

Report title: Forward Work Plan	
Report to: Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel	
Report author: Sophie Campion, Senior Democratic Services Officer	
Date: 21 March 2023	For: Approval
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County Divisions affected: All Essex	

1. Purpose of report and background

- 1.1 To plan the business of the Panel.
- 1.2 The next Meeting of the Panel is scheduled for **Tuesday 15 June 2023**.
- 1.3 Business proposed to be taken to the meetings is provided in the work programme at Appendix 1.
- 1.4 At each meeting, except the February meeting at which the proposed precepts are considered, the following standard items are also on the agenda in addition to the matters listed on the work programme:
 - PFCC Decisions Report
 - PFCC Update
 - NAPFCP Update
 - Forward Work Plan

2. Focused area of work

- 2.1 The Panel has the opportunity to add matters of interest or concern to the work programme. When such matters are added, initial scoping work is undertaken to ensure that they fall within the Panel's remit and that the request both adds value and is proportionate in terms of the work required of the OPFCC in delivering the request.
- 2.2 At its meeting in June 2022, the Panel agreed the addition of a focused look at performance against Priority 1 – More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing from the Police and Crime Plan as extended to 2021. Initial scoping work was completed in relation to the issues that had been raised by Members. As a result of that, a programme of various workstreams was planned to address what was understood to be the key areas of Member interest.

- 2.2 Visits were arranged to the Force Control Room and Resolution Centre to assist Members in understanding the incident management work and how it fits with Essex Police's Command and Control of Incidents Policy.
- 2.3 A workshop session was arranged to give Members an opportunity for early sight of the previous Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020 as extended to 2021 closure report (which included the priority on Local, Visible and Accessible Policing). The workshop also incorporated the session offered by the Commissioner at the September Panel meeting, to look at how those priorities fed into the new priorities in the current Police and Crime Plan, the areas of progress and the areas of future focus. As the workshop was an informal session the report was then brought to a Panel meeting for consideration and the report was formally noted at the meeting held on 8 December with no further action.
- 2.4 A report was brought to the Panel in December on Essex Police's Policy and Performance in relation to Deployment to Incidents. This focused on clarifying the policy on deployment to incidents, emergency response grading and how Essex Police performs against the policy and performance indicators with regard to high harm incidents (with emergency response performance and data). The report also set out the challenges facing Essex Police in responding to incidents and future plans with regard to responding to incidents. The Panel noted this report. During the discussion of the report a member advised that it had been his understanding that performance against attendance targets to incidents graded as 3 – Priority, under the Essex Police's Command and Control of Incidents Policy had also formed part of the original request to the Commissioner when the schedule of targeted work had been developed. This was supported by another member of the Panel and the matter was accordingly added to the work programme.
- 2.5 Some initial background work was subsequently completed to determine the feasibility of pursuing the item, whether it fits within the scope of the Panel and how the information required or the specific request itself, may be addressed. Initial discussions took place with the Commissioner, the Panel Chair and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC). Ultimately the decision on whether to provide additional information of an operational policing nature such as this lies with the Commissioner. The Commissioner made it clear that the focus of the new Police and Crime Plan is on Prevention, rather than Response, and there are clear priorities where the resources are being focused. Whilst the information on performance for responding to high harm incidents had been made available to the Panel in the December report, performance data for other types of incidents is not measured in the same way and is not readily available. The Commissioner, having considered this, was not prepared to provide a further report on attendance in relation to priority 3 incidents due to the level of resource this would require, particularly when considered against the focus on prevention within the new Plan.

- 2.6 In terms of assessing whether the item fits into the scope of the Panel, it may be considered outside of the Panel's remit to scrutinise decisions taken regarding operational deployment and prioritisation. Therefore the value of the Panel focusing in on such a specific area of a response category is not clear, particularly given that the Commissioner's focus in the current Police and Crime Plan is Prevention. 'Local, Visible and Accessible Policing' is no longer a specific priority in the current Police and Crime Plan which the Panel will be monitoring for performance going forward, however as pointed out by the Commissioner on more than one occasion, this theme runs throughout the other Plan priorities.
- 2.7 It is therefore proposed that no further work is undertaken by the Panel relating to performance against specific attendance targets to incidents and that this item is removed from the Forward Work Plan.
- 2.8 Following the programme of workstreams that were undertaken to address the issues raised in the original focused work, on performance against Priority 1 – More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing from the Police and Crime Plan as extended to 2021, the feedback was positive. A number of Panel Members had indicated that they were satisfied with the level of information provided and felt they had a better understanding of the incident management process. On the basis of that feedback no further workstreams had been proposed and it is proposed that the item is concluded and removed from the Forward Work Plan.

3 Recommendations:

- 3.1 That the item relating to performance against attendance targets to incidents graded as 3 – Priority, under the Essex Police's Command and Control of Incidents Policy and how that fits with achieving the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan, is removed from the Forward Work Plan.
- 3.2 That the item on performance against Priority 1 – More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing from the Police and Crime Plan as extended to 2021, is concluded and removed from the Forward Work Plan.
- 3.3 The Panel is asked to note the Forward Work Plan and identify any other business it would like to consider.

Appendix 1

Provisional Date	Topic Title	Lead Contact	Purpose and Target Outcomes
15 June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman Appointment of Members to Ethics & Integrity Sub-Committee Complaints Sub-Committee membership Review of Balanced Appointment Objective Essex PFCP Grant Claim and Outturn Report – 2021/22 Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel Annual Report Police and Crime Plan Performance Measures – Quarter 4 Budget-setting Process 	<p>Senior Democratic Services Officer SDSO</p> <p>SDSO</p> <p>SDSO</p> <p>Democratic Services</p> <p>SDSO</p> <p>OPFCC</p> <p>OPFCC</p>	<p>Annual meeting</p> <p>Annual meeting</p> <p>Annual Meeting</p> <p>Annual meeting</p> <p>To note</p> <p>To provide an overview of the Panel's activities during the 2021/22 municipal year</p> <p>Statutory Duty to review the Police and Crime Plan and monitor performance</p> <p>To receive a report to the budget-setting process and appoint a working group</p>
20 July 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire and Rescue Plan Quarterly Performance Update 	OPFCC	Statutory Duty to review the Fire and Rescue Plan and monitor performance

28 September 2023	• ECFRS Annual Report and Statement of Assurance	OPFCC	Statutory Duty to review the Annual Report and Statement of Assurance
	• PFCC Annual Report	OPFCC	Statutory Duty to review the Annual Report
	• Budget Scene-Setting	OPFCC	Update on the Budget-Setting process
7 December 2023	• Essex PFCP Budget Half Year Outturn Report	SDSO	To note
	• Police and Crime Plan Performance Measures (Quarter 2 2021/22)	OPFCC	Statutory Duty to review the Police and Crime Plan and monitor performance
	• Fire and Rescue Plan Quarterly Performance Update	OPFCC	Statutory Duty to review the Fire and Rescue Plan and monitor performance
	• Budget Update	OPFCC	Update on Budget-Setting process
	• Report on Annual Complaints 2022-23	SDSO	To note
1 February 2024	• Proposed Fire and Rescue Precept	OPFCC	Statutory Duty to review the proposed precepts
	• Proposed Police Precept	OPFCC	
Current focussed work	• a focused look at performance against Priority 1 – More Local, Visible and Accessible Policing from the Police and Crime Plan as extended to 2021		As agreed at the Panel's meeting on 23 June 2022. A programme of workstreams has been undertaken as set out in paragraph 2 of the report.
	• Performance against attendance targets to incidents graded as 3 – Priority, under the		As agreed at the Panel's meeting on 8 December 2022. Initial background

	Essex Police's Command and Control of Incidents Policy and how that fits with achieving the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan		work on the feasibility of this item is set out in paragraph 2 of the report.
Future work Date TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of the issues relating to E-Scooters 	TBC	As agreed at the Panel's meeting on 22 March 2022