

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Meeting to be held on 7 March 2022

Police & Crime Commissioner's update

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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 Accountability Board meeting.
2. This link <https://www.lancashire-pcc.gov.uk/transparency/meetings-reports/accountability-board-meeting/> details of the Accountability Board papers received from the Chief Constable and the Minutes of the meeting records the PCC holding the Chief Constable to account.
3. The Panel are therefore referred to the Accountability Board 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 10 February 2022, the Commissioner held his first Accountability Board meeting with the Chief Constable (CC). The Accountability Board replaces the meeting previously called Strategic Scrutiny. The Commissioner received updates on the Constabulary's performance against the Police and Crime Plan priorities, and briefings in relation to the Constabulary's preparedness in relation to the HMICFRS PEEL Inspection, Constabulary's Risk Register, and the draft capital programme.

Key issues discussed included:

- The current level of crime compared to 2019/20.

- The increase in the level of football disorder.
- The increase in police activity and the increase in the number of arrests of people involved in organised crime.
- Police Activity in targeting dangerous drivers and reducing the number of deaths on Lancashire's roads.
- Capital Investment in Lancashire Constabulary

Following the meeting the Commissioner and the Chief Constable produced a short video via Facebook highlighting the areas discussed which has to date had over 17 thousand visits.

<https://fb.watch/bjcQl6V7wU/>

The report attached at **Appendix A** contains performance data relating to the Constabulary's performance against the Police and Crime Plan priorities.

5. Members will recall that the Commissioner consulted the Panel on his proposal in relation to the Council Tax Precept for policing in Lancashire on the 1 February 2022. Following questions put to the Commissioner by the Panel and responses provided, the Panel approved the proposal to increase the Council Tax precept by £10 for a Band D property in 2022/23. The Commissioner has now approved a net budget requirement for 2022/23 of £338.243m and consequent council tax requirement of £106.350m and Band D council tax of £236.45. Full details of the Commissioner's budget decision can be found on the Commissioner's website under decision reference [31/2021](#).
6. The Commissioner recently met members of the Panel's Neighbourhood and community Policing Task Group and discussed his vision for Neighbourhood and rural policing, local police task forces, Safer Lancashire Neighbourhood Fund, and the police estate. Unfortunately, the arrangements for the Force Control Room Task Group visit Police HQ on the 17 February 2022 to assess the operation of the newly redesigned control room and delivery of anticipated outcomes have had to be rescheduled due to the severe weather conditions. A report on the Task Groups appears elsewhere on the agenda.
7. On 19th January 2022, the Commissioner joined the Neighbourhood team in Leyland as part of the Neighbourhood Policing Week of Action, celebrating the work of neighbourhood policing teams, including community engagement, problem-solving and activity targeting.
8. During sexual violence awareness week (7-14 February) the Commissioner announced funding for 40 new police officers to tackle rape and sexual assault as part of a dedicated rape and sexual assault team. He also met with leaders and project members of Lancashire's innovative hospital-based support service for victims of rape and sexual assault which places specialist support workers in health settings to provide immediate support.
9. Operation Vanquish has continued to take the fight to criminals and deliver on the Commissioner's priorities with January's week of action focused on

acquisitive crime, namely burglary, vehicle crime and robbery, resulting in more than 25 arrests.

10. The Commissioner has continued to engage with policing teams across the county including joining officers out on drugs raids in Fleetwood.
11. Lancashire residents were encouraged by the Commissioner and Constabulary to anonymously flag areas where they don't feel safe via a new national online tool, StreetSafe. The pilot project aims to identify areas that need improving and make the streets safe for everyone, particularly women and girls and to also identify where there are fears surrounding antisocial behaviour and environmental issues.
12. The Commissioner has supported several rural stakeholder events where he updated attendees about investment into rural teams with additional officers and equipment and how addressing crime in rural areas is at the heart of his Police and Crime Plan.
13. 50 new police officers were welcomed by the Commissioner and Chief Constable during two attestation ceremonies at the force HQ. They will now be heading out across the county to begin their careers, serving, and protecting the communities of Lancashire.
14. On behalf of the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner continues to chair meetings of the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and lead a full review of the partnership with support from members. He has also attended a number of community meetings and met with Councillors across the county over road safety concerns.
15. The Commissioner has awarded the Lancashire Victim Services contract to Victim Support and the new contract will commence on the 1 April 2022 for 5 years.
16. The Deputy Commissioner held the latest quarterly performance review with Lancashire Victim Services and held meetings with partners to finalise potential remedies for victims/witnesses experiencing issues at court.
17. Finally, the Deputy Commissioner also chaired his second 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 future role of the LCJB, with a push to create action plans for all sub-groups to drive forward positive outcomes.

Recommendation

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

Angela Harrison
Chief Executive