

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 6 December 2021

Police & Crime Commissioner's update

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Panel with an update on progress in developing the current Police and Crime Plan (the Plan) for Lancashire 2021-2025.

This report also aims to highlight some of activity of the PCC/Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to consider the report.

Background

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner has a responsibility to hold the Chief Constable to account for the Constabulary's performance as against the Police and Crime Plan priorities by means of the quarterly Strategic Scrutiny meeting.
2. This link <https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/meetings-and-decisions/meetings-and-reports/strategic-scrutiny-meetings/> details the Scrutiny papers received from the Chief Constable and the note of the meeting records the PCC holding the Chief Constable to account.
3. The Panel are therefore referred to the Scrutiny meetings and may through today's meeting ask the Police and Crime Commissioner issues they feel relevant to the Scrutiny activity.

Performance Headlines

4. On 15 November 2021, the Commissioner held his regular quarterly Scrutiny meeting with the Chief Constable (CC). The Commissioner received updates on force performance, and a briefing paper setting out the Constabulary's approach to Road Safety and the activities it undertakes, including its contribution to the Lancashire Roads Safety Partnership (LRSP).

Key issues discussed included:

- The current demand being placed on the Force Control Room and current service levels.
 - The current demand being placed on Lancashire Constabulary around mental health provision and its impact on front line policing.
 - The level of sexual offences and the links to 'spiking' of drinks.
5. The Commissioner is currently finalising his police and crime plan 2021 -25 with input from residents and partners and will be underpinned by an understanding of need to ensure it becomes a key planning document for all responsible authorities and the criminal justice system. A report setting out the progress of the police and crime plan appears elsewhere on the Agenda and a verbal update will be given by the Commissioner.
 6. The Panel are advised that the front counters in South Ribble (Leyland) and Fylde (Kirkham) have reopened as part of the Commissioner's commitment to ensuring every Borough area has at least one police station that is accessible to the public.
 7. Fylde has also seen changes to the way the area is policed, brought about by an increase in officers to keep people safe and the removal of the 'hybrid' model and return of a dedicated neighbourhood policing team.
 8. Members may be aware that November saw the arrival of the knife angel to Lancashire and launch of an educational programme to support the Commissioner's commitment to tackling knife and violent crime. The giant 27ft sculpture, made of over 100,000 seized and surrendered knives, was built to inspire change. Acting as a catalyst for dialogue, education, and reflection, the Knife Angel highlights the negative impact this type of violent crime can have on individuals, families and communities and the critical need for society to change.
 9. The Commissioner has continued to engage with policing teams across the county including spending a shift with Burnley's response team and has supported a week of action to crack down on uninsured drivers and those without a license/MOT – as part of his commitment to make Lancashire's roads safer.
 10. On behalf of the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner chaired his first meeting of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership in October which includes the Police, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance, Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Blackpool Borough Council. The partnership's focus is on Education, Engineering, Engagement and Enforcement. At the last meeting the partnership reviewed the effect of the Average Speed cameras in the County which has seen a massive reduction in speed and collisions. A full review of the partnership is scheduled to take place in the New Year.
 11. Finally, the Deputy Commissioner also chaired his first meeting of the Lancashire Criminal Justice Board. The meeting was attended by all the criminal justice partners and the main issue of discussion was the backlog of court cases

due to the Covid crisis and the additional resources which have been placed in supporting witnesses through the criminal justice system through a new witness contract worth £14M over 5 years.

Recommendation

12. Panel Members are recommended to consider the information contained in this report, and the information provided within the meeting, and comment accordingly.

Angela Harrison
Director