



west midlands
police and crime
commissioner

STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD

30 April 2013

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The Police and Crime Plan of the Commissioner is annexed to this report. This report outlines the work programme of the Board which will form part of the monitoring of the Plan's delivery. The report also includes the seven local policing and crime plans which align to each of the local authority areas in the West Midlands.

BACKGROUND

2. Under section 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Commissioner is required to issue a police and crime plan (the Plan) within the financial year in which the election is held i.e. 31 March 2013. The Plan is required to cover the:
 - Commissioner's police and crime objectives
 - policing which the Chief Constable is to provide
 - financial and other resources which the Commissioner will provide to the Chief Constable
 - means by which the Chief Constable will report to the Commissioner on the provision of policing
 - means by which the Chief Constable's performance will be measured
 - crime and disorder reduction grants which the Commissioner is to make and the conditions to which such grants are to be made
3. The Plan is required to cover the term of office of the Commissioner, although it is possible to vary the Plan during this period. The Commissioner does expect to revisit the Plan annually to take account of future financial settlements and ensure that the Plan continues to reflect the needs of local people.
4. Prior to issuing the Plan it was reviewed by West Midlands Police and Crime Panel in accordance with the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Copies of the Panel's papers, minutes and recommendations are available at the

following address www.birmingham.gov.uk/wmpcp.

5. In addition to the statutory Police and Crime Plan, a local police and crime plan has been produced for each of the seven local authority areas that make up the West Midlands. The short time available to prepare the Police and Crime Plan has meant that for this year the local plans were prepared in parallel with the West Midlands wide Plan. The Commissioner will work with partnership colleagues to ensure that his commitment for his own Plan and variations to it, to be built upwards from local needs is met. Copies of the local police and crime plans are available on the Commissioner's website www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk.

THE WORK OF THE STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD

6. As stated in his Police and Crime Plan, the Commissioner will use a range of methods to hold the Force to account for its performance. The principle vehicle will be the work that he conducts through his Strategic Policing and Crime Board. The purpose of the Board is to ensure the Commissioner is able to effectively engage and represent all areas of the West Midlands and to support the Commissioner in his role of ensuring an efficient and effective police service for the West Midlands through the setting of the strategic direction for the Force and holding the Chief Constable to account for the exercise of his functions.
7. The Commissioner will require regular reports from the Force for discussion at the monthly Board meetings. Each meeting of the Board will consider reports on crime performance and performance against the objectives in the plan together with finance, professional standards, and personnel issues. This will ensure that not only will the milestones set in this plan be monitored but the Commissioner will be able to ensure that he holds the Chief Constable to account across his responsibilities. The Commissioner will also use the Board to put into the public domain information about the performance of his own office. The Commissioner is exploring the webcasting of the Board.
8. At each meeting of the Board the Commissioner has asked the Chief Constable for a member of his Command Team to provide a report on their individual portfolio of work. The agenda for the meeting of the Board on which this paper appears includes a report from the Deputy Chief Constable, David Thompson, on the Force Change Programme for which he has responsibility.
9. The Board will also be used to take forward the work the Commissioner needs to undertake in respect of his annual setting of the precept for policing and any variations to the Police and Crime Plan. The Board will also be used to consider reports which the Commissioner needs to receive from the Joint Audit Committee.
10. The Commissioner will also ask the Board to consider a number of reports made on an annual basis. This will include the reports needed to meet audit requirements, an annual report from local policing and crime boards on their use of the community safety fund allocated to them by the Commissioner, the Commissioner's own Annual Report and the reports necessary to set the annual precept and any variations to the Police and Crime Plan. Ad hoc reports will also be requested by the Commissioner including those following suggestion by or consultation with the Board.
11. All of the above will be included in agendas which will be published with Board consideration taking place in the public domain. The Commissioner will also facilitate the asking of questions by the public through the Board. Each meeting of the Board will include the opportunity for any member of the public to ask questions of the Commissioner about the exercise of his functions. The process for this will be set out in

the rules of procedure for the Board.

12. In addition to the Board meetings, the Commissioner has asked each member of the Board to act as a link to specific parts of the Force's organisation. Members will be expected to meet regularly with officers and staff from these areas, making regular reports to the Commissioner to assist him in holding the Force to account. Such meetings will include consideration of progress towards the deliverables and milestones set out in the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.
13. The Commissioner will meet regularly with the Chief Constable and other members of the Force's senior team. The Commissioner welcomes support and advice from West Midlands Police and Crime Panel and hopes to be able to work with the Panel in his decision making and accountability functions. The Commissioner is also supported by his own professional advisers in the roles fulfilled by his Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer.
14. The Commissioner also ensures that he spends times with the public, meeting and engaging with a wide range of individuals and groups from across the West Midlands, listening to what people say about the service they receive and what services they wish to receive into the future. Recognising the scale of the West Midlands the Commissioner is also making use of social media. He can be followed on Twitter @WestMidsPCC and Facebook www.facebook.com/WestMidsPCC
15. The Commissioner has a commitment to openness and transparency in his work and a wide range of information is available at www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

16. The delivery of the Plan will be met through use of the Commissioner's budget. This is detailed in the report presented to the Police and Crime Panel on 6 February 2013 which covered the revenue and capital budgets and proposals for the precept for 2013-14. .

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

2. The Commissioner has power under paragraph 14 of Schedule 1 to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of the functions of the PCC. This includes entering into contracts.
3. The legal requirements for a police and crime plan are set out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. The Board is asked to note the contents of this report.

Author of the Report:

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