. The nurses can cover different suites and there is one Doctor aligned per day for the County.

The medical contract is undergoing tender and is being managed by the Constabulary's Estates Department. – The medical contract is up for renewal in March 2022. In September of this year Lancashire Police will commence the tendering process via their procurement department. The provision of custody medical services is currently subject of a national review by Blue Light Commercial. Lancashire Constabulary will continue to monitor progress as the tendering process approaches.

### **Near Misses**

Lancashire Constabulary follows the Standard Operating Procedure for 'near misses' which is guidance where there has been a near miss and death or serious injury was a likely outcome. Preservation of life is the initial and obvious action for custody staff and an investigation will take place after. This may include for example a detained person suffering a cardiac arrest and first aid administered and is admitted to hospital and is diagnosed safe and well. This will be investigated by the Custody Inspector and reviewed that the appropriate action was taken and this will be recorded by the staff involved on the detainees custody record.

If the incident is more serious the same recording and review process will take place, but it is also likely that a Post Incident Procedure will take place with the Investigators being PSD and/or IOPC.

### **Quarterly Panel Meetings**

Lancashire's ICVs also attended quarterly Panel Meetings which for the first time were held via Skype, Teams etc. These meetings take place for each Custody Suite and a Custody Management Inspector always attends.

### **Training**

Quarterly Training Sessions were postponed during the Scheme's suspension; however, online training has been prepared and face-to-face training is due to recommence in August 2021.



## Sanitary Packs

The provision of sanitary packs for female detainees was raised on a national level and ICVs in Lancashire confirmed that they are rarely requested by detainees. ICVs have been asked to check regularly that there is sufficient provision of these sanitary packs within the Custody Suite during their visit. ICVs recognise that some detainees may find it difficult to request these items and ICVs have also been asked to make female detainees aware that they can ask for these personal items. The Constabulary have a dedicated female member of custody staff for each female detainee.

## Lancashire Volunteer Partnership

The ICV Scheme works alongside Lancashire Volunteer Partnership whose ambition is to bring together volunteers from the whole of Lancashire's public services. Along with the OPCC, other organisations currently participating in LVP are Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service, Lancashire Constabulary (including Specials and Cadets), Blackpool Borough Council, Blackburn-with-Darwen Borough Council, Preston City Council, Neighbourhood Watch, Lancashire Adult Learning and East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust. From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, LVP recorded 86,641 hours of volunteering across these groups. The number of hours contributed by Independent Custody Visitors during 2020-2021 is 59 hours. The previous year the total was 762 hours which reflects how the pandemic affected the direct interaction with Detainees.

## **5. CONSTABULARY UPDATE**

Lancashire Constabulary and Lancashire Independent Custody Visitors continue to share a very positive working relationship. Visits to all police stations indicates that detainees are treated with dignity and respect and in accordance with Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984. Whilst the role of the Custody Visitor is an independent function we welcome the close liaison with custody staff and divisional and senior management in order to identify and correct any issues or concerns at the earliest opportunity.

The success of the scheme is due to the commitment of the Independent Custody Visitors who all play a vital role in maintaining public confidence in this high risk area of business to ensure that safeguarding of some of our most vulnerable people is at the forefront of everything we do.

## **7. VISIT STATISTICS**

The Scheme was suspended during w/c 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 due to the Government guidelines around the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure the Commissioner's volunteers were not put at risk. This is reflected in the lower than normal number of visits undertaken and therefore also the number of Detainee interviews.

**86** visits to custody have taken place including **57** telephone monitoring visits. **76** interviews have been held with detainees in the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

In the year 2020 -2021, the total throughput in Lancashire Custody Suites was 21,451 compared with 24,354 the previous year.

A percentage of detainees were unable to be interviewed for a variety of issues such as the detainee being asleep, in a police interview, at hospital or receiving medical treatment; in some cases a

recommendation from the custody staff that an individual was not safe to interview led to visual observations only being made.

**24** detainees refused the offer of an interview.

This level of refusals will need to be addressed. Often this is a case of the detainee refusing to interact with the ICV, and this can be for several reasons: lack of understanding due to language difficulties, general unhappiness at being detained or tiredness.

Custody records can be viewed by visitors with permission from the detainee or if ICVs are concerned about the detainee's welfare but are unable to gain direct permission due to incapacity. It is planned to deliver specific training on the viewing of custody records, explaining 'what to look for and why', in order to make this a routine part of the visiting regime and improving the quality of visits.

Division	Station	Number of cells	Number of Telephone Visits	Number of Physical Visits to Custody
West	Blackpool	40	23	7
	^Lancaster	24	2	0
South	*Skelmersdale	14	0	0
	Preston	31	17	11
East	Greenbank	44	15	11
	^Burnley	27	0	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>			57	29

*^Both Burnley and Lancaster Custody Suites were closed for part of the year 2020-2021 for operational purposes. Lancaster has since re-opened and it is anticipated Burnley will reopen before the end of December 2021.*

*\*Skelmersdale has been closed for major refurbishment of the Police Station and its Custody Suite. It is expected to re-open in December 2021*

## 8. ISSUES ARISING FROM VISITS

Most of the issues raised by ICVs are dealt with promptly at the time of the visit. By their nature, they tend to be low level issues relating to a detainee's comfort and general level of satisfaction. Any issues of a more significant nature and which relate to a detainee's rights or entitlements would result in an ICV consulting the custody record (where permission is granted).

Any issues which cannot be rectified at the time of the visit are highlighted on the visit report form and escalated by the Scheme Administrator to the Custody Management Inspector for that Division. This is done immediately upon receipt of the form and the matter is also raised at the Quarterly Panel Meeting. Feedback on all comments is made by the Scheme Administrator to the ICVs individually, and where the issue relates to other custody centres, as an email to all.

In the past, issues of a significant nature and/or where comments raised by ICVs have remained unresolved over a period of time, have been escalated by the PCC's office and have resulted in action by the Force. These instances have become less frequent as a result of an increased level of understanding of the ICV role by the Force and challenges to the relevant Facilities Department in relation to maintenance issues.

## **Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire**

Meeting to be held on the 20th July 2021

### **Administrative Update**

Contact for further information: David Fairclough, Secretary to Police & Crime Panel, [david.fairclough@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:david.fairclough@blackburn.gov.uk)

### **Executive Summary**

To consider the, the Appointment of the Secretary to the Panel, the Appointments to the Complaints Sub Committee, the Streaming of Police & Crime Panel Meeting and the Appointment of a Recruitment Panel for the appointment to the vacancy of Independent Co Opted Member.

### **Recommendations**

Panel is :

1. Recommended to appoint Asad Laher, Strategic Head of Service, Legal & Governance, from the host Authority, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, as Secretary to the Panel from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 until the end of the Municipal Year 2021/22.
2. Asked to nominate 5 Members of the Panel to form the Complaints Sub Committee as set out in this report.
3. Asked to agree the Secretary re-run the recruitment process for the appointment of an Independent Co-opted member for the Panel and to agree the Members of a Recruitment Panel for the appointment of the Panel's second Independent Co-opted member.
4. To consider the programme of ordinary meetings for 2021/22 as set out in this report and agree the option of using venues which could facilitate the streaming of Police and Crime Meetings Live and for the recordings of these meetings to be available for up to 7 days after the meeting.
5. The Panel is asked to confirm the arrangements for a Special Meeting - Confirmation Hearing to consider the Commissioners proposal for the appointment to Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner.
6. Asked to consider its position on the Payment of Allowances going forward and whether it wishes to introduce payments or continue as present with no allowances being claimed

## **1 Role of Secretary 2021/22**

The current secretary to the Police and Crime Panel is due to retire from their post as Director of HR, Governance & Engagement with the host authority in September 2021

Accordingly the Police and Crime Panel must consider the appointment of a new Secretary.

The role provides the lead advice to the Panel for the conduct of its business, manages the administration of the Panel and has delegated responsibilities relating to complaints handling.

The Host Authority, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council, have yet to recruit to the vacant Director post and have proposed that in the interim Mr Asad Laher, Strategic Head of Service, Legal & Governance (Council Solicitor) be appointed to the Secretary role by the Panel. Mr Laher is due to be confirmed as Monitoring Officer for Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council later this week.

Mr Laher has worked closely with the current Secretary in recent times supporting the work of the Panel and the Panel is recommended to consider his appointment to the role for 2021/22.

## **2 Appointments to the Complaints Sub Committee 2021/22**

At its meeting in 26<sup>th</sup> November 2012 the Panel resolved the establishment of the Complaints Sub Committee consisting 5 members of the Panel (2 from the Labour Members of the Panel, 2 from the Conservative Members of the Panel and 1 other Member of the Panel), with names to be nominated to and agreed by the Secretary to the Panel. The Sub Committee has delegated powers and duties to act on the Panel's behalf when considering the informal resolution of complaints.

The Panel is asked to consider the nominations for the Complaints Sub Committee for 2021/22, noting that as indicated the Committee would only meet as and when required to consider matters referred to it by the Secretary and/or in accordance with the Complaints Procedure.

## **3 Appointments to the Recruitment Panel for Independent Co-Opted Member**

Currently the Panel has a vacancy for 1 of its 2 seats for Independent Co-Opted Members. In 2020/21 the Panel ran a successful recruitment process but unfortunately one of the Independent Persons appointed subsequently become unavailable to fulfil the role, hence the vacancy now reported.

The Panel is asked to agree the Secretary be advised to re-run the recruitment activity and the Panel is also asked to nominate 5 members to be involved in the recruitment shortlisting/interviews, and then make recommendations to the Panel for the appointment of the Panel's second Independent Co-opted Member, who would be appointed for a period of 4 years.

#### **4 Programme of meetings 2021/22**

It is for the Police and Crime Panel to determine its own cycle of meetings and to appoint any sub committees or task groups as may be deemed necessary in order to carry out the functions of the Panel. Currently all Panel meetings must be held in person. During 2020/21, special legislation was in place which allowed for meetings to run remotely. This legislation lapsed in May 2021. The Government is currently considering via a `call for evidence` which closed last month whether to review the prevailing legislation requiring meetings in person.

During the last 12 months the Panel's meetings have effectively been `webcast` or `streamed` and it is suggested the Panel may as a minimum seek to provide for this facility going forward. This however may limit the venues which could be used for meetings and incur some additional costs. These costs however could be covered from the grant supporting the funding of the Panel.

It is suggested the Panel confirm if it wishes future meetings of the Panel be `webcast` or `streamed`, live and also determine its meeting cycle for 2021/22.

Proposed timetable of meetings for the Panel:

<b>Monday 20th July 2021 –AGM &amp; Annual Induction Session</b> 10am Annual Induction, followed by lunch then AGM Meeting at 1pm. King George's Hall, Blackburn
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2021(was 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021)</b> 2.00pm. VENUE TBC
<b>Monday 6th December 2021</b> 6.00pm. Blackburn Town Hall
<b>Monday 17th January 2022 (Precept only)</b> 6.00pm. County Hall, Preston
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 (if required –dependant on Precept decision)</b> 6.00pm. County Hall, Preston
<b>Monday 7th March 2021</b> 10am. VENUE TBC
<b>Monday 4th July 2022 – AGM &amp; Annual Induction Session</b>

Although these are the `Ordinary meetings` The Police and Crime Panel may be required to hold additional meetings in the following circumstances.

- If the PCC chooses to appoint a new Chief Constable, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer or Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner\*
- The PCC wishes to remove the current Chief Constable.
- The PCC varies the Police and Crime Plan or proposes to issue a new Plan.
- The Panel needs to consider any complaints against the PCC that are not of a criminal nature.
- The Panel needs to appoint an acting PCC if the current PCC is incapacitated, suspended or resigns.

#### Webcasting & Streaming of meetings

Should the Panel determine that it would wish to `webcast` or `stream` its meetings the retention period for the `live` recording should be determined. It is suggested that the recording should be retained for viewing for up to 7 days, the formal minutes of the meeting recording the decisions taken and being subject to the normal publication regulations.

#### Confirmation Hearing\*

The new Police and Crime Commissioner is looking to appoint a Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner and immediately following this AGM meeting there is a private meeting of the Panel to prepare for a Confirmation Hearing next week. The Panel is asked to confirm the arrangements for this Confirmation Hearing.

#### **4 Lancashire Police & Crime Panel Payment of Allowances**

This matter has been regularly considered by the Panel and most recently, on 8th July 2019.

Expenses are referred to as being travel, subsistence, loss of earnings and conference / training costs. Currently the Panel do not pay any `SRA's as each Constituent Council is left to set locally any allowances for its members who sit on the Panel (see above). Over the years the scrutiny role of the Panel has evolved and now the Panel regularly sets out its Forward Plan for the year ahead and identifies areas it would wish to scrutinise in more detail. This may mean more meetings of the Panel and/or its sub-groups than originally envisaged. For this reason members may have/wish to have drawn this to the attention of their Constituent Councils when allowances for Panel elected members are reviewed. Similarly in terms of SRAs for the Chair/Vice Chair of the Panels, it has been down to

the relevant authority to consider paying an SRA if their Member has been appointed to one of these roles.

As was noted at previous meetings, there is no requirement to pay allowances to co-opted members and it is left to authorities to decide if they should be paid. In respect of expenses it is clear from the Grant Claim Schedule that it is acknowledged that there will be some expenses incurred by Panel members.

As first reported in July 2018, since the earlier considerations of this matter by the Police & Crime Panel, a survey was undertaken by Frontline Consulting Associates. The result of their survey completed in January 2018 highlighted a practice that some Panels are clearly funding the payment of at least some allowances/expenses from the Home Office Grant whereas other were not.

Payment from the grant for elected Panel Members would be 'at odds' however with the Guidance produced by the LGA in May 2012. In November 2018, the Vice Chair and Panel Support Officer attended the Annual NAPFCP Conference and made enquiries as regards the current position which confirmed that some Panels were making payments and others, like this Lancashire Panel were not.

Enquiries were also made of the Home Office as regards this matter and the definition of 'expenses' as set out in Schedule 1 of the Grant Agreement by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council as the 'host authority'. The advice is set out below:

*"Paragraph 28 of Part 4 of Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 Act provides that panel arrangements may make provision about the payment of allowances to members of the panel. The Home Office's view is that allowances in this context will mean both paying allowances paid to members on a regular basis, or paying members' expenses as and when they arise on proof of expenditure. Therefore, the Home Office considers that it is for panels to decide whether to pay allowances to their members. Panels must, of course, keep this and other expenditure within the amount of the grant provided by the Home Office for any particular financial year. Such decisions, relating to the payment of allowances/SRA's, must be taken whilst being cognizant of the key purpose of the grant; namely to ensure the effective local scrutiny of PCCs is in place. It is possible that the payment of allowances/SRAs will have an impact on the provision of other panel activities. While I hope the above is a useful initial view, I would strongly recommend that you take legal advice from your own lawyers on this issue, rather than relying on the Home Office's view."*

Given this advice in 2019 the Secretary arranged for legal advice on behalf of the Panel in respect of whether the Panel could agree to pay allowances as suggested by the Home Office guidance above.

Paragraph 11 of Part 2 of Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 Act ("the Act") requires panel arrangements to make provision about how the relevant authorities are to meet the costs of the panel. Paragraph 20 of Part 2 of Schedule 6 provides that the Secretary of State may provide financial and other resources to a police and crime panel in the exercise of its functions, and to the



members of the panel in connection with the exercise of their functions. The provision of financial and other resources by the Secretary of State may be subject to conditions.

There are conditions contained in the annual Grant Agreement between the Secretary of State for the Home Department and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council for provision of police and crime panels. The Grant Agreement states that the grant funding may only be used for the maintenance of a police and crime panel to enable it to carry out the functions and responsibilities as set out in the Act.

There is no specific provision or restriction in relation to the payment of “allowances” to panel members. However, the grant funding agreement does provide an “Expenditure breakdown” indicating that the funding is to be used towards “administration costs” and “member expenses”.

Although the Grant Agreement may allow a transfer of funds between the two elements the expectation is that any underspends in “member expenses” maybe used for additional administration costs of the panel provided the total grant amount is not exceeded. In addition, the Home Office who provides the grant funding have clearly advised that although allowances to members may be payable but it must not impact on the main purpose for which the grant has been provided and the other activities of the panel.

Therefore, in July 2019 the Panel agreed in view of the grant conditions and the advice provided by the Home Office, that subject to the grant funding being received the following single annual payments (based on 4 ordinary meetings per year) are made from the “members expenses” allocations: -

The Chair of the Panel £600  
The Vice-Chair of the Panel £480  
Task & Finish group lead £400  
Task & Finish group members £300

These payments would also cover expenses and would be subject to regular attendance at all meetings. The other members of the Panel would continue to be able to claim expenses as when they arise on proof of expenditure.

The Panel resolved that these allowances as outlined be agreed for a trial period of a year, with only one allowance payable per qualifying Member and that consideration be given to paying an allowance to Independent Co-opted Members.

In the event, similar to previous years no claims of allowances by Panel Members were made for municipal year 2019/20.

Last year was of course impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic and meetings were held remotely throughout the municipal year and again no claims/payments were made.

Accordingly the Terms of Reference of the Panel reflect the original expectation/guidance provided in 2012 at the outset of the then `new` Panel

arrangements and have not been updated pending a conclusion to the above. It is suggested that once the Panel have decided on the payment arrangements for member's allowances these be updated accordingly.

The Panel is therefore asked to consider its position on the Payment of Allowances going forward and whether it wishes to introduce payments or continue as present with no allowances being claimed.

### **Consultations**

The Panel is being consulted and asked to approve the above administrative updates.

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Risk Management**

NA

### **Legal Implications**

The arrangements as set out in this report are under the remit of the Panel. In respect of Member Allowances the legal position and advice is contained in the main body of the report. As stated above, Paragraph 28 of Part 4 of Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 Act provides that panel arrangements may make provision about the payment of allowances to members of the panel. Therefore, as advised by the Home Office, the panel may decide to pay allowances to their members. However, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (as host authority) must comply with the grant conditions contained in the Grant Agreement and the Panel must consider the advice the Home Office has provided (who are the grant providers) with regards to the purpose of the grant and its use. The proposal referred to in the original report would comply with relevant legislation, the grant conditions and would be in line with the advice and expectations from the Home Office on the use of the funds. Should the Panel choose to proceed with the proposal contained in the report, the Panel Arrangements will require updating and the Home Office/grant provider be notified of the changes.

### **Financial Implications**

The costs associated with the administration of the Panel will contained within the grant Allocation.

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

Administrative Updates

David Fairclough

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A

## **POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

Meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### **PANEL BUDGET 2020/21**

Contact for further information: Phil Llewellyn (01254) 585369, HR, Legal and Governance Services, [phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:phil.llewellyn@blackburn.gov.uk)

### **Executive Summary**

This report outlines Panel expenditure to date in 2020/21.

### **Recommendation**

The Panel is asked to note expenditure for 2020/21 which will be published on the PCP website.

### **Background and Advice**

The Government committed to providing limited funding to cover the costs of maintaining Police and Crime Panels. The host authority for a Police and Crime Panel in a police force area will receive a maximum annually of up to £64,340 in total, which includes a maximum of £53,300 for costs of administering Panels and up to £920 for expenses per member to a maximum of £11,040 (maximum 20 Panel members). This was confirmed again by the Home Office for 2020/21 but no commitment has been made to funding for future years at this stage.

Home Office funding is provided via a grant agreement which is paid in arrears to Blackburn with Darwen as the host authority.

As part of the agreement to fund Police and Crime Panels, the Home Office stipulated that for 2015/16 onwards a transparency requirement was attached as a condition of the single grant payment to allow public scrutiny of PCP spending. This now required PCPs to publish, as a minimum on their website, details of all their expenditure including all panel administration costs and individual panel member claims for expenses and allowances.

Attached at Appendix 1 is a breakdown of projected costs and expenditure as submitted to the Home Office in early March for the Grant Claim for 2020/21.

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

N/A

## **Legal Implications**

From 2015/16 it is a condition of the funding from the Home Office that details of all expenditure are published as a minimum on the Panel's website.

## **Financial Implications**

The Grant Agreement includes a maximum of £53,300 for costs of administering Panels and up to £920 for expenses per member to a maximum of £11,040 (maximum 20 Panel members). This was confirmed again by the Home Office for 2020/21 but no commitment has been made to funding for future years at this stage.

## **Risk management**

N/A

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

### **List of Background Papers**

Grant documentation.

### Contact/Directorate/Tel

Phil Llewellyn, HR, Legal &  
Corporate Services  
(01254) 585369

Reasons for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

## Appendix 1

### 2020/21

Admin Costs £4,028.75

Staff Costs £17,127.89

Total £21,156.64

### Note

Admin costs = webcasting, conferences, travel costs, hospitality, printing, postage, website and PR&Comms.

## Agenda item

### Police and Crime Panel

Meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### MONITORING OF COMPLAINTS

Contact for further information:

David Fairclough (01254) 585642 Secretary Lancashire Police & Crime Panel,  
[david.fairclough@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:david.fairclough@blackburn.gov.uk)

### Executive Summary

This report sets out the current position with regard to communications relating to potential complaints received up to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

### Recommendation

That the update in relation to communications and complaints be noted.

### Background and Advice

Since the commencement of the Panel in 2012 there have now been 92 recorded communications which at the outset were described by the complainants as complaints against the Police & Crime Commissioner, and 88 outcomes have been reported to previous meetings.

Many of these communications as reported previously however did/do not relate directly to the conduct of the PCC and therefore do not, under the terms of the governing regulations come under the jurisdiction of the Police & Crime Panel.

Many communications received focus on the alleged conduct of police officers, conduct of police investigations or that of the chief constable, and these are matters for which there are other complaints processes and/or, appropriate authorities to deal with such matters.

Since the last meeting there has been 4 further complaints received. The first (89) was again related to the alleged conduct of a police officer or the conduct of individual police investigations for which there are other complaints processes and/or, appropriate authorities to deal with such matters. The second complaint received (90) was similarly found to be related to complaints about the `inactions` of the police in respect of an individual policing matter for which there are other complaints processes. The third (91) was related to an ongoing police complaints matter subject to appeal/review

under another process, and also included other allegations, which when asked for further details, the complainant did not provide, so the complaint was closed. The fourth (92) relates to a complaint in respect of a social media post, and this is currently being considered.

There have been no further complaints received up to the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

## **Consultations**

N/A

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Legal Implications**

The procedures adopted by the Panel comply with the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 which are issued under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 for the handling of complaints and matters concerning the conduct of the holders of the office of Police and Crime Commissioner.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. It is proposed the handling of such complaints will be contained within existing resources.

### **Risk management**

The requirement to monitor and record complaints against the PCC and DPCC is in accordance with the provisions of The Elected Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012.

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

### **List of Background Papers**

<u>Paper</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact/Directorate/Tel</u>
Agenda and Minutes from	November 2012	David Fairclough HR, Legal & Governance
Agenda and Minutes from	July 2014	David Fairclough HR, Legal & Governance
Agenda and Minutes from	March 2016	David Fairclough



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