

Essex Police and Crime Panel

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| 14:30 | Thursday, 19 June 2014 | Committee Room 2, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex |
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Quorum: 5 Membership

Councillor Tony Hedley
Councillor Graham Butland
Councillor John Newberry
Councillor Godfrey Isaacs
Councillor Bob Shepherd MBE
Councillor Tim Young
Councillor Gary Waller
Councillor John Jowers
Councillor Mike Danvers
Councillor Penny Channer
Councillor Jo McPherson
Councillor Martin Terry
Councillor Mick Page
Councillor Phil Smith
Councillor Robert Chambers
Ann Haigh
John Gili-Ross
Kay Odysseos

Representing

Basildon Borough Council
Braintree District Council
Brentwood Borough Council
Castle Point Borough Council
Chelmsford Council
Colchester Borough Council
Epping Forest District Council
Essex County Council (Chairman)
Harlow District Council
Maldon District Council
Rochford District Council
Southend Borough Council
Tendring District Council
Thurrock Borough Council
Uttlesford District Council
Co-opted Member
Independent Member
Independent Member

For information about the meeting please ask for:

Colin Ismay, Governance Team Manager

Fiona Lancaster, Committee Officer

Telephone: 01245 431519 x21519

Email: fiona.lancaster@essex.gov.uk



Essex County Council

Essex County Council and Committees Information

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Part 1

(During consideration of these items the meeting is likely to be open to the press and public)

| | | Pages |
|-----------|---|------------------|
| 1 | Election of Chairman To elect a Chairman of the Committee. | |
| 2 | Appointment of Vice-Chairman To appoint a Vice-Chairman of the Committee | |
| 3 | Apologies and Substitution Notices The Committee Officer to report receipt (if any) | |
| 4 | Minutes To approve the draft minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2014 (attached). | 5 - 14 |
| 5 | Declarations of Interest To note any declarations of interest to be made by Members | |
| 6 | Questions to the Chairman from Members of the Public The Chairman to respond to any questions relevant to the business of the Panel from members of the public. | |
| 7 | Actions arising from the last meeting To consider report EPCP/031/14. | 15 - 16 |
| 8 | The Work of the Police and Crime Panel To consider report EPCP/032/14. | 17 - 74 |
| 9a | Report from the Police and Crime Commissioner: Performance Update To consider 9(a) Performance update. | 75 - 110 |
| 9b | Report from the Police and Crime Commissioner: Finance Update To consider Annex 9(b). | 111 - 130 |
| 10 | Part-Night Lighting To consider report EPCP/034/14. | 131 - 158 |
| 11 | Forward Look To consider report EPCP/035/14. | 159 - 160 |

- 12 The Police and Crime Commissioner to update the Panel on On-going issues (if any)**
- 13 Dates of Future Meetings**
Meetings are scheduled for 2.30pm on the following dates in 2014: 18 September and 27 November.
- 14 Urgent Business**
To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.
- 15 Urgent Exempt Business**
To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, Members are asked to decide whether, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME PANEL HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD, ON 20 FEBRUARY 2014

Present:

Councillor

Malcolm Buckley
Graham Butland
Godfrey Isaacs
Bob Shepherd
Tim Young
Gary Waller
John Jowers
Mike Danvers
Penny Channer
Jo McPherson
Lynda McWilliams
Angie Gaywood
Robert Chambers
John Gili-Ross
Kay Odysseos

Representing

Basildon Borough Council (Vice-Chairman)
Braintree District Council
Castle Point Borough Council
Chelmsford City Council
Colchester Borough Council
Epping Forest District Council
Essex County Council (Chairman)
Harlow District Council
Maldon District Council
Rochford District Council
Tendring District Council
Thurrock Borough Council
Uttlesford District Council
Independent Member
Independent Member

Apologies for Absence

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Chris Hossack | Brentwood Borough Council |
| Tony Cox | Southend Borough Council |
| Paul Sztumpf with Mike Danvers as his substitute | Harlow District Council |
| Mick Page with Lynda McWilliams as his substitute | Tendring District Council |
| Ann Haigh | Co-opted Member |

The following Officers were in attendance throughout the meeting:

Colin Ismay, Governance Team Manager, Essex County Council, Secretary to the Panel

Jane Gardner, Head of Commissioning Growing Essex Communities, Essex County Council

Nick Alston, the Essex Police and Crime Commissioner, and Lindsay Whitehouse, Deputy Commissioner, were in attendance throughout supported by the following officers:

Susannah Hancock, Executive Director

Charles Garbett, Treasurer

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2014 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. Membership

The Secretary to the Panel reported that Councillor Mick Page had replaced Councillor Paul Honeywood as the representative for Tendring District Council. His substitute remains Councillor Lynda McWilliams.

3. Declarations of Interest

Councillors Jowers and McPherson declared a personal interest as members of Safer Essex. Councillors Isaacs, McWilliams and Waller declared a personal interest as members of Safer Essex and Chairman of the local Community Safety Partnership. Councillor McPherson also declared a personal interest as being employed by a recipient of a Police and Crime Commissioner's New Initiative Fund grant.

4. Actions arising from the last meeting

The Panel received report EPCP/026/13 by the Secretary to the Panel highlighting the matters raised during the previous meeting that required further action and indicating the action taken.

Councillor Chambers thanked the Commissioner for the note on the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners attached to the report but said this did not address the point he was interested in which was more to do with the workings of the Association. In response the Commissioner explained that it had not been an easy year for the Association as all the Commissioners came from different backgrounds and all were finding their way in the role. The Association is beginning to find a voice on national issues. It meets regularly with the Home Secretary and the Policing Minister. It has taken time for the Association to find its collective voice. The Commissioners meet in political groupings and in Regional networks.

The Commissioner leads nationally on ICT matters on behalf of all Commissioners with support from the Association.

He meets regularly with Ann Barnes, his opposite number from Kent.

Councillor Chambers responded that his reason for raising the matter was to make the point that if the Commissioners were able to work together they would achieve an influential voice within Central Government.

The Chairman, picking up on the idea of the potential benefits of networking suggested it would be worth finding out what other Panels are doing locally and looking to establish a loose association. The Panel agreed this idea was worth pursuing.

5. Revised Proposed Police Precept for 2014/15

The Panel considered report (EPCP/027/14) by the Secretary to the Panel setting out the latest position with regard to the Commissioner's proposed precept.

The Chairman introduced the item and took advice from the Treasurer to the Commissioner on the Panel's position. The Treasurer's view was that as the Panel had decided not to veto the original proposal but had asked the Commissioner to come back if a cap was imposed, the Regulations did not provide for the Panel to exercise any subsequent veto.

The Commissioner had presented his original proposals to the Panel's last meeting. At that meeting the Panel decided that it was satisfied with the proposed increase in the precept of 3.5% on the understanding that the Secretary of State did not apply a cap to the level of increase in Police Precepts. In the event that the budget proposals were impacted by the subsequent application of such a cap the Panel agreed that the Commissioner should report back to a further meeting to present his revised proposals.

On 5 February the Secretary of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government set out the principles which would enable the Commissioner to determine whether a particular precept increase would be excessive. If excessive, a referendum must be held in relation to that amount. The principles set by the Secretary of State were a precept increase of 2% or more would be deemed excessive. The Commissioner did not intend to put the precept increase to a referendum because of the cost involved and so he had revised his proposals which were attached to the report.

The Commissioner was proposing a precept increase just below the trigger point for a referendum. This equates to an increase of 1.97% in order to ensure that a referendum being invoked through 'rounding upwards' is avoided and also that the resultant police element of the council tax for a Band D property, at £144.27, is divisible by 9 in order to facilitate its implementation by billing authorities.

As a direct consequence of moving from a precept increase of 3.5% to 1.97% the total Evolve and Reform activity savings required in 2014/15 as shown in Appendix A to his report increased by £1.2m from £9.9m to £11.1m.

The following changes had been made to the revised budget summary with an update to the council tax precept income and collection fund surplus provided at the meeting:

- i) A reduction in the council tax precept income from £85,809k to £84,545k arising from the reduction in the proposed precept from 3.5% to 1.97%.
- ii) An increase in the savings required of £1.2m.
- iii) An increase in the collection fund surplus of £243k from £821k to £1,064k reflecting the buoyancy of council tax collection.

- iv) An increase in the budgeted cost of supporting billing authorities through the council tax sharing agreement by £55k from £318k to £373k, again reflecting the increased performance of council tax collection.

The following points were made during the ensuing discussion.

- Councillor Buckley remained opposed to increasing the precept.
- Councillor Danvers supported the Commissioner's revised proposals.
- Councillor Young felt that the Panel should be lobbying Central Government for the decision on the precept to be made locally without the imposition of caps by Central Government. He asked for an indication of what saving the extra money would mean in practice. The Commissioner responded that he had made his views known to Ministers in the Home Office and the Department for Communities and Local Government. He said his proposals needed to be viewed against a backdrop of a reduction in Central Government grant of £8.4m. His proposals are therefore intended to reduce the impact of the budget cuts. The latest proposals require the Chief Constable to achieve additional savings of £1.15m through the Evolve programme. It will be up to the Chief Constable to decide how to make those savings. The Chairman indicated that the Panel would expect to see a summary of the savings to be achieved by the Chief Constable at a future meeting.
- Councillor Butland reiterated his concerns expressed at the last meeting, namely that he believed the decision to increase the precept showed a lack of political acumen; that the Commissioner was showing the potential to be a serial increaser of taxation; that the impact of the budget on policing outcomes is not explicit. He considered that the percentage budget savings were at the lower end of those being faced by other local authorities which were coping and still delivering high quality services without raising taxes; the Commissioner by increasing the precept stood out against this trend.
- Councillor Chambers claimed that in November the Commissioner had said that the budget cuts will amount to a cut in the number of police officers. He wanted to know if there will be a loss of police officers. The Commissioner responded that the assumption had always been that there would be a loss of officers. It was down to the Chief Constable to make the decisions in terms of the Evolve programme. The Commissioner would want to see officer numbers maintained but realistically a large proportion of the budget is for staff costs. In terms of outcomes, the Commissioner acknowledged the crime figures are still reducing.
- Councillor Gaywood asked about the underspends in the current year's budgets for police officers and PCSOs and how the underspend is being used. The Commissioner responded that the decision had been taken to avoid the need for redundancies in the future by being cautious around recruitment which in turn led to the underspends. The Commissioner stated that he would be putting more challenge into the Chief Constable's management of resources.
- John Gili-Ross referred to the information regarding collaboration with Kent over the Serious Crime Directorate and the savings accruing to Kent contained in the note attached to the report on actions arising from the last meeting (Minute 4 above refers). This showed savings of £2.4m accruing to

Kent over a four-year period. The Commissioner explained that the benefits to Essex had been substantial in achieving greater reach and extension of the service. When the two Directorates combined, Kent had the more developed service and had been able to take advantage of financial savings from the partnership earlier on. Councillor Chambers declared a personal interest as the Chairman of the Police Authority at the time of the start of the collaboration.

- Councillor Buckley asked how many officer posts would potentially be lost and what would be the consequential impact on crime levels. The Commissioner reiterated that it was for the Chief Constable to manage the budget savings through the Evolve programme. In terms of focusing on outcomes, it would be for a reduction in the number of victims of crime. The Chairman reiterated the need for there to be an early opportunity to understand the impact of the budget savings.

The Commissioner pointed out that there may be a slight change needed to the budget figures in the light of the latest collection fund information from Harlow.

It having been moved by Councillor Chambers and seconded by Councillor McPherson, it was

Resolved:

That the Panel ratify the Commissioner's proposed increase in the Police Precept for 2014/15 of 1.97%.

Councillors Buckley, Butland and Gaywood requested that their names be recorded as having voted against.

6. Update from the Chief Constable

The Chairman on behalf of the Panel welcomed the Chief Constable to the meeting. The Chief Constable had asked if he could attend to report on the initial months of his appointment.

He reported that he had taken up office on 9 May last year, and was proud to have been appointed to the post. His focus is on keeping Essex safe. He wants the Force's senior management to be more visible to the public and to the Force in general. He has re-emphasised standards and will be holding the senior leadership to account. He wants to engender a sense of pride in being part of the Essex Force. With that in mind he has taken the three Seaxes from the County Badge and given each one a value as follows:

- reducing crime and harm
- the number of crimes solved
- the level of satisfaction with the service.

He is looking to simplify the performance regime, to drive out further efficiencies and to stress the importance of time management. He is looking at demand profiling to help determine the most efficient use of resources. He also wants to

have a better understanding of partnership working and the opportunities for efficiencies. He undertook to keep the Panel informed of the significant decisions that will need to be made.

He has decided to make a priority of the policing issues relating to the night time economy of the County, ensuring that people are able to enjoy themselves in safety.

The Chief Constable set out some figures for crime trends comparing 1 April with 31 December 2013, as set out on page 57 of the Agenda under Agenda item 8 (Police and Crime Plan Refresh 2014/15). These showed reductions in a number of categories of crime, but of concern to the Chief Constable were increases in the incidences of shoplifting, serious assaults and serious sexual crime.

He is also concerning himself with sickness levels amongst officers which are causing him concern. He is also giving his personal attention to the issues involved in responding to Domestic Abuse.

He stated that his commitment to the local policing model is absolute. He acknowledged that he had moved away from joint funding for PCSOs and was moving to a greater focus on local responsibility and working more effectively in policing hubs.

The following points were made during the ensuing discussion.

- In response to a question from Councillor Danvers the Chief Constable said that there needed to be time to assess the impact of Part Night Lighting on criminal activity. The Chairman reminded Councillor Danvers that an item on this matter is included on the Panel's Forward Look.
- In response to a question from Councillor Gaywood in relation to the underlying factors behind the sickness absence figures, the Chief Constable reported that he had done a considerable amount of work on this matter. There is a significant amount of short-term absences. It had not been treated as a sufficient priority in the past but he has now established a dedicated team to deal with the matter. The data is published monthly on the website.
- In response to questions from Councillor Buckley regarding clear-up rates and the impact on neighbourhood policing of the apparent high turnover in local officers the Chief Constable commented that he wanted officers to deal with the solved rates with integrity and Essex is moving up the table in relation to improvements in the solved rate. He will continue to drive improvement in this area. In relation to neighbourhood policing he will be asking District Commanders to commit to two years in the post. Working in hubs will help address the issue of continuity more generally.
- Councillor Butland asked the Commissioner to consider bringing the Chief Constable with him next year when discussing the precept in order to bring the budget debate to life.
- Councillor Young was pleased to learn of the Chief Constable's stand on the night-time economy and considered it was important to take a tough joint approach. In relation to alcohol-related crime he asked if the Chief Constable

supported the “Reducing the Strength” campaign. The Chief Constable responded that he supported the campaign and wanted to be more vocal about the partnership approach and the range of solutions available. It was important to deal with irresponsible businesses. The Deputy Commissioner reported on a pilot project being run in Colchester.

- In response to a question raised by John Gili-Ross relating to an increase in bicycle thefts the Chief Constable undertook to follow up the matter. John declared a personal interest as the Chairman of the local Neighbourhood Action Panel.

The Chairman thanked the Chief Constable for his attendance and hoped he would be willing to attend again in the future.

7. Police and Crime Plan Refresh 2014/15

The Panel considered report EPCP/028/14 by the Commissioner seeking feedback on the update of the Police and Crime Plan.

The Commissioner introduced three new members of his staff: Carly Fry, Assistant Director, Performance and Scrutiny; Louise Miles, Media and Engagement Officer; and Gwanwyn Mason, Assistant Director, Engagement. He explained that with his Office now in place he is better able to respond to the Panel’s questions and to step up engagement activity.

The Panel endorsed the original Plan in February 2013. It covered the period November 2012 - 2016. After one year in Office, the Commissioner is keen to refresh the plan to provide an update on progress made as well as indicate future developments. He is, however, clear that the overarching priorities set out in the original plan (the ‘8 key areas of focus’) remain the same.

The draft Police and Crime Plan 2014 attached as Annex “A” to the report represents an update and a look forward from the existing Plan. It is not a new Plan. Also included at Annex “B” was an overview of Community Safety Partnership priorities for 2014/15. The draft presents the text only. Once the text has been finalised, photographs and graphics will be added before publishing on the website. It will be presented in a very similar format to that of the original Plan.

The Commissioner explained that this is not a new plan but he is now able to give examples of work being undertaken. The Plan still highlights Domestic Abuse but he intends that in the future this will expand to take in offences against vulnerable people. He has also decided not to separate out Mental Health as a category in its own right as it forms part of a complex mix. The performance monitoring will get deeper. The Commissioner encouraged the sharing of the draft Plan with Community Safety Partnership managers, if appropriate.

The following points were made during the ensuing discussion.

- Kay Odysseos commented that she thought the draft plan was a good and accessible document. She pointed out that the list of functions of the Panel set out on Page 32 of the Agenda should include handling complaints made against the Commissioner. She also thought that the link between the New Initiative Fund and the Plan was not clear.
- In response to a question from Councillor Channer relating to the use of body worn cameras the Commissioner and the Executive Director gave further detail about the purchase of more modern equipment for Essex and Kent using a grant of £440,000 from the Home Office which will fund a significant share of the purchase.
- Councillor Gaywood thanked the Commissioner for recognising that offences against the vulnerable went beyond Domestic Abuse.
- Councillor McPherson commented that the Police needed to do more work with young people.

Resolved:

That the Panel endorse the draft Police and Crime Plan 2014 submitted as Annex "A" to report EPCP/028/14.

8. Police and Crime Panels – the first year

The Panel deferred consideration of a report (EPCP/029/14) by the Secretary to the Panel to an occasion when it has more time to give to the item and it can be considered in conjunction with examples of what other Panels are doing, including the possibility of Panel Members attending other Panels.

9. Forward Look

The Panel considered a report (EPCP/030/14) by the Secretary to the Panel concerning the planning of the Panel's business.

The Panel agreed the business proposed for the meetings currently scheduled.

10. Update on On-going Issues

The Commissioner provided the Panel with a brief update on the following:

- The recruitment of Strategic Advisers to the Policing Board being created by the Commissioner. The intention is that the Board should meet three times a year with sub-committees for finance and ethics and integrity. He agreed that he owed the Panel a note on progress. (A report was subsequently sent out to the Panel from his Office.)
- The recent decision to dismiss a police officer following a gross misconduct hearing. The Commissioner commented that he expected the Chief Constable to uphold the values and standards of leadership.

Chairman
19 June 2014

AGENDA ITEM 7

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Essex Police and Crime Panel | EPCP/031/14 |
| Date: 19 June 2014 | |

Actions arising from the last meeting

Report by the Secretary to the Panel

Enquiries to: Colin Ismay: 01245 430396 colin.ismay@essex.gov.uk

Purpose of report

To highlight the matters raised at the last meeting requiring further action and to indicate the action taken.

| Action required | Action taken |
|---|--|
| Networking with other Panels | Secretary to follow up on |
| Panel to see savings proposed by the Chief Constable at a future meeting. | This will be covered in the Sept finance report. |
| List of functions of the Panel in the Police and Crime Plan to include handling complaints made against the Commissioner. | This was included in the Police Crime Plan refresh – now published on the PCC website. |
| Police and Crime Panels – the first year. Bring report to next meeting | Secretary to add to Forward Look and prepare report. |
| Commissioner to provide Panel with a note on progress of the recruitment of Strategic Advisers | Circulated to Panel 27 February. |

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| Essex Police and Crime Panel | EPCP/032/14 |
| Date: 19 June 2014 | |

The Work of the Police and Crime Panel

Report by the Secretary to the Panel

Enquiries to: Colin Ismay: 01245 430396 colin.ismay@essex.gov.uk

Purpose of report and background

As there have been several new Members appointed, this report brings together a number of matters relating to the working of the Panel and its relationship with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Membership

Each local authority in England is required to appoint a member to their force-area Police and Crime Panel. In Essex this means that the County Council, the two unitary authorities and each of the twelve district councils appoint a member to the Essex Panel, which must also include two independent members. The maximum panel size is 20 members.

Following on from the District Elections in May there have been a number of changes to the appointees to the Panel. The current membership is as set out on the face of the Agenda.

The Home Office has made it clear that as far as possible, panels should satisfy the balanced appointment objective; which is to ensure the geographic, political and demographic make-up of the police force area is reflected in the membership of a panel. In appointing panel members, local authorities must, as far as is practicable, consider the make-up of the force area in terms of geography, politics and the requisite skills, knowledge and experience for the panel to function effectively.

Councillor membership of the panel should reflect the geography and population size of the force area. In the first instance, the legislation seeks to achieve this by having every local authority in the area represented on a panel.

The total number of Essex Councillors is 735 in the following proportions:

| Conservative | Labour | Liberal Democrat | Other | UKIP |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|------------|-----------|
| 409 (55.7%) | 103 (14%) | 81 (11%) | 95 (12.9%) | 47 (6.4%) |

The most recent appointees to the Panel are 10 Conservative, three Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Independent against proportions of 8:2:2:2:1.

In terms of Council Administrations, there are 10 Conservative, 2 Labour and 3 joint administrations, 2 with Liberal Democrat Leaders and 1 with an Independent Leader.

In July 2012 when looking at its political make-up the Panel decided that, subject to the Home Secretary's approval, in order to reflect better the political balance across the Police Force area, the Chairman approach the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group on the County Council to nominate a Liberal Democrat representative to be co-opted on to the Panel who should not be a member of any of the 15 local authorities in the Essex Police Force area who nominate to the Panel. Home Secretary approval was given and Ann Haigh was co-opted on to the Committee as a result.

The Panel needs to come to a decision on whether it wishes to make use of any co-opted places to achieve a better political balance. The Home Secretary would need to approve any changes to the co-options.

Terms of Reference

The Panel's Terms of Reference, Panel Arrangements and Procedure Rules are attached to this report.

The Panel's achievements thus far

The following is a brief summary of the activities of the Panel since it was established in November 2012:

- Agreeing a process for undertaking confirmatory hearings and holding confirmatory hearings for the Chief Constable, the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and the Executive Director of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office. In each case the Panel confirmed the appointment.
- Reviewing the content of the Commissioner's first Annual Report.
- Working with the Commissioner and his Office to develop a performance framework and then receiving regular updates on performance and finance from the Commissioner, including progress on the allocation of community safety grants by the Commissioner.
- Considering the Commissioner's proposed Police Precepts for 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- Reviewing the draft Police and Crime Plan for 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- Receiving presentations from the Commissioner and the Chief Constable.

The Home Office Grant for the Panel's work

Home Office Grant

Confirmation has been received for 2014/15 of a grant of up to £64,340 to the County Council for the Police and Crime Panel grant scheme. The funding is for the maintenance in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the Regulations made under it of a police and crime panel able to carry out the functions and responsibilities set out in that Act.

Police and crime panels were introduced to scrutinise the actions and decisions of police and crime commissioners. The panels will provide support and challenge to the commissioner in the exercise of their functions. Panels will focus their attention on key strategic actions and decisions taken by the commissioner, including whether they have achieved the objectives set out in their police and crime plan, considered the relevant priorities of their community safety partners and consulted appropriately with the public.

The key deliverables are that there is a police and crime panel for the Essex police area able to carry out its functions and responsibilities as set out in the 2011 Act. The expenditure is broken down as £53,300 administration costs and £11,040 – up to £920 per member expenses.

Training

The Panel has considered the options available by way of training to help it carry out its role to be financed by the provision made available by the Home Office for member allowances.

Agreement has been reached with a Consultancy that has done or is doing learning and development sessions with panels where the panels, like the Essex Panel, have completed a round of carrying out the statutory functions and are thinking about how to add value when scrutinising the Commissioner. The Panel has agreed a draft programme as follows and now needs to agree when it would be best to hold the session.

| Essex Police and Crime Panel Review and Planning Event | |
|---|---|
| 10.00 am | Introductions and outline programme |
| 10.05 am – 10.30 am | Session 1: Review of this year's work to date <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of key core responsibilities this year:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Precept and budget- Police and Crime Plan- Confirmatory hearing- Annual Report• Discussion in small groups: for each of the above:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) what went well?b) what could have worked better?c) what other challenges has the Panel not yet been able to |

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| | tackle or tackle well enough in Year 1? |
| 10.30 am – 10.45 am | Feedback of key points from small group outputs |
| 10.45 am – 11.30 am | Session 2: Tackling Year 2 with confidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tools, techniques and initiatives that have helped other PCPs Discussion in small groups: <p>Are there lessons and pointers from other PCPs' work and wider scrutiny experiences that we can draw on in our work as Essex PCP?</p> Brief feedback of any key points |
| 11.30 am – 11.40 am | Break |
| 11.45 am – 12.35 pm | Session 3: Getting onto the front foot: work programming for Year 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Essex Constabulary context – HMIC report - Work programming essentials, inc. prioritisation - Evidence gathering and triangulation - Discussion (as one group): <p>How can we carry out our statutory responsibilities more effectively?</p> <p>What else should be in our work programme for Year 2 – and what do we need to do to make it successful?</p> |
| 12.35 pm – 12.55 pm | Capture of learning from the day and action planning |
| 12.55pm – 1.00 pm | Evaluation and close of event |

Publicity for the Panel

The Panel has given consideration as to how it might improve publicity for its work. John Gili-Ross undertook to do some work on what form a greater web presence for the Panel might take. John's analysis is attached to this report and the Panel is asked to indicate its agreement to proceed on this basis.

Networking with Other Panels

At the Panel's request, contact has been made with Panels in neighbouring Counties to see if there is any appetite for networking. Interest has been expressed and the Panel needs to give some thought as to what form the networking might take.

The Landscape within which the Commissioner and the Panel operates

This part of the report is an attempt to put the work of the Commissioner and the Panel into some form of context.

The main responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner are:

- to secure an efficient and effective police force for their area;
- to appoint the chief constable, hold them to account for the running of the force and if necessary dismiss them;
- to set the police and crime objectives for their area by producing a five-year Police and Crime Plan (in consultation with the Chief Constable);
- to set the annual force budget and police precept and produce an annual report setting out their progress against the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan;
- to contribute to the national and international policing capabilities set out by the Home Secretary in the Strategic Policing Requirement;
- to co-operate with the criminal justice system in their area;
- to work with partners and fund community safety activity to tackle crime and disorder.

The Commissioner has created a new governance structure to provide experienced outside voices to help inform the thinking of both the Commissioner and the Chief Constable as they make decisions about the future of, and vision for, policing in Essex. He has introduced three new policing boards designed to help enable the Commissioner to fulfil his role of holding the Chief Constable to account for delivering the best possible policing for Essex both now and in the future. At the centre of the new structure is a Strategic Policing Board, which will advise the Commissioner and Chief Constable and help them refine their vision for policing in Essex and its relationship with other public partners. There will also be a Finance Committee which will consider long term funding issues and the implications of current financial challenges. It will not usually be concerned with short term accounting or audit matters. An Ethics and Integrity Committee will work strategically to help the Commissioner and Chief Constable understand what the future ethical challenges for the police service might be. It will not get involved in individual cases of misconduct, but would look at lessons learnt from current casework and emerging issues.

The Panel's role is to scrutinise the work of the Commissioner, exercising the function as a critical friend in support of the Commissioner. It cannot involve itself directly with Police operational issues.

Although not an exhaustive list the following all have an interest in the successful operation of the police force in Essex:

- the Home Secretary responsible for drugs policy, crime policy and counter-terrorism and ensuring visible, responsive and accountable policing in the UK
- the Home Affairs Select Committee which has been commenting on the performance of Police and Crime Commissioners nationally
- the Independent Police Complaints Commission oversees the police complaints system in England and Wales and sets the standards by which the police should handle complaints and making its decisions entirely independently of the police and Government. As part of its role in securing and maintaining public confidence in the complaints system, the IPCC uses learning from its work to influence changes in policing, ensure accountability and spread best practice and high standards of customer service.
- the people of Essex
- local authorities in Essex
- the Business Community
- victims of Crime
- those committing crime or under investigation
- Community Safety Partnerships: the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act established partnerships between local authorities, the police and police authorities, fire service, probation service, health authorities, the voluntary sector, and local residents and businesses. The partnerships work to reduce crime and disorder by establishing the levels of problems in their area, consulting widely with the district population to make sure that the partnership's perception matches that of local people and devising strategy to tackle priority problems. Each year the CSP must undertake a Strategic Assessment. This includes data analysis of levels and patterns of crime and disorder. Practical intelligence-led activity is used for setting priorities and allocation of resources. The results from the Strategic Assessment allow the CSP to set its priorities around crime and disorder.
- Safer Essex Partnership tackles the issues of crime, disorder, drugs and alcohol in Essex
- relevant voluntary organisations
- the Probation Service and its successor arrangements
- the Health Sector

Police and Crime Panels: the First Year

Attached is a copy of a report produced by the Centre for Public Scrutiny on the first year of operation of Police and Crime Panels. This item was postponed from the last meeting as there had not been time to give it appropriate consideration.

Rather than investigate the duties of Panels in turn, the report draws out some key themes from the experiences of those working with, and sitting on, Panels, and from a desktop study of publicly-available information on each of the 41 Panels. It uses this evidence to make suggestions on how Panels, and those with whom they work, can plan their business in future.

It has already been suggested that the Report be used as one of the resources at the Panel's training event.

ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. To scrutinise the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner, exercising the function as a critical friend, in support of the Commissioner.
2. To review and produce a report on the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable.
3. To hold a confirmation hearing, and produce a report or recommendations (as necessary) in respect of proposed senior appointments made by the Commissioner.
4. To scrutinise the proposed precept and make recommendations. If not satisfied with the precept the Panel can veto it, provided there is a two thirds majority in agreement. The Commissioner will then have to respond to the Panel and publish the response.
5. To review the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, and produce and publish a report or make recommendations on the Plan.
6. With regard to the Commissioner's annual report, produced in accordance with section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, to question the Commissioner at a public meeting and scrutinise the decisions made by the Commissioner. The Panel must also produce recommendations or a report which is sent to the Commissioner and published.
7. To review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.
8. To fulfil functions in relation to complaints about conduct matters, in accordance with the responsibilities accorded to the Panel by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
9. Where required (i.e. if the Commissioner resigns, is disqualified from office, is suspended or incapacitated), appoint an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner from amongst the Commissioner's staff.

The Panel will be governed by schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

PANEL ARRANGEMENTS

1. Operating Arrangements

- 1.1 In line with Home Office guidance, Essex County Council shall act as the lead authority in establishing the Police and Crime Panel and provide the necessary officer support.
- 1.2 The lead authority will provide such administrative and other support as will be necessary to enable the Panel to undertake its functions. Home Office funding is expected for at least the first year. Thereafter, if no funds are provided by the Home Office, or if those funds are insufficient to cover the costs of running the Panel, the Lead Authority will defray and recover from the other members the costs of administrative support. The budget for the Panel will be agreed annually and the Panel will operate within the allocated budget.
- 1.3 In the event of the Panel being wound up, the Lead Authority will defray and recover from the other member authorities any associated costs exceeding the funding provided by the Home Office.
- 1.4 Any dedicated staff employed to support the Panel will be employed by the Lead Authority, and their terms and conditions will be that of the Lead Authority.
- 1.5 The Panel shall comprise a minimum of 15 councillors (one from each of the twelve Essex districts, one from the County Council and one from each of the two Unitaries) and two independent members.
- 1.6 Additional members may be co-opted onto the Panel, as long as the two independent members are also included, the size of the Panel does not exceed 20 and the Secretary of State approves the membership arrangements.

2. Membership

- 2.1 Any Councillor on the 15 appointing Councils is eligible for membership of the Panel.
- 2.2 All members of the Panel may vote in proceedings of the Panel.
- 2.3 The appointment of elected members to the Panel shall be made by each of the appointing councils in accordance with their own procedures provided that the balanced appointment objective is met. The balanced appointment objective requires that the local authority members of the Panel should:
 - (a) represent all parts of the police force area;
 - (b) represent the political make-up of the councils taken together; and
 - (c) have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to enable the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.
- 2.4 The councils shall each appoint an elected Member to be a Member of the Panel. Additional nominations will be invited to positions for co-opted members in line with

the composition agreed by the Panel to reflect better the Political balance across the Police Force area and subject to approval by the Secretary of State.

2.5 Named substitutes may also be appointed by the 15 appointing Councils and notified to the Secretary to the Panel.

2.6 In the event that a council does not appoint a Member in accordance with these requirements, the Secretary of State must appoint a member to the Panel from the defaulting council in accordance with the provisions in the Act.

3. Casual Vacancies

3.1 A vacancy on the Panel arises when a member resigns from the Panel.

3.2 Each council will fill vacancies for elected members in accordance with the arrangements in their Constitution. Vacancies for independent members will be filled in accordance with the selection process outlined in section 4 below.

4. Independent Members

4.1 The Police and Crime Panel shall co-opt two independent members onto the panel for a term of four years, starting in 2012.

4.2 The selection process for co-opting independent members should include a reasonable period of advertising for the positions. A closing date for the receipt of applications should be given of at least two weeks from the date the advert is first placed.

4.3 Information packs should be prepared and sent to those requesting application forms.

4.4 The applications will be considered against an agreed eligibility criteria and then an Appointments Sub-Committee will be established to consider applications and interview candidates.

4.5 Following the interviews, the Appointments Sub-Committee will make recommendations to the Panel about membership.

4.6 The Panel may decide to change either Independent Member at any point and on doing so shall give notice to the Secretary to the Panel.

4.7 Where the appointed Independent Member is an expert, the nominating body may change its nominee at any point and on doing so shall give notice to the Secretary to the Panel.

5. Term of Office

5.1 A council may decide in accordance with its procedures to remove their appointed member from the Panel at any point and on doing so shall give notice in writing to the Secretary to the Panel.

5.2 An appointed member may resign from the Panel by giving notice in writing to the Secretary to the Panel and to their council.

5.3 In the event that any appointed member resigns from the Panel, or is removed by a council, the council shall immediately take steps to nominate and appoint an alternative member. Each Council should give notice in writing to the Secretary to the Panel that their member has been changed.

5.4 Members appointed to the Panel may be re-appointed for a further term provided that the balanced appointment objective is met by their reappointment. The term of office shall be for one year, with each council selecting its representative at its annual general meeting each year. There is no maximum number of terms that a member may serve.

5.5 The term of office of a member co-opted to the Panel to reflect better the Political balance across the Police Force area shall be for one year. The member may be co-opted for a further term provided that the balanced appointment objective is still met by their co-option.

6. Allowances

6.1 Each council has the discretion to pay allowances to its representatives on the Panel. Any allowances payable to elected Members shall be determined and borne by the appointing councils.

6.2 The Lead Authority, on behalf of the Panel, may pay an allowance to the Independent Members and co-optees if this is agreed as part of the annual budget approved by the Panel.

6.3 The independent and co-opted members may claim allowances from the lead authority in accordance with the provisions contained within the lead authority's Members Allowances Scheme relating to "Co-opted Members of Committees Allowances" current at the time the duty was undertaken to which the claim relates.

7. Promotion of the Panel

7.1 The Panel shall be promoted and supported by the Lead Authority through:

- (a) the issuing of regular press releases in consultation with the Chairman about the Panel and its work;
- (b) the inclusion of dedicated web pages on the work of the Panel, with the publication of Agendas and minutes. All reports and recommendations made, with responses from the Police and Crime Commissioner will be published.

8. Validity of proceedings

8.1 The validity of the proceedings of the Panel is not affected by a vacancy in the membership or a defect in the appointment of a member.

9. Amendments to Terms of Reference, Panel Arrangements and Procedure Rules

- 9.1 Any proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference, Panel Arrangements or the Procedure Rules of the Panel should be submitted to the Panel for its approval and may be submitted as and when required. In addition, the Panel will review and re-confirm its Terms of Reference and Procedure Rules annually.

ESSEX POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

PROCEDURE RULES

1. Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- 1.1 The Chairman will be elected during the Panel's first meeting, and then every year, and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.
- 1.2 The Vice-Chairman will be appointed during the Panel's first meeting, and then every year, and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.
- 1.3 In the event of the resignation of the Chairman or removal of the Chairman, a new Chairman will be appointed at the next meeting and will be drawn from amongst the councillors sitting on the Panel.

2. Meetings

- 2.1 There shall be a minimum of four ordinary meetings held in each municipal year to carry out the functions of the Panel. These meetings shall be open to the public except where such attendance is excluded by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. In addition, extraordinary meetings may be called from time to time, as required.
- 2.2 An extraordinary meeting may be called by the Chairman, by a group of five members of the Panel or by the Monitoring Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 2.3 In exceptional circumstances the Chairman may cancel or rearrange a meeting.

3. Quorum

- 3.1 A meeting of the Panel cannot take place unless one third of the whole number of its members is present. Under normal circumstances this would be five of the 15 council appointed members.

4. Voting

- 4.1 All members of the Panel may vote in proceedings of the Panel subject to the rules on declarations of interest.
- 4.2 One-third of the voting members present may require that the way all members cast their vote or abstained shall be recorded in the Minutes; such a request must be made before the vote is taken.

5. Work Programme

- 5.1 The Panel will be responsible for setting its own work programme taking into account the priorities defined by the Police and Crime Commissioner. In setting the work programme the Panel will also take into account the wishes of its members.
- 5.2 The work programme must include the functions set out in the Panel's terms of reference.

6. Agenda items

6.1 Any member of the Panel shall be entitled to give notice to the Secretary to the Panel that he or she wishes an item relevant to the functions of the Panel to be included on the agenda for the next available meeting.

7. Reports from Police and Crime Panels

7.1 Where the Panel makes a report to the Police and Crime Commissioner, it may publish the report or recommendations.

7.2 The Panel must by notice in writing require the Police and Crime Commissioner, as appropriate, within one month of the date on which he/she receives the report or recommendations:

- a) to consider the report or recommendations;
- b) to respond to the Panel indicating what (if any) action the Commissioner proposes to take;
- c) where the Panel has published the report or recommendations, publish the response;
- d) where the Panel has provided a copy of the report or recommendations to a member, provide a copy of the response to the member.

7.3 The publication of reports or recommendations is subject to the exclusion of any exempt or confidential information as defined in the rules on access to information in the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

7.4 If the Panel cannot unanimously agree on one single final report to the Police and Crime Commissioner then one separate report may be prepared and submitted for consideration along with the majority report.

8. Police and Crime Commissioner and Officers Giving Account

8.1 The Panel may scrutinise and review decisions made or actions taken in connection with the Police and Crime Commissioner's role. As well as reviewing documentation, in fulfilling its scrutiny role it may require the Police and Crime Commissioner, and members of the Commissioner's staff, to attend before the Panel (at reasonable notice) to answer any questions which appear to the Panel to be necessary in order to carry out its functions.

8.2 Where the Police and Crime Commissioner, or a member of the Commissioner's staff, is required to attend the Panel under this provision the Chairman will inform them in writing giving, where practical, 15 days' notice of the meeting. The notice will state the nature of the item on which he or she is required to attend to give account and whether any papers are required for production for the Panel. Where it is necessary to produce a report, sufficient time will be given to allow preparation of that report.

8.3 Where, in exceptional circumstances, the Police and Crime Commissioner is unable to attend on the required date, then an alternative date for attendance may be arranged following consultation with the Chairman of the Panel.

8.4 If the Panel require the Police and Crime Commissioner to attend before the Panel, the Panel may (at reasonable notice) request the Chief Constable to attend before

the Panel on the same occasion to answer any questions which appear to the Panel to be necessary in order for it to carry out its functions.

9. Attendance by Others

9.1 The Panel may invite people other than those referred to above to address it, discuss issues of local concern and/or answer questions. It may, for example, wish to hear from residents, stakeholders, councillors who are not members of the Panel and officers in other parts of the public sector and may invite such people to attend.

10. Sub-Committees and Task Groups

10.1 The Panel may from time to time establish time-limited task groups to undertake specific task-based work.

10.2 The “special functions” of the Panel may not be discharged by a sub-committee of the Panel or a task group.

10.3 In this paragraph “special functions” means the following functions conferred on the Panel by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011:

- a) Section 28(3) (scrutiny of Police and Crime Plan);
- b) Section 28 (4) (scrutiny of annual report, produced in accordance with section 12 of the Police and Social Responsibility Act, 2011);
- c) Paragraphs 10 and 11 of Schedule 1 (review of senior appointments);
- d) Schedule 5 (issuing precepts); and
- e) Part 1 of Schedule 8 (scrutiny of appointment of the Chief Constable).

10.4 The work undertaken by a sub-committee or task group will be scoped and defined beforehand, together with the timeframe within which the work is to be completed and the reporting time for the outcome of the work.

10.5 Where it is not possible to reach a consensus, attempts will be made to reflect minority views within the report but there is no provision for minority reports.

10.6 Sub-Committee and Task Group reports shall be reviewed by the Panel which will decide whether to ratify the findings and / or recommendations.

10.7 Paragraphs 8 (Police and Crime Commissioner and Officers giving account) and 9 (Attendance by Others) shall apply to Sub-Committees and Task Groups in the same way as they apply to the Panel.

11. Carrying out “Special Functions”

Reports and recommendations made in relation to the functions outlined in the terms of reference will be carried out in accordance with the procedure outlined at (7).

12 Police and Crime Plan

12.1 The Panel is a statutory consultee on the development of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan and will receive a copy of the draft Plan, or a draft of any variation to it, from the Commissioner.

12.2 The Panel must:

- a) hold a public meeting to review the draft Police and Crime Plan (or a variation to it), and
- b) report or make recommendations on the draft Plan which the Commissioner must take into account.

13 Annual Report

13.1 The Commissioner must produce an Annual Report about the exercise of their functions in the financial year and progress in meeting police and crime objectives in the year. The report must be sent to the Panel for consideration.

13.2 The Panel must comment upon the Annual Report, and for that purpose must:

- a) arrange for a public meeting of the Panel to be held as soon as practicable after the Panel receives the Annual Report;
- b) require the Commissioner to attend the meeting to present the Annual Report and answer such questions about the Annual Report as the Panel think appropriate;
- c) make a report or recommendations on the Annual Report to the Commissioner.

14 Senior appointments

14.1 The Panel has powers to review the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. The Panel is required to hold public confirmatory hearings for these posts.

14.2 The Panel will be notified of the need for a confirmatory hearing in respect of proposed senior appointments made by the Police and Crime Commissioner. This will be held at the next available meeting of the Panel unless the appointment timescale requires an earlier hearing, in which case an extraordinary meeting will be arranged.

14.3 With regard to the appointment of the Chief Constable, the Panel is required to hold a hearing within the period of three weeks from the day on which the Panel receives notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner which will include:

- (a) the name of the candidate;
- (b) the criteria used to assess the suitability of the candidate for the appointment;
- (c) why the candidate satisfies those criteria; and
- (d) the terms and conditions on which the candidate is to be appointed.

- 14.4 Confirmatory hearings will be held in public, where the candidate is requested to appear for the purpose of answering questions relating to the appointment. Following this hearing, the Panel is required to review the proposed appointment and make a report to the Commissioner on the appointment.
- 14.5 For a confirmatory hearing for the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable, in addition to the requirement to review and report, the Panel has the requirement to make a recommendation on the appointment and the power to veto the appointment.
- 14.6 Having considered the appointment, the Panel will be asked either:
- a) to support the appointment without qualification or comment;
 - b) to support the appointment with associated recommendations, or
 - c) to veto the appointment of the Chief Constable (by the required majority of at least two thirds of the persons who are members of the Panel at the time when the decision is made).
- 14.7 If the Panel vetoes the appointment of the candidate, the report to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed the appointment with reasons.

15. Appointment of an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner

15.1 The Panel must appoint a person to act as Police and Crime Commissioner if:

- a) no person holds the office of Police and Crime Commissioner;
- b) the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated; or
- c) the Police and Crime Commissioner is suspended.

15.2 The Panel may appoint a person as acting commissioner only if the person is a member of the Police and Crime Commissioner's staff at the time of the appointment.

15.3 In appointing a person as acting commissioner in a case where the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated, the Panel must have regard to any representations made by the Commissioner in relation to the appointment.

15.4 The appointment of an acting commissioner ceases to have effect upon the occurrence of the earliest of these events:

- a) the election of a person as Police and Crime Commissioner;
- b) the termination by the Panel, or by the acting commissioner, of the appointment of the acting commissioner;
- c) in a case where the acting commissioner is appointed because the Police and Crime Commissioner is incapacitated, the Commissioner ceasing to be incapacitated, or
- d) in a case where the acting commissioner is appointed because the Police and Crime Commissioner is suspended, the Commissioner ceasing to be suspended.

16. Proposed precept

16.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner will notify the Panel of the precept which the Commissioner is proposing to issue for the financial year. The Panel must review the proposed precept and make a report including recommendations.

16.2 Having considered the precept, the Panel will either:

- a) support the precept without qualification or comment;
- b) support the precept and make recommendations, or
- c) veto the proposed precept (by the required majority of at least two thirds of the persons who are members of the panel at the time when the decision is made).

16.3 If the Panel vetoes the proposed precept, the report to the Commissioner must include a statement that the Panel has vetoed the proposed precept with reasons. The Panel will require a response to the report and any recommendations.

17 Complaints

17.1 Non-criminal complaints in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner or other office holders can be considered by the Panel through a hearing. The Panel can examine this through a sub-committee following the procedure rules at 10 above.

17.2 A Panel may suspend the Police and Crime Commissioner if it appears to the Panel that

- a) the Commissioner has been charged in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man with an offence, and
- b) the offence is one which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years.

17.3 The suspension of the Police and Crime Commissioner ceases to have effect upon the occurrence of the earliest of these events:

- a) the charge being dropped;
- b) the Police and Crime Commissioner being acquitted of the offence;
- c) the Police and Crime Commissioner being convicted of the offence but not being disqualified under Section 66 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act by virtue of the conviction; or
- d) the termination of the suspension by the Panel.

17.4 In this section references to an offence which carries a maximum term of imprisonment exceeding two years are references to:

- a) an offence which carries such a maximum term in the case of a person who has attained the age of 18 years, or

b) an offence for which, in the case of such a person, the sentence is fixed by law as life imprisonment.

18. Suspension and Removal of the Chief Constable

18.1 If the Commissioner suspends the Chief Constable from duty the Commissioner must notify the Panel of the suspension.

18.2 A Commissioner must not call upon a Chief Constable to retire until the end of the scrutiny process which will occur:

(a) at the end of six weeks from the Panel having received notification if the Panel has not by then given the Commissioner a recommendation as to whether or not they should call for the retirement or resignation; or

(b) the Commissioner notifies the Panel of a decision as to whether they accept the Panel's recommendations in relation to resignation or retirement.

18.3 The Commissioner must also notify the Panel in writing of their proposal to call upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign together with a copy of the reasons given to the Chief Constable and any representation from the Chief Constable in relation to that proposal.

18.4 If the Commissioner is still proposing to call upon the Chief Constable to resign, they must notify the Panel accordingly (the "further notification").

18.5 Within six weeks from the date of receiving the further notification, the Panel must make a recommendation in writing to the Commissioner as to whether or not they should call for the retirement or resignation. Before making any recommendation, the Panel may consult the chief inspector of constabulary, and must hold a scrutiny meeting.

18.6 The scrutiny hearing which must be held by the Panel is a Panel meeting in private to which the Commissioner and Chief Constable are entitled to attend to make representations in relation to the proposal to call upon the Chief Constable to retire or resign. Appearance at the scrutiny hearing can be by attending in person, or participating by telephone or video link.

18.7 The Panel must publish the recommendation it makes by sending copies to each of the councils, and by any other means the Panel considers appropriate.

18.8 The Commissioner must consider the Panel's recommendation and may accept or reject it, notifying the Panel accordingly.

18.9 In calculating the six-week period, the post election period is ignored. The post election period begins with the day of the poll at an ordinary election of a Commissioner under section 50 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and ends with

the day on which the person elected as Commissioner delivers a declaration of acceptance of office under section 70 of the 2011 Act.

Essex Police and Crime Panel Web Site Review undertaken by John Gili-Ross

Introduction and Aims

Following an action agreed at the PCP meeting on the 29th January 2014 the web pages assigned to the PCP hosted within Essex County Council web site should be reviewed with the aim of revising the content and generally updating as appropriate.

Currently the web pages assigned to the affairs of the panel provide very basic information - set up in the early stage of the panel being formed. The aim of the PCP web site should be to provide the people of Essex with current and relevant information pertaining to the PCP: responsibilities, aims, member make-up and record of meeting decisions. Recommendations are made for web site content in heading terms and in some cases, actual content is suggested. Panel members should regard this submission, as a "first pass awareness" of what is typically included within some more established PCP web sites and what may be considered suitable inclusion within a revised Essex PCP web site. Members may feel this submission is adequate to form a foundation for web site changes and allow work to begin at the earliest opportunity.

It is assumed the actual content used to populate the revised web site will be created as required and the panel should give consideration as to who will be responsible for the initial revision and subsequent updates. The technical layout and integration of relevant material would be achieved possibly using the current ECC web site architecture however it would be very straightforward to create a separate PCP web site if preferred. There is some merit in having an independent PCP web site to highlight the panel operates under home office guidelines.

No assumption has been made regarding how costs will be met for planning, integration, design or content of individual PCP web pages as this would largely be governed by whether the web site will continue to be hosted as a subset of web pages on the ECC web site or separately as some county PCP are organised.

References Used

Analysis has been carried out of other PCP web sites including our near neighbours of Kent, Suffolk, Cambridge and Hertfordshire (independently hosted web site). The Essex PCP web pages are not alone in being in need of review and fall some way short of both Suffolk and Cambridge which provide what could be regarded as an appropriate public facing platform for PCP affairs.

Considerations / Questions to be addressed by panel members

Most PCP sites referenced provide panel membership makeup and contact details although some sites do not include all member details and it can only be assumed that some members do not want their contact details made available. Members should decide whether they want to receive direct communication from the public or whether this should be directed to the PCP administration. The public do expect to directly contact members elected/appointed to represent them. There is likely to be an administration and process overhead if direct contact with members is employed. Should there be a means provided for the public to mail in questions to the PCP Chairman alongside the ability to directly attend a formal meeting to ask questions in person?

Should meetings be available to the public through a web-cast as is the case for some county PCP meetings allowing viewing at convenient times and locations? Unless web-cast capability is already available for other ECC meetings then this may not be viable in cost terms.

Recommended Sub-Headings and Content Where Applicable

PCP initial landing page

This should provide a brief PCP overview and the objective of the panel with the following being a typical example.

“The Essex Police and Crime Panel is a joint committee reporting to the Home Office and established according to Schedule 6, Part 2, clause 4(5)(b) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The Panel is responsible for supporting and challenging the [Essex Police and Crime Commissioner \(PCC\)](#).”

On 15 November 2012, Nick Alston was elected as the first Essex [Police and Crime Commissioner \(PCC\)](#). The PCC holds responsibility for setting policing priorities for Essex police force, holding the Chief Constable to account for delivering these priorities and spending the police budget in a manner that addresses these priorities.

The PCC is challenged and supported by the Police and Crime Panel (PCP). The Panel has the role of scrutinising the performance of the PCC, and will challenge and support the PCC's activities over a range of policy areas, including the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan. The Police and Crime Panel consist of 18 members in total, with 14 nominated by the Essex District and Borough Councils plus two independent and one co-opted member. The Chair of the panel is appointed by Essex County Council. Panel members have been appointed from local authority representatives to achieve political proportionality across Essex.” The Panel will also have a role in the handling of [complaints](#) against the PCC and the confirmation of key staff posts within the Office of the PCC.

Together Panel members reflect the breadth of communities across Essex. The Panel has certain statutory functions, set out in the [Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011](#):

- ☐ *reviewing the police and crime plan*
- ☐ *reviewing the PCC's annual report*
- ☐ *carrying out confirmation hearings for certain senior appointments*
- ☐ *carrying out confirmation hearings for the chief constable*
- ☐ *investigating complaints about non-criminal behaviour of the PCC*
- ☐ *support and scrutinise the effective exercise of the functions of the PCC*

The Panel must meet a minimum of four times a year and hosted by ECC at County Hall. Planned meeting dates can be found [here](#)

Web Page - PCP Terms of Reference

The terms and conditions example copied as Appendix A below, broadly match those used for representative approval by the Unitary, Districts and Boroughs councils prior to the PCP being implemented.

Web Page - Meeting Dates

This information is already available and future updates can be added as available.

Web Page - Panel Member Identities

This information is already available. The panel should decide the level of detail provided. Most reference sites viewed include recent member photographs, nominating district or borough, political representation, telephone number(s) and e-mail address.

Full contact details for the support officer should be provided.

Web Page - Publication Links

This should include a copy of the following documents or a hyperlink to the following information:

Police and Crime Plan

The PCC Annual Report

Chief Constables appointment and biography

The current or proposed budget

Any report written by the panel to the PCC.

Web Page – “Contact Us” page

Again a feature of most sites referenced. The following is a copy of that which appears on the West Yorkshire PCP web site, which has been modified for possible inclusion in the Essex PCP web site:

To ensure we represent the interests of all the residents in Essex, we welcome your thoughts on how the Police and Crime Commissioner is addressing Policing, Community Safety and Crime in your local area:

- 1. What is working well?*
- 2. What could work better?*
- 3. What suggestions and advice can you offer to support the Commissioner?*
- 4. What issues would you like the Police and Crime Panel to raise with the Commissioner?*

To answer these questions or to make the Panel aware of any other concerns, comments, compliments or suggestions then please complete the form below.

Alternatively you can write to us at:

*Essex Police and Crime Panel, Democratic Services, County Hall, Market Road
Chelmsford Essex CM1 1QH*

To make a formal complaint against the Police and Crime Commissioner see our complaints page

If you want to contact the Police and Crime Commissioner directly then please visit their website at <http://www.essex.pcc.police.uk>

Web Page - Complaints Page

See the appendices below:

Appendix A - Example Contents Pages

Essex Police And Crime Panel - Terms Of Reference

1. The Panel's role is to scrutinise the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner, exercising the function as a critical friend, in support of the PCC.
 2. To review and produce a report on the proposed appointment of the Chief Constable.
 3. To hold a confirmation hearing, and produce a report or recommendations (as necessary) in respect of proposed senior appointments made by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
 4. To scrutinise the proposed precept and make recommendations. If not satisfied with the precept the PCP can veto it, provided there is a two thirds majority in agreement. The PCC will then have to respond to the panel and publish the response.
 5. To review the PCC's Police and Crime Plan, and produce and publish a report or recommendation on the plan.
 6. With regard to the annual report, produced in accordance with section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the panel must question the PCC at a public meeting and scrutinise the decisions made by the PCC. The panel must also produce recommendations or a report, which is sent to the PCC and published.
 7. To review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Police and Crime Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the commissioner's functions.
 8. To fulfil functions in relation to complaints about conduct matters, in accordance with the responsibilities accorded to the Panel by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
 9. Where required (i.e. if the PCC resigns, is disqualified from office, is suspended or incapacitated), appoint an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner from amongst the Commissioner's staff.
- The Panel is governed by schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act.

Complaints Page

Making a Complaint

When to complain.....

If you have a concern about something the Commissioner or their Deputy has said or done, the first step is to raise it with them. Their contact details are set out below.

If you are still not satisfied, you can make a complaint to us, the Police and Crime Panel. There is a Complaints Form you can download to help you.

Someone can act on your behalf (perhaps a friend or relative) if you give your written permission for them to do so.

What we can do.....

Complaints about the behaviour of the Commissioner or their Deputy are dealt with either by the [Independent Police Complaints Commission](#) (IPCC) or by us, the Panel. We have to record any complaints alleging criminal conduct (or which indicate criminal conduct may have occurred) by the Commissioner or their Deputy. We then have to refer these complaints to the IPCC for investigation. Any other complaints are handled by us, usually through Informal Resolution. Informal Resolution means encouraging, helping and bringing about the resolution of a complaint without going through legal or formal proceedings.

We can consider complaints about the way a decision has been made or the behaviour of the Commissioner or their Deputy, if this has caused problems for you. For example,

you may want to complain about the Commissioner or their Deputy not following their own rules.

What we can't do.....

We can't just question what the Commissioner or their Deputy has done simply because you don't agree with it. There must be some alleged fault by the Commissioner or their Deputy. For example, you may think that they have not followed the proper process for taking a decision. There are some things we can't look into because there is a more appropriate body to deal with your complaint, or because we don't have the legal power to do so. If we can't help, we will tell you about other organisations that may be able to help. In particular, we are not able to deal directly with complaints about the performance of Essex Police or any of their officers. How such complaints are to be dealt with can be found at www.essex.police.uk. If you are unsure about whether your complaint is appropriate for the Panel to look into, please contact the Democratic Services 01245 435313 in the first instance, who will be able to advise you.

More Information?

You will be able to find out more information about making a complaint by clicking on the links below:

- ☐ How We Deal With Your Complaint
- ☐ Possible Outcomes
- ☐ Complaints About The Panel

Contact details for the Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex

Website: www.essex.pcc.police.uk

E mail: concerns@essex.pnn.police.uk

Telephone: 01245291600

Address: PCC for Essex

3 Hoffmanns Way

Chelmsford

Essex

CM1 1GU

Contact details for Essex Police and Crime Panel

Email: GovernanceTeam@essex.gov.uk

Telephone: 01245 435313

Address: Democratic Services

County Hall

Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

Other contact details

Essex Police Compliments and Complaints (for compliments or complaints about police officers or police staff):

Website: www.essex.police.uk/contact_us/compliments__complaints.aspx

E mail: Needs insertion

Telephone: 101

Address: Professional Standards Department

Essex Police Headquarters,

Springfield Road,
Chelmsford,
Essex,
CM2 6DA

Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) (for complaints about alleged or potential criminal matters):

Website: www.ipcc.gov.uk

E mail: enquiries@ipcc.gsi.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 020 0096 (9.00am to 5.00pm Monday - Friday)

Address: Independent Police Complaints Commission

PO Box 473

Sale

M33 0BW

Police and crime panels: the first year



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CfPS

The Centre for Public Scrutiny is an independent charity, focused on ideas, thinking and the application and development of policy and practice for accountable public services. CfPS believes that accountability, transparency and involvement are strong principles that protect the public interest. We publish research and practical guides, provide training and leadership development, support on-line and off-line networks, and facilitate shared learning and innovation.

Introduction

In November 2012, the landscape of policing underwent its biggest change certainly since the creation of police authorities in 1964, and possibly since the creation of watch committees to oversee policing in 1835. This change was the creation of the post of directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) – someone to be elected every four years with a mandate to direct the strategic priorities of the police force in a given area.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, which brought in this change, also created Police and Crime Panels (PCC's) – bodies made up of local elected councillors and independent members with the responsibility to scrutinise and support the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner. These Panels are not local government committees, but they are obliged to meet in public, to publish their agendas and minutes, and to fulfil certain key statutory responsibilities. The main responsibilities are:

- To consider the PCC's Police and Crime Plan ("the Plan") in draft. The Plan is a document setting out the PCC's priorities for a three year period, and how those priorities will be delivered
- To consider the draft policing budget and draft policing precept. The precept is the amount of money that the PCC proposes to levy on council taxpayers for the local force. The budget will set out how both the money raised from the precept will be spent, and also how other funds will be spent for which the PCC has overall responsibility
- To consider the PCC's annual report, setting out their activities in the previous year
- To carry out hearings when the PCC proposes to appoint a new chief constable, a deputy PCC, a chief of staff/chief executive or a chief finance officer
- To work to resolve (but not investigate) non-criminal complaints made about the PCC.

More detail on these responsibilities can be found in three sets of guidance produced jointly by CfPS and the LGA in 2011 and 2012. With a year having now passed since the creation of PCCs and Panels, this research aims to establish how PCPs have delivered their statutory duties, and how they have carried out their work more generally.



[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/
ukpga/2011/13/contents](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents)

The law

There are a number of statutory instruments, laid in Parliament further to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act, which directly refer to Panels and their powers. They are:

- Police and Crime Panels (Precepts and Chief Constable Appointments) Regulations 2012, SI No. 2271 (laid before Parliament 6 September 2012)
- Police and Crime Panels (Application of Local Authority Enactments) Regulations 2012, SI No. 2734 (laid before Parliament 1 November 2012)
- Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012, SI No. 62 (made 10 January 2012)
- Police and Crime Panels (Nominations, Appointments and Notifications) Regulations 2012, SI No. 1433 (laid before Parliament 7 June 2012)
- Police and Crime Panels (Modification of Functions) Regulations 2012 SI No. 2504 (made 2 October 2012).

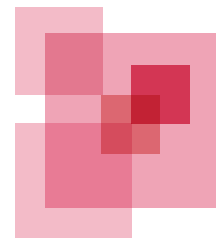
Note on the text

References in the text to “officers” should be interpreted as local government officers or employees of associated institutions, not to police officers.

We have referred throughout to Police and Crime Panels as “Panels” and to Police and Crime Commissioners as “PCCs”.

We have used the words “hold to account” and “scrutinise” interchangeably in this research. We are aware that some in the sector consider that the two words/phrases have different meanings and that there is some discomfort about Panels being seen as bodies which hold Commissioners to account. However, we consider that this is the practical effect of the legislation, even if the specific words are not present in the Act itself.

We refer to “a few”, “a number of”, “some” Panels or Panel members to make comments about practice. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, more specificity would reveal the identity of individual Panels, and secondly, we have not carried out a quantitative analysis of Panel operations because the sample size is only 41, and giving percentages or proportions of this figure would more likely than not be misleading to the reader.



Rather than investigate the duties of Panels in turn, the report draws out some key themes from the experiences of those working with, and sitting on, Panels, and from a desktop study of publicly-available information on each of the 41 Panels. It uses this evidence to make suggestions on how Panels, and those with whom they work, can plan their business in future.

This research is based on a number of evidence sources:

Telephone interviews

We have carried out phone interviews with Panel support officers in 39 of the 41 affected police areas in England and Wales. We have also spoken to eight PCP Chairs and to six independent Panel members. Interviewees were asked a standard list of questions, but supplemental questions were also asked to explore the context of their answers.

Desktop analysis of information available online about Panel activities

CfPS has looked at meeting minutes and agendas to form a picture of typical Panel activity in each of the 41 areas affected. This has involved making an assessment of the online visibility of Panels.

Surveys

CfPS submitted a number of questions to a survey being carried out by the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) of its members, with thirteen detailed responses having been received. A survey of members of APACE (the Association of Police and Crime Commissioner Chief Executives) was also carried out, resulting in a similar number of responses.

Meetings, events and online discussion

CfPS has attended meetings in March, July and November 2013 organised by the LGA, and an event in October 2013 organised by CoPaCC, which involved around fifty face-to-face conversations with Panel members and Panel chairs, which were recorded and used to form part of the evidence base for this research. CfPS has also been involved in delivering training, development and support to seven English Panel areas, funded by the LGA. Information from these events has been fed into the research as well.

The LGA curates discussion spaces on the Knowledge Hub where Panel issues are discussed, which we have looked at.

The wider debate about Panels and PCCs

CfPS has looked at research in this area carried out by a range of other people. We have had discussions with doctorate candidates engaged in work in this area, with the National Audit Office, with the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, the Association of Police and Crime Commissioner Chief Executives and the Home Office. We are also grateful to Bernard Rix and CoPACC for assistance in understanding the transparency and information issues relating to PCCs.



www.apccs.police.uk



www.apace.org.uk



www.copacc.org.uk



<https://knowledgehub.local.gov.uk/>

Main findings

The success or failure of Police and Crime Panels owes itself, in every area, to the quality of the relationship between the Police and Crime Panel, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Where flaws or shortcomings in this relationship exist it is not impossible for the Panel's duties to be carried out, but it is significantly more difficult. Importantly, these shortcomings have a significant impact on the Panel's effectiveness. In many areas, relationships do not appear to be at a level where the Panel is able to make a positive contribution – often because of disagreements relating to the kind of information about Commissioners' activities which they are entitled to see. We think that a first step to resolving such issues would be for the Home Office to strengthen the statutory instrument setting out what information Commissioners are required to produce around decision-making – subject to what we also say about local agreement on mutual responsibilities (see below).

Shortcomings in the relationship between Panels, Commissioners and PCCs' offices often seem to stem from mutual misunderstandings about the Panel's role.

A key factor in the early PCC-Panel relationships in many areas was disagreement over role and remit. In some areas, these initial difficulties have been overcome, but elsewhere, poor relationships persist. We think that the Home Office should provide clarity to Panels and Commissioners on their mutual role in ensuring accountability, transparency and good governance. The statutory duties of the Panel do not go far enough in providing this clarity. A lack of certainty has led in some areas to fundamental confusion and disagreement about what the Panel is for.

Resourcing is a further constraint, but only where Panels are seeking to be more ambitious about their role. Authorities should give serious thought to making more money available to provide additional support to Panels where there are particular concerns, and to reduce the pressure on lead authorities, who are in many instances providing "in kind" support which exceeds the £53,000 provided centrally.

It is difficult for Panels who wish to bolster their "supportive" role by carrying out their own research and gathering evidence to influence Police and Crime Plans and budgets to do so within the financial envelope set out by the Home Office. This reflects the fact that the Home Office figure was reached on the basis of bodies which would meet infrequently and only to carry out a narrow range of roles. However, it is becoming increasingly apparent that this minimal vision of how Panels should work is unsustainable. In order to carry out their statutory duties effectively, Panels need a broader understanding of policing and crime issues across the Force area, which requires more work and an increased level of resourcing. A contribution, in many areas, of £2,000 per authority in addition to the funding already committed would make a significant positive difference. We recognise that in many areas the commitment of this extra funding will prove a challenge.

Panels should come together with PCCs, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), CSP scrutiny committees and Chief Constables to agree ways of working that go beyond the Policing Protocol.

Fundamental issues about the transparency of decision-making, expectations around information sharing and the ability of Panels to transact their statutory duties can only be resolved by discussion and agreement, locally, about the mutual roles and responsibilities of the various individuals, bodies and partnerships with a stake in partnership policing. Such agreement need not be bureaucratic and should focus on values, attitudes, behaviours and culture more than on arbitrary deadlines and time limits. This will also provide a means to resolve common areas of friction around the “balance” between supportive work and scrutiny, and the meaning of the operational/strategic division. This will also help to resolve concerns where PCCs themselves have set up their own “policy development” groups which seem to duplicate the roles and functions of Panels.

Panels should consider how they can carry out their role with more proactive work, where proportionate and where such work relates directly to their statutory role.

Proactive work – investigations of key strategic priorities with a view to supporting the PCC’s work – will be one key way for the Panel to demonstrate its effectiveness. This work will need to be planned carefully to reflect the PCC’s own work, to minimise duplication and to ensure that the focus is on those areas where the Panel’s intervention can add the most value.

In some areas, Panels may be unwilling or unable to carry out work in this way. We should emphasise that although we consider the transaction of such work as highly productive, Panels may wish to think about other methodologies to achieve the same ends – for example, seeking to review the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan across the year, through the use of themed meetings.

Panels should consider how they can better engage the public.

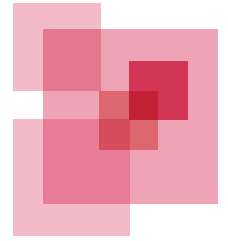
A more consistent approach to how Panels present themselves to the public should address many Panels’ low visibility, on the internet in particular.

What does “good” look like?

On the basis of our research, good Panels:

- Have sought to engage constructively with their PCC from the outset, and usually have some kind of agreement in place with the PCC about information-sharing and joint working which goes beyond the terms of the Policing Protocol
- Use information from a range of sources intelligently, bringing that knowledge and understanding to bear on their strategic, statutory duties
- Have a clear idea of their role and responsibilities, which translates into a focused approach to work programming
- Are well resourced – but more than that, use what resources they have proportionately, using the individual skills and expertise of Panel members to drive its work forward
- Are visible – usually by having a dedicated web presence, and having plans in place to understand the public’s views, and to bring those views to bear on the scrutiny process
- Work well with others, usually CSPs and CSP scrutiny committees but also with a range of other partners where appropriate
- Where relevant, appropriate, and where resources permit, carry out proactive work to actively support the PCC, and to challenge their assumptions and priorities as they develop policy.

The job of ensuring Panels’ effectiveness sits with Panels and PCCs. While we think that there are a couple of practical policy contributions that the Home Office can make, the fact that the new arrangements work in a number of areas demonstrates that they can and should be made to work everywhere without significant Government intervention. We consider that the tools and resources already exist to make Panels effective.



Preparation: getting ready for November 2012

Panels reported varying success in getting ready for 22 November 2012, when the new structural arrangements in policing took effect. While some were putting plans in place two years in advance (following the publication of the policing consultation in July 2010 that subsequently led to legislation) others did little work before June 2012. Wrangles around responsibility for taking the lead authority role and disagreements over composition led to problems in some areas. Of greater significance was the delay in laying in Parliament statutory instruments which clarified the legal position of Panels, and made clear various points fundamental to the agreement of Panel arrangements. Only available in October and November 2012, the late preparation of this material led to entirely avoidable last minute activity, causing authorities significant expense and inconvenience.

While all Panels met the statutory deadlines and were in a position to meet formally for the first time shortly after the election, there were elements of preparation that may have been overlooked. Principal amongst these was the need for member induction. A large number of Panels took no steps to formally induct members into their new roles. There seem to have been a number of reasons for this:

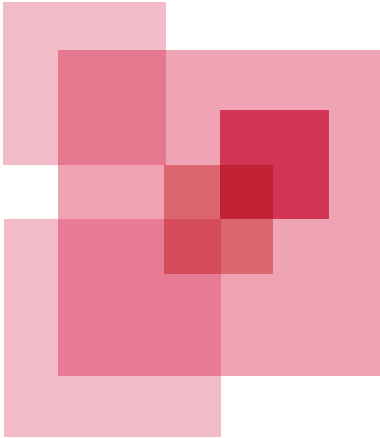
- Logistical reasons (Some Panels only agreed final membership in July and had to spend time transacting business in shadow form, such as refining their panel arrangements. This made a more reflective induction exercise difficult)
- Financial reasons (with there being no money in budgets for training and development)
- Practical reasons (principally a feeling that most Panel members – especially those who previously sat on Police Authorities - would have a comprehensive understanding of the local policing landscape, and that further induction and training was not necessary).

The transition from police authorities to PCCs and Panels

The successor bodies to Police Authorities are Police and Crime Commissioners. However, a significant number of former police authority members now sit on the Police and Crime Panel. We were interested to see how they had made the transition to the new role.

In a few instances it seems to be the case that former police authority members are finding it difficult to adjust to their new role. Their expectations of their power, responsibilities and the kind of work they should be doing (particularly as seen through the minutes of meetings) suggests a desire to focus on Force performance - which is more properly the business of the Commissioner. We discuss this confusion around the Panel's role in more depth later in this report.

This is not the case in all areas. In many parts of the country former police authority members have adapted to their role, and are using the skills and expertise they gained from having sat on those bodies to good effect in their scrutiny of the PCC. However, some ambivalence remains from those former Police Authority members who opposed the introduction of elected Commissioners in the first place. While this is partly an inevitable result of the transition process, and a theme that is likely to recede in the coming months, it is still likely that more effective training and induction, and more Governmental clarity, prior to last November would have resolved any confusion about the Panel's role and remit.



Later in this report, we note the experience of some who have resigned from their position on Panels, either because they have felt that it is not as effective as the old system or because the Panel has a different role to that which they were expecting.

Powers, resourcing, capacity and composition

Powers and the role

The role in general

In many instances, there has been mutual confusion between Panel members, Panel support officers, Commissioners and Commissioners' offices about what the role of the Panel actually is.

This has coalesced into disagreement on a number of areas:

- Disagreements over the balance between the Panel's supportive role versus its scrutiny role. Panel members and support officers have advised us that some PCCs, and some PCCs' offices, have expressed concern that the Panel is not being sufficiently supportive, or have stated that its principal role is one of support. We don't consider that there is a "balance" to be reached between scrutiny and support. The two are not different ends of a spectrum, but a single concept – Panels should be critical friends to their PCC, acting as an independent voice to constructively challenge their plans in order to deliver strategic and operational improvements.
- Concern over the strategic/operational split. In some areas, there has been concern that Panels are seeking to focus on operational issues, or seeking information about operational matters. However, there is no easy distinction between the two concepts. In order to understand whether the PCC has succeeded in fulfilling his objectives under the Police and Crime Plan, and to assess whether previous budgets have been value for money in terms of outcomes (an assessment that will be critical when it comes to looking at the following year's budget) there must be consideration of operational outcomes. Experience suggests that this evidence must be used to support scrutiny of the PCC's strategic role, rather than looking at operational issues for their own sake. As a matter of practice, this might be resolved by Panel members having access to a range of operational performance information, but using that information as background for its strategic work, rather than bringing such data to Panel meetings to ask the PCC direct questions on it. This detailed accountability around Force performance is the core element of the PCC-Chief Constable relationship.

An increase in powers?

Over the past year it has been suggested by numerous people that Police and Crime Panels should have more powers, or should use their existing powers "more effectively". The Home Affairs Select Committee has been especially forthright on this point, having taken evidence from three Panel chairs in May, reporting that, "All three of the PCP chairs we heard from believed that their Panels did not have strong powers to hold a PCC to account" (although Cllr Peter Box, one of the three Panel chairs in question, gave evidence to the committee stating that he did *not*, in fact, believe that powers needed to be increased).



<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmhaff/69/6910.htm>

Overwhelmingly, Panel support officers felt that no further powers were necessary, and that the challenge lies in Panels using their existing statutory powers (particularly around the Police and Crime Plan and the budget/precept) more effectively. The feedback from Panel members themselves has been more mixed. Many of those to whom we have spoken have expressed strong opinions in favour of more powers – particularly a strengthening of the powers of veto over the precept, and also increased powers to direct PCCs’ policies. However, others have been more equivocal.

With more powers, Panels would risk becoming mini-Police Authorities, bodies with the power to veto more of the PCC’s decisions, and to direct PCCs’ work, but with arguably less democratic legitimacy than PCCs themselves. Panels are scrutiny bodies, which exist to hold the PCC to account, not to make decisions in concert with the PCC or to overturn decisions made by a democratically elected individual. Their supportive role (further to the definition of the Panel’s responsibilities in the Act) means that – ideally – they will provide constructive challenge which supports the Commissioner’s development of policy, and to help to deliver the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan. The Panel’s principal power lies in its ability to influence, on the basis of evidence, rather than to direct. There is of course a challenge here for Panels to have the resource to gather and analyse evidence in such a way to make a positive contribution.

We consider that an enthusiasm for increased powers arises from a misapprehension about what the role of the Panel should be, and the difficulty that some former Police Authority members are finding in making the transition between that body and the Panel. This misapprehension arises, in part, from the lack of clarity from the Home Office themselves about the broad role that they consider Panels should be playing in the new landscape.

There are two areas where increased powers could be seen as sitting within the terms of the existing role of the Panel:

- Powers to “call in” the purported suspension or dismissal of the Chief Constable by the PCC, as a check on the PCC’s power to do this unilaterally. The PCC’s chief of staff / chief executive will have a role in assuring that does not occur, and HR and legal advice from within the Force should mean that, when the PCC does choose to exercise his or her powers to fire or suspend the Chief Constable, this will be on the basis of clear professional advice. Under these circumstances, it is difficult to see what the Panel could do, other than delay the implementation of the PCC’s decision. In such a circumstance the working relationship between the PCC and the Chief Constable would have irretrievably broken down. It is possible however that the existence of such a long-stop power for the Panel could dissuade PCC’s from taking such serious action without first considering what other options might be available to resolve the situation
- Powers to refer particular issues to the Home Secretary. Under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, a health overview and scrutiny committee may make a reference to the Secretary of State where the committee feels that a consultation into a substantial variation in local NHS services has not been adequate. This is a tightly defined exemption. It is possible that this could be introduced as a secondary step to the Panel’s veto on the policing precept, or as a possibility where the Panel feels that the Police and Crime Plan is inadequate. However, rules for the operation of such a power would need to be tightly circumscribed for the purposes of certainty.

Both of these possible powers would need to be treated as “long stops”. Although both have been raised as options by practitioners there would be substantial legal and technical hurdles to jump for them to be feasible – particularly reference of matters to the Home Secretary. However, if attempts were made to fit these new powers in with the existing role, they could be made to work.

We consider that any attempt to increase powers would be a medium to long term ambition. It is too early to make accurate judgments about whether new powers would fit comfortably within Panels’ existing role, and what the impacts of this would be on the wider accountability and decision-making structures within which Panels operate. We have considered the issue here only insofar as it has been raised by those we’ve interviewed, and do not consider that a change in powers is necessary for Panels to be successful or effective.

A reduction in powers?

Conversely, it is possible that Panels’ powers could be reduced.

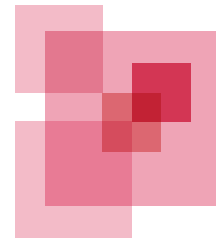
The Panel’s principal role sits around the budget and policy cycle for the PCC’s strategic activities. There are two Panel roles which sit outside this cycle – confirmation hearings, and the resolution of non-criminal complaints against the PCC.

We explore some of the practical difficulties that Panels have experienced around both of these issues later in the research.

Given the resource constraints under which some Panels find themselves, there may be sense in Panels relinquishing their complaints role – with complaints being dealt with at initial stage by the PCC’s office, and if unresolved by the Independent Police Complaints Commission. The Panel could retain strategic oversight of the process, rather than being responsible for resolving individual complaints (i.e., it would be responsible for assuring the inherent fairness of the complaints system). In doing so, the Panel would also be able to identify whether any broad patterns were emerging from complaints being submitted.

Confirmation hearings have presented a challenge for many Panels. Their purpose is unclear, although it could be argued that they represent a high-profile way for the Panel to act as a check on the PCC, and while many Panels have struggled to find a way to carry them out so that they add value, they are still seen as an important part of the role.

It is difficult to understand, in practical terms, how the Panel is being expected to contribute to the appointments process for the selection of a new Chief Executive, Finance Officer or Deputy PCC. For the appointment of the Chief Constable, the Home Office have recognised that the process is more critical, giving the Panel a veto. But it is difficult to envisage a circumstance in which such a veto – which would be potentially career-ending for any Chief Constable against which it was exercised – would be used, and a number of the Panel support officers and Panel members to whom we spoke expressed scepticism as to whether it would ever be a realistic option. It would suggest that the PCC’s and the Force’s appointment system for senior officers was fundamentally flawed, which would arguably be a systemic matter, only soluble through the intervention of Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabularies.



While we do consider that these are the parts of the Panel's role that use up disproportionate amounts of resource for the impact they have on strategic policing in the area, for the reasons set out above we consider that such a reduction might be something for policymakers to consider in the medium to long term only. Such a change in powers is not required in order to secure the effectiveness of Panels in the short term.

Resourcing and capacity – councillors and independent members

Councillors and independent members sitting on Panels have been expected to engage with a significant amount of work over the course of the past year.

Most Panels have met more frequently than the four times envisaged by the Home Office. In some respects this reflects a need to do so to meet statutory requirements (in the case of large numbers of confirmation hearings, for example) and a determination to carry out their statutory duties effectively (for example, those Panels who have held multiple meetings to consider the PCC's budget). As such it may be that in 2014, the number of meetings will reduce. However, among the Panel members and chairs to whom we have spoken there is a strong view that four meetings per year will be insufficient, and that the Panel will need to meet more frequently to conduct its business effectively. This is reflected in the views of Panel support officers as well. This is an issue to which we will return later, but it has an obvious implication for members' time commitment.

This time commitment has led the membership of some Panels to change over the course of the past year. It is not a consistent national trend, but around a dozen council leaders have stood down from Panels. This may be because of a lack of capacity to engage fully with Panels' work. In some instances, this has also been driven by a disenchantment with Panels, which are seen as ineffective as a means to effect change. Leaders tend to have other, more informal, "routes in" to liaise with and influence the PCC. We are aware of a number of leaders who have stepped down from Panels because of a feeling that they are "toothless", and/or who have stepped down because they consider attending Panel meetings to be less important than they had expected.

For independent members, resourcing and capacity constraints are different. Independent members are brought on to Panels to provide valuable expertise and a different perspective to elected members. Many independent members to whom we've spoken talk positively about their experiences, and what they've been able to bring to the Panel. However, in some areas they do not receive support from the lead authority to enable them to transact their role properly. In some areas little thought seems to have been given to the particular needs of independent members – who will not have access to the range of background information which might be available to elected members, certainly when those elected members on the Panel are predominantly Cabinet members and/or Leaders. For example, it is the practice for many such members to receive briefings from their authority's community safety manager in advance of Panel meetings, but this approach tacitly excludes independent members, who are not tied to a single authority. Assumptions are also made about independent members' familiarity with the broader local government context in which Panels sit (for example, the way in which community safety, and broad strategic policing priorities, engage with local government policymaking in issues such as health, children's services, environmental services and so on).

Independent members may need more support. But the availability of such support will continue to be subject to constraints itself, as we will go on to see in the next section.

Allowances/expenses

Currently, there is provision for Panels to make £920 available to cover expenses for Panel members.

Many Panels have not supplemented this by putting in place an allowances scheme for members, but some have done so (with levels of allowances having been set by Independent Remuneration Panels). Levels of allowances vary considerably – from nothing at all to as much as £10,000. This variation does reflect the significant regional differences on allowances for local government committees.

It has been suggested to us that the provision of allowances would help to support councillors and independent members who are subject to considerable pressures on their time and both attending, and travelling to, meetings. There is not enough evidence to determine whether Panels making provision for allowances are more effective than those who do not (or whether, if that is the case, such effectiveness is down to other factors). As with other aspects of resourcing, this is an area where Panels and their constituent authorities will have to make an appropriate local determination.

Resourcing and capacity – support from councils

Most Panels have made use of the £53,000 made available by the Home Office to backfill existing posts in Democratic Services, rather than to appoint a new dedicated officer to support the Panel. We have been told that this is because lead authorities are unwilling to commit to a permanent member of staff when there is no guarantee that Home Office funding will continue indefinitely. There is significant worry that the Home Office will withdraw Panel funding imminently, leaving lead authorities with the responsibility to develop local agreements on funding themselves. We do not think that local authorities will be in any position to commit a substantial resource to supporting PCPs indefinitely, although a handful of PCPs have managed to secure the agreement of their constituent authorities to supplement the £53,000 with additional contributions from councils in the area. Such an approach seems to be most prevalent in areas with pre-existing positive working relationships between the councils in the area. On the other hand, in some areas, the suggestion that an additional contribution might be made by authorities has been explicitly rejected.

Those areas under the most pressing resource constraints are those where minimal provision has been made for officer support for the Panel. Home Office funding is not ring-fenced, and it is for the lead authority to decide how to finance the Panel. But this situation has caused some challenges – particularly around the requirement to resolve non-criminal complaints against the PCC, which take up a disproportionate amount of time.

There are a range of different approaches that have been taken by lead authorities to resource Panels. Broadly speaking they fall into one of the following options:

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- A dedicated officer, or officers, who have a responsibility to provide support to the Panel. This is a person who has been recruited specifically for the role on a permanent contract
 - Backfilling of the lead authority's Democratic Services function to fund existing officers to provide support to the Panel, alongside other duties
 - Support from the lead authority's Community Safety team, with the community safety manager (or similar) providing the primary means of support
 - No single focus for support, with assistance being drawn in from Democratic Services, a scrutiny team (if there is one), community safety and other places, with arrangements being overseen by a Head of Legal Services or similar.

Under all of these arrangements, there have been challenges around the range of skillsets required by officers providing support to Panels. A mixture of officers provide support –community safety managers, democratic services officers and scrutiny officers being most common. High level HR, legal and financial support has also been needed. The wide range of professional expertise which this implies suggests that it will be difficult to continue to provide adequate support to Panels within the existing funding envelope. Lead authorities are not generally keeping detailed records, but it seems likely from what we have heard that lead authorities are expending resources in excess of the £53,000 grant to provide this wider range of support. This bears out the reasoning behind the unwillingness of many authorities to commit to taking on “lead authority” status when Panels were set up.

Resourcing issues have an impact wider than just the Panel. We've been advised that an increase in resources to Panels will have a knock on impact on OPCCs, as the quantity of requests for information from Panels increases with their workload. We will discuss information sharing later in this report, but we consider that more resourcing for Panels could actually result in a decrease in the call on the time of OPCCs. Better resourced Panels will be more able to directly access information and will not have to rely on the OPCC for it.

At the outset, we hypothesised that the resource issue would be felt most acutely by those lead authorities which were shire districts, but this is not the case. This may be because community safety responsibility in two-tier areas sits formally with district councils, meaning that community safety officers can provide some support to Panels in a cost-effective way.

How can resourcing be managed better?

- **Authorities could make available additional discretionary resources where there seem to be concerns about the level of funds available. In many areas, even a commitment of an additional £2,000 per council would, for the average Panel with seven to ten authorities represented on it, work to defray some of the additional costs to lead authorities, and make it more easy for Panels to take a more forensic, strategic and proportionate approach to their activities. It is important that this money should not be seen as a transfer from local scrutiny functions to the PCP, because well-resourced local scrutiny (as we will note below) in the form of strong and effective community safety scrutiny committees provides a key means to ensure the Panel's**

effectiveness. We recognise that this option has been specifically excluded in many areas, and that for other Panels any further financial commitment would be exceptionally difficult to negotiate, but it is an issue that is worth raising in advance of the 2014/15 budget

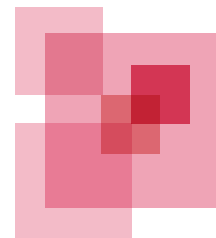
- More business could be transacted in smaller work groups. We do not recommend the creation of large numbers of standing sub-committees but giving responsibility to focus on particular issues or areas to smaller groups of Panel members, or individual Panel members, might afford a more proportionate way to prepare for major set-piece meetings. This will work against what may otherwise be a natural tendency to schedule more full Panel meetings
 - Clearer prioritisation and a focus on core tasks may be necessary. We look in more detail into this issue later in the research
 - As a matter of some urgency, the Home Office should provide some clarity over the financial commitment it proposes to make to the support of Panels. We are aware that an ongoing commitment has been given to the extent that this is possible within central Government accounting rules, and taking into consideration inherent political uncertainty, but the resourcing and powers of the Panel should be seen as going hand in hand.
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Capacity and ability to carry out effective financial scrutiny

Many Panels found scrutiny of the budget and precept especially challenging in early 2013. With Panels only having been in operation for a couple of months, and with Commissioners themselves only having had a few weeks to develop fully costed proposals for 2013/14 to support their planned precept, it is unsurprising that many told us that they felt that their scrutiny of the budget was only superficial.

Some Panels have carried out no further financial or budget scrutiny other than that specified in the Act, but some have tried to take and analyse quarterly budget information produced by the PCC. In most cases, thoughts are turning to the budget for 2014/15. Most are aware that this will be the first year in which the PCC is able to stamp his or her personality on policing plans.

While some Panels are planning to undertake budget scrutiny training, many are not, and a substantial number of Panels have yet to engage substantively with their PCC to decide how budget scrutiny will be carried out. While some now expect to have relevant information on options, budget outlines and priorities provided to them in November 2013, and while most expect to have at least some information by the New Year, others have assumed that no information will be shared until late January 2014, in line with the statutory requirements. This is likely to place a significant constraint on a Panel's ability to carry out their statutory duties properly in January and February 2014. What contribution these Panels are, in the end, able to make is likely to be minimal. However, we do consider that the majority of Panels will, for the 2014/15 financial year, be able to make a tangible, practical contribution to the budget and precept-setting process.



It is unfortunate, however, that in a number of instances PCCs and their officers seem to be taking a doctrinaire approach with regard to the sharing of financial information with the Panel. This actively hinders the Panel's scrutiny role. It is based on an erroneous view of the strategic/operational split in the PCC's, and the Panel's, role. It is also based on an unreasonably restrictive interpretation of the Panel's statutory duties. We will return to the issue of information – sharing later.

How can Panels carry out financial scrutiny most effectively?

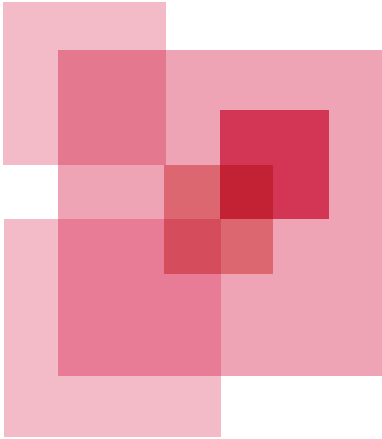
- **Meaningful early engagement is critical. PCCs cannot expect Panels to be able to engage constructively with the budget and precept if key information is not shared until the end of January 2014**
 - **Panel members should receive quarterly finance, performance and risk monitoring reports against the PCC's priorities. This information should not be tabled at a Panel meeting, but should form a source of background evidence for Panel activity**
 - **Panels should engage more closely with CSPs, and CSP scrutiny committees, to better understand how the PCC's budget is allocated to deliver against community safety priorities. We explain more on this later**
 - **Panels should think seriously about training on police and community safety budgeting, even if they have some experience on this issue.**
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Capacity, ability and willingness to carry out “proactive” scrutiny and investigative work

Just over half of Panels are now actively planning to engage in what some call “proactive” scrutiny work. This is detailed work investigating issues of priority to both the local area and the PCC. This work can be seen as supportive of the PCC's policy development process. Of the remainder, only a handful have been categorical in saying that they do not plan to undertake such work. The main reason given for this is that Panel chairs in those areas hold the view that investigations into specific policy issues are not the role of the Panel, but should be for the PCC to lead on, with the Panel holding the PCC to account on concrete plans being implemented. Such Panels are focusing their work on post-hoc scrutiny of PCC decisions and their core statutory duties.

Where it is being carried out, such proactive work is only getting under way now because of the high pressure and pace of statutory work being conducted in the early part of the year. Many sitting on, and supporting, Panels feel that there have been two distinct phases of operation for them:

- **a first phase, running from November 2012 to early summer 2013 dominated by statutory activity**
- **a second phase running from summer 2013 onwards, where the Panel is able to take a more strategic approach to its work.**



There seem to be three principal mechanisms of carrying out “proactive” scrutiny work:

- Thematic Panel meetings. Each meeting of the Panel (other than the meeting to consider the budget, precept, plan and so on) will be themed to a single priority in the PCC’s Police and Crime Plan, allowing for in-depth discussion. This is a low-cost means of ensuring that the Panel can carry out more proactive work, but the thematic approach means that the Panel’s scrutiny may be quite broadbrush in nature
- Task and finish working. This will be familiar to those officers and councillors who work with local government scrutiny committees. Small time-limited working groups are established to investigate particular policy issues, and to make recommendations. This can be a focused and effective means of working, but is resource-intensive. Around ten Panels are planning to operate in this way, or have already set up T&F groups
- Setting up a small number of standing subgroups to look at specific issues. A few Panels have set up standing groups to look at the Police and Crime Plan and the budget as they are developed.

These approaches to proactive scrutiny are not mutually exclusive.

Given the fact that many Panels are only now beginning to undertake this proactive work, we have been able to find out little about planned topics, and it is too early to talk about outcomes. However, PCCs have on the whole seemed to be positive about this work, and its potential to support the way they develop their plans and policies. It has significant potential to bolster both the profile and effectiveness of Panels as they enter their second year in operation. However, from our experience and research on local government scrutiny, it will be critical that Panel’s programmes for such proactive work link closely with PCCs’ own plans. Where relationships between Panels and PCCs are less well developed, it has been suggested to us that such work might constitute a “pinch point” in that relationship, on account of the potential for Panels’ proactive work to overlap with that of the PCC. It will be important to resolve any of these wider issues relating to the PCC-Panel relationship before more proactive work is undertaken.

Panels’ proactive work will be undertaken by support officers within the lead authority, being financed for the most part through the £53,000 made available by the Home Office for Panel support more generally. This will provide a constraint, and where authorities in a given area find themselves unable to make further funding available Panels will have to be extremely discriminating about how, when and why they undertake such work.

Using proactive scrutiny work to make Panels more effective

- Proactive scrutiny has the potential of bolstering the Panel’s conduct of its core statutory duties, and should be carried out with this primary objective in mind. It will be important that the Panel does not, in carrying out this work, create an “industry” that sees it straying away from its core statutory duties

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- Effective work programming and close liaison with the PCC will make proactive work easier to manage and resource, and will enhance its ability to support PCC decision-making
 - A focus on the content of the Police and Crime Plan will ensure that proactive work feeds directly into the Panels statutory duties, but must be undertaken in such a way that it focuses on those areas where the Panel can add most value
 - Work programming should involve a robust approach to prioritising work, defined by the Police and Crime Plan and by background data to which the Panel might have access. Having a way to transparently determine the Panels priorities will help to manage limited resources.
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Composition

In our guidance on composition in October 2011 we suggested that Panels should be comprised only of non-executive councillors (i.e. the Cabinet members or Leaders should not be included). We made this suggestion because of a feeling that Panels would be involved in investigating decisions made by the PCC that related to community safety funding. Because many community safety Cabinet members, and council Leaders, sit on and in some cases chair Community Safety Partnerships, we were concerned that if those people also held the PCC to account, it might constitute a conflict of interest.

We note that most Panels still have at least some executive members sitting on them. However, there is a distinct trend towards more non-executive members, as some Cabinet members and Leaders have stepped down from Panels and been replaced by others. We commented on this trend in more detail in the section above on member capacity.

Most Panels have “top up” members – multiple members from a single authority, selected to meet the objective of balanced representation in terms of political parties, geography and population. Although this makes most Panels quite large, there is no evidence that their size makes them less effective (supported by findings from our annual survey of overview and scrutiny in local government, which looked in detail at the effects of committee size on the effectiveness of scrutiny bodies in local councils). However, as Panels seek to engage in more detailed and proactive work, the logistical limitations in conducting “whole Panel” work may become more apparent. Some Panels have already sought to circumvent this problem by doing some work in task and finish groups (see section above), or setting up informal sub-panels – for example, a smaller group to prepare for the scrutiny of the PCC’s budget. A couple have also used the opportunity to assign specific responsibility for various subject areas to individual Panel members, bringing this knowledge to bear on Panel discussions in plenary. This represents a pragmatic approach to using the skills and time of all on the Panel effectively. Again, however, it is too early to say what the broader impact of this will be on the Panels overall effectiveness, and it is important to note that some Panels feel that resourcing considerations make work of this kind impossible, or will at least severely limit it.

As well as councillor members, all Panels have two independent members. Open recruitment processes were carried out for these over the course of summer 2012

in most instances. For some Panels, this process was quite rushed. However, Panels have attracted a high calibre of independent member. We have only been able to speak directly to a handful, but most do seem to be fully engaged in the business of the Panel, and are able to deploy their particular skills and experience effectively. However, in a minority of instances this does not appear to be the case, and Panels might do more to understand what their independent members can contribute, and the additional support that they may need over and above the information and advice all members of Panels receive.

Using Panel composition to make the Panel more effective

- Although we recognise that having Leaders and Cabinet Members sitting on Panels helps to ensure that strong links are made between them and councils, experience continues to suggest that non-executive members are more likely to have the time and capacity to commit to making Panels a success as scrutiny bodies
 - Larger Panels should take the opportunity to consider how they can conduct proactive scrutiny in task and finish groups, and also carry out preparatory work for their statutory duties in smaller groups (recognising the fact that some of those duties must be carried out by the Panel as a full body)
 - The use of “rapporteurs” – individual members of Panel who can be tasked to keep a watching brief on key areas of PCC policy and performance – will help to ensure that all members play an active role. It will also reduce the need for the submission of reports to the Panel “for information”. Again, this is a step that has already been undertaken in a minority of areas.
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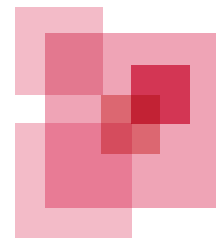
Relationships between the Panel and other bodies

Relationships with the PCC

In many areas, relationships with PCCs are positive and productive. In these areas, significant work has been undertaken to ensure that PCCs and Panels do work well together. Some areas have formal protocols to define how the relationship will operate – for most, however, arrangements are based on close liaison between the OPCC, PCC and the Panel.

While relationships are now settling down, at the start and for some time after there were some instances where difficulties occurred. In some areas, these difficulties continue. Some include:

- A PCC and most members of a Panel being from the same party, with a number of councillors on the Panel knowing the PCC socially, leading to a perception that they might be “getting an easy ride” (although the situation in many areas appears more complex than this, and some Panels who share their dominant political affiliation with their PCC have been able to be robust, challenging and supportive)



- A PCC and most members of a Panel being from different parties, with the Panel using meetings as a political platform (although in some instances this may derive from conflicting priorities between the PCC and the CSPs in the area, rather than exclusively a party political disagreement)
- Panel members in some areas being opposed to the concept of PCCs, and using their role to try to obstruct the work of the PCC
- PCCs being unused to public sector accountability “norms” (such as reporting to boards and committees) and seeing the Panels work as interference
- Particular issues causing flashpoints – especially confirmation hearings
- Misunderstandings and disagreements about the Panel’s role
- Circular and legalistic arguments about what information the Panel is “entitled” to have access to, and which areas they should and shouldn’t look at, based on a restrictive interpretation of the division between strategic and operational policing.

We should make it clear that, in many areas, most of these issues have been resolved. Where disagreements occurred, they seemed to be as the result of early misunderstandings about function and role, and a byproduct of the necessary speed of PCC and Panel activity in the early days. However, problems relating to the above points do persist in a minority of areas, and suggest the existence of fundamental differences of opinion over the Panels role and remit.

Political issues

Political affiliation appears to make little difference on its own to the PCC/Panel dynamic. Relationships seen as “cosy” may owe themselves more to personal relationships between the PCC and Panel members (for example, where some members were previously on the Police Authority, or the same council, as the PCC) as they are owing to political affiliation. More fractious relationships may come down to reasons other than political disagreement – in some instances, clashes in personal style (see below) are more obvious causes.

Difficulties have also occurred with the engagement of PCCs and Panels in the new arrangements in an ideological sense. A minority of PCCs and a number of Panel members and chairs appear to remain opposed to the whole concept of directly elected police commissioners and a number of Panel members bemoan the demise of the Police Authority. There is a sense, in some areas, that participants are biding their time until the structures are either fundamentally redesigned or abolished by Government. As a consequence, there is an unwillingness to put efforts into making those structures work. The perceived ineffectiveness of Panels has, in some areas, become a self-fulfilling prophecy, as members and PCCs who regard them as “toothless” have not sought to think creatively about their role, instead becoming disengaged from the arrangements as they cannot achieve with them that which they had originally hoped.

Some of those to whom we spoke – officers, councillors and other stakeholders – felt that the new arrangements for strategic policing are fundamentally flawed, which has limited their willingness to engage more fully in the work of Panels over the past year.

A majority of officers supporting Panels have expressed the view that Panels are effective only insofar as they are complying with their statutory duties, but that they have yet to prove themselves in terms of making a clear difference on the ground. However, a substantial minority do consider that the Panels they support have been effective in bringing about real local change (for example, bringing about changes to the Police and Crime Plan or helping the PCC to engage more effectively with partners).

Getting hold of information from the PCC

Commissioners are required to publish information in line with the Elected Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011.

Information on PCC decision-making

A minority of Panels have found it difficult to get hold of even basic information about PCC decision-making. For these Panels, there have been two principal problems.

Firstly, Panels have been unable to find out about planned decisions. This may be because of the lack in some cases of a published forward plan of such decisions by the Commissioner and an unwillingness on the part of the Commissioner, or the Commissioner's office, to engage the Panel in policy development. The Commissioner is obliged to publish information on decisions which are of a "significant public interest", but the legislation does not define what this means. Some Commissioners themselves have not sought to decide what the definition of such a decision might be. There is no national consistency on this matter.

Secondly, Panels are unable to find out detail of decisions once they are made. The guidance notes issued further to the 2011 Order did suggest that background papers should be made available (following guidance previously issued on this subject by the Information Commissioner for public authorities). However, there is no legal requirement to do this and we have been told that in a number of instances requests for such information has been refused.

Information on the budget and precept

The timescales in place for the setting of the 2013/14 budget were exceptionally challenging. PCCs had around six weeks (including the Christmas and New Year period) to put their plans in place and to develop a credible and implementable budget and plan for 2013/14. As such, most plans and budgets bore a close resemblance to plans and budgets adopted by the Police Authority.

In almost all instances Panels had to wait until the deadline, or very shortly before the deadline, before seeing any information from the Commissioner. In a few instances all Panels knew before the meeting when they had to examine the precept itself was the level of that precept. There does not seem to have been any consistency in the way that background papers have been provided to Panels to allow them to conduct this important work effectively.

We hope that most of these difficulties relate to the exceptionally short timescales which were imposed upon PCCs to develop their budget and precept plans around the New Year of 2013. A small number of Panels were in fact able to conduct constructive scrutiny of the budget, but such an approach required foresight and

a quick commitment from the newly elected PCC to make it happen. In a few areas, liaison over the future budget started as soon as the PCC was elected (and in one or two instances, shadow Panels liaised with the Police Authority on plans before November), which led to much more productive experiences when the formal meeting on the precept came around in January or February.

There is a risk that this year's experience, where it has been less than positive, may influence attitudes and behaviours in future years. While in a majority of areas conscious efforts are being taken by Panels and PCCs to carry out more work in advance of formal meetings next January and February, a substantial minority of Panels have resigned themselves to seeing partial information very late in the day. Where this has happened, PCCs and their offices have justified their decision not to share information earlier on the basis of the legislation. This reflects the legalistic approach to some PCCs' engagement to which we referred earlier, which is serving to actively harm the Panel/PCC relationship and to diminish Panels effectiveness.

Information to support confirmation hearings

Informal guidance issued by the LGA and CfPS to support confirmation hearings suggested that key information would need to be shared with the Panel by the Commissioner to ensure that confirmation hearings would complement the internal assessment processes being used to select a preferred candidate for appointment. In most instances, the information that we suggested be shared – relevant CV and biographical information of the candidate, questions asked at interview – has been shared. However, there have been some instances where PCCs have refused to share this information, making it very difficult for confirmation hearings to be carried out properly.

We are particularly aware that information to support the confirmation hearings of deputy PCCs has been difficult to come by. In some instances PCCs have even been unable to furnish the Panel with information about the job description for their deputy, because the role is ill-defined and/or has not been through the usual process of job design and evaluation. It is of course the case that the position of Deputy PCC does not need to be advertised and is, effectively, in the gift of the PCC.

Many Deputy PCC positions have been overtly political appointments – which is unsurprising, given that this is allowed for in the legislation and that a PCC may want to delegate some of their powers to people who they know, trust and who share their political outlook.

However, the essential informality of such arrangements makes confirmation hearings exceptionally difficult. For the most part, confirmation hearings for deputies have been described to us as unproductive. A number of Panel support officers, and members to whom we spoke, described the exercise as “tick-box” or “going through the motions”.

A number of Panels have asked PCCs to share with them questions that appointees have been asked during the final interview process. However, in some instances PCCs have refused to comply with these requests. This raises the significant likelihood that the same questions will be asked in both forums unnecessarily. There is no legal justification for such a refusal to share information, as demonstrated by the experience of PCCs who willingly share such information, and a couple where a Panel member has even been invited to shadow the recruitment process as an observer.

General issues around information sharing

Research carried out by CoPACC has found that, at the time of their research (November 2013) none of the 41 Police and Crime Commissioners fully published the primary and secondary information they were required to by law.

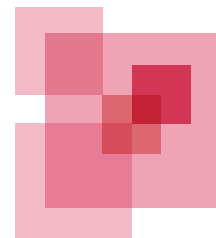
A minority of Panels have found it difficult to get information from the PCC following direct requests. For some, information is only provided after repeated requests, and is incomplete. In some instances the PCC has refused to publish information about forthcoming decisions until after the decision has been made. This reflects a lack of consistency nationwide in the way that PCCs publish information about decisions they have made, or the background information that informs those decisions.

This makes it more difficult for the Panel to support the PCC's decision-making activities.

Where Panels are able to consider PCC decision-making, the results of such work are ambiguous. In many cases the lack of supporting information has made it difficult to discern where PCC decisions do, or don't, relate to the Police and Crime Plan, which makes it difficult for Panels to prioritise their work.

A consideration of decisions made by the PCC should form the background of the Panel's work (i.e. it should help the Panel to direct which areas it should and should not focus on), but the inadequacy of information being provided on a wide range of issues (not just decision-making) has pushed it to the foreground as the only way many Panels feel that can have a concrete influence on PCC activity. Inevitably, this has the potential to produce tension and frustration on the PCC side, as the Panel's objectives for wishing to look at certain decisions is therefore unclear. There has been a tendency in some areas for Panels to undertake regular post-hoc scrutiny of PCC decisions, which is not an effective use of time and which has little impact. A lack of information about the context in which PCC decisions sit exacerbates this problem. Even if more information were to be available, we do not consider that regular consideration of PCC decisions, without any discrimination as to which are or are not tabled at the Panel's meetings, will be anything other than a superficial exercise. More advance warning of decisions will allow the Panel to select issues (rather than decisions) where they feel they can seek to influence what the PCC eventually decides to do.

The inconsistent approach to provision of information has wider consequences. Without easy access to information it is very difficult for the Panel to decide where it directs its resources. Some PCCs and their offices have resisted requests to access information on Force performance, and quarterly performance and financial information – with such attempts being interpreted as an attempt by Panels to carry out the role of the Police Authority. But without this background information, Panels will be unable to understand how the Police and Crime Plan is being implemented and how operational delivery is having an impact on the strategic context of the budget (and area-wide community safety priorities). Again, this is derived from a mutual misunderstanding about what the role is, and about what kind of information and support is required for the Panel to transact that role. A more open approach – whereby a core set of information is provided by PCCs as a matter of course – will decrease the call on the time of OPCCs (because they will not be responding to individual requests for information) and Panels (because they will not have to waste their own time making such requests).



Where these problems are present, they have at their core a risk aversion which has infected the whole PCC-Panel relationship. PCCs are unwilling to provide Panels with more information than they feel they are obliged to do by law. It is difficult for Panels to then use what information is provided to draw strategic conclusions about the PCC's work, which makes it more likely that they will look at scorecards and primary operational data in isolation – further fuelling PCC scepticism about their effectiveness and a feeling that they have misunderstood their role in the new structures.

Where it exists, this vicious cycle must be broken for the new arrangements to work. There is no intrinsic fault in the system that makes such problems inevitable, but the requirements of trust and understanding on both sides are challenging. A substantial number of Panels have been able to successfully build relationships with their PCC that have seen information provided on request, and used in a proportionate and timely way. For example, some Panels have been provided with financial information and projections which is allowing them to conduct work in advance of their formal consideration of the budget and precept in early 2014. In these areas, the dispute over the difference between strategic and operational issues has been sidestepped – there is an understanding that the Panel needs access to operational data in order to carry out its strategic role.

Managing decision-making and the sharing of information more effectively

There are a number of steps that we believe can be taken to build and maintain better relations between the PCC and the Panel, with a view to strengthening decision-making and information sharing arrangements.

1. An undertaking of openness (going beyond the existing legislation) in the way that PCCs make decisions. For example, an undertaking would take the form of a presumption that all information held by the PCC would be made public unless there were a clear and overriding reason not to do so.
2. Agreements, supplementing the undertakings in the Policing Protocol (as defined in the Policing Protocol Order 2011), to establish how and when various kinds of information may or may not be shared between the PCC, Panel and other partners, with a view to reducing duplication and the burdens inherent on OPCCs and Panels from the making of ad hoc requests for information at different times of the year. This will be particularly valuable for the Panel's statutory duties, such as confirmation hearings and scrutiny of the precept.
3. A move, by Panels, away from direct monitoring of individual PCC decisions, towards using PCC decisions as background for more detailed scrutiny of a smaller number of strategic issues.
4. The development of a presumption (further to the agreement mentioned in the second bullet point) that Panels should be able to access operational information to provide background to their strategic role – both from the Force and the PCC's office. This would need to take account of the fact that the Panel would not necessarily be able to expect the PCC to provide narrative reports (in writing) to the Panel prepared for its specific use.

5. The use of the process of coming to such an agreement to iron out any lingering misapprehensions or misunderstandings about the mutual roles of the PCC and the Panel.

Discussions focusing on improved information-sharing have taken place in a number of Force areas, but in many others agreement is badly needed. It has been suggested that a change in the legislation is required to impose further information publication duties on PCCs. While we can see the value in this as a limited approach – for example, in obliging PCCs to publish a forward plan of key decisions (the definition of which should be set out formally), what information is available to the Panel should be subject to local discussion and agreement, depending on how the Panel plans to support and scrutinise the PCC in practice. This may demand a slightly different approach from area to area, which a detailed national scheme may not be able to provide on its own. However, we do think that a national, consistent scheme providing for the publication of a wider range of information by PCCs – which goes beyond the existing statutory instrument – would form an important framework for such further work.

Relationships with Community Safety Partnerships and CSP scrutiny committees

CSPs

For 2013/14, Commissioners have provided funding to Community Safety Partnerships to deliver on a number of their priorities. From next year, this will change – but for the moment, CSPs in all areas remain fundamental to the success of PCCs.

There is one CSP for every local authority area in England and Wales. CSPs are usually chaired by the council's Portfolio Holder for community safety, although sometimes the council's leader acts as the chair. They are held to account by local overview and scrutiny committees using powers given by the Police and Justice Act 2006.

Relations between Panels and CSPs, and CSP scrutiny committees, appear to be sporadic and ad hoc. There is often not an effective mechanism for intelligence and data to be shared between Panels, CSPs and their corresponding scrutiny committees. In many instances, the fact that many Panel members sit on CSPs is the only reason that any liaison does occur. For example, a number of authorities have systems in place whereby the Community Safety Manager (or similar officer) will brief their Panel member on CSP activity prior to the Panel meeting. However, this does not occur for every Panel and every authority. Even where it does occur, it can lead councillors sitting on the Panel to focus unduly on operational matters that are specific to the geographical area which they represent.

Where Panel members are also senior members of CSPs, they have in a couple of isolated instances used the Panel to argue for more CSP funding for their own areas. In the vast majority of areas, however, Panel members clearly understand

the need for the Panel to work more strategically. But even in these areas, more formal arrangements for the sharing of information do not exist.

This will be a difficult challenge for Panels to overcome. On the one hand, Panels' investigations of the Commissioner's work will involve a focus on CSPs, as (for the moment) they are a key delivery agent. On the other hand, a focus on the operational business of CSPs – rather than how their work contributes to the fulfilment of the PCC's election promises – will risk the Panel straying onto business that it has no legal role in considering. We consider that the reticence in engaging with CSPs may be due in part to this concern. There are also difficulties around the question of ownership of CSP policies and priorities, given the transition between protected funding, pre-PCCs, and the new situation whereby PCCs will have far more freedom to disburse money to CSPs, or not, at their discretion.

However, in many areas, the primary reason for the lack of engagement so far has been, we think, more prosaic – it is simply an issue of the availability of time and resources.

CSP scrutiny

Community Safety Partnerships are held to account locally by CSP scrutiny committees under the Police and Justice Act 2006. A committee must be designated to carry out this role in unitary and lower-tier authorities. In two-tier areas (i.e., those areas for which there is a county and a district council) there is often a county-wide CSP, which is sometimes shadowed by a scrutiny committee of the county council. CSP scrutiny, and scrutiny by the Panel, needs to be well integrated. This is because PCCs' principal means of tackling broader priorities around crime is the funding which, currently, is transferred to community safety partners.

Few Panels have had any kind of meaningful contact with the CSP scrutiny committees in their area. Where discussions had taken place there were usually two reasons:

- The officer supporting the Panel also supported the CSP scrutiny committee in the host authority, and as such was aware of issues under discussion by their committee, and others in the area, and to plan accordingly, or
- The Force area shares the same boundaries as the county council, and there is a county CSP scrutiny committee, meaning a single point of contact on both sides. There are a few instances of quite close integration following this model
- Most PCCs do recognise the need to engage with CSP scrutiny in the future. Most of those we spoke to were planning to develop more formal mechanisms for information sharing with these bodies, or were in the process of doing so. A minority, however, have no clear plans. Usually this is down to a lack of resources, although it has been suggested to us that a lack of interest amongst some Panel members, and from some CSP scrutiny committees, is a factor as well
- Building meaningful relationships between CSP scrutiny committees and Panels will be critical in ensuring that the right kind of scrutiny is undertaken at the right level. Where Panel members might feel that there is a reason to undertake work into operational matters, effective links with CSP scrutiny committees will mean that those matters can be passed down for them to consider instead. Equally, where Panels are aware of the work programmes of CSP scrutiny committees,

they will be able to draw links between operational matters which may help to identify broader strategic issues.

Relationships between Panels themselves – collaboration arrangements

Not many Panels have thought in depth about how they might work together with Panels in neighbouring areas.

There are an increasing number of police forces entering into arrangements for the sharing of services with their neighbours. These arrangements are often expressed in terms of collaboration on operational matters – sharing back office functions, for example. However, they will usually have strategic implications, in terms of the freedom available to the PCC to design services that fit around such joint arrangements, and the necessity to work together with the PCCs of neighbouring areas to define the scope and nature of those agreements.

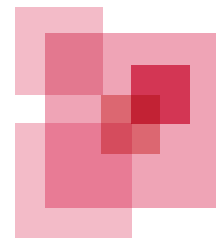
This may mean that Panels themselves need to co-ordinate some of their work with their neighbours. We are not aware of any consistent approach being taken to the scrutiny of such joint arrangements, even where they are significant. This is worrying, because collaborations are expected to become more widespread, having been promoted strongly by both HMIC and the Home Office, and being seen as a key means of identifying more efficiencies in the face of shrinking budgets.

Joint work between Panels would be difficult to arrange. Physical joint meetings would be cumbersome and logistically complex. It is likely that informal co-operation in areas of mutual interest will be a more proportionate approach. Information sharing could take a similar form to that which we have proposed for CSPs above. Where such informal co-operation takes place, the Panel should probably take steps to make public its processes and outcomes.

Certainly, there is a case for co-operation and discussion of mutual interests where collaboration arrangements are being proposed and developed. Panels' input into this exercise – which will presumably be led by the PCC – will help to challenge the assumptions that PCCs might make about such arrangements, along with helping to identify, discuss and mitigate any risks.

Building relations between Panels, CSPs and CSP scrutiny

- Joint work between Panels in different areas – where required because of joint arrangements between neighbouring forces – can be carried out informally rather than through the establishment of formal joint structures
- Practical information sharing between Panels and CSP scrutiny committee should be undertaken, which could be as straightforward as ensuring that the Panel chair and support officer are on the agenda distribution list for CSP scrutiny committees in the area
- The agreement between the PCC and Panel mentioned in the previous section should include sections on the division in accountability between Panels and CSP scrutiny committees, and covering the ways in which Panels will engage in CSP-related issues (given the high likelihood of overlap, further to the PCC's funding responsibilities)



- Where the Panel proposes to look at issues relating to the CSP, such matters should relate back to the PCC's strategic priorities, to the Police and Crime Plan, and to the budget, rather than to local concerns best dealt with by CSP scrutiny committees
- Arrangements for briefing members on community safety issues in advance of Panel meetings should be more consistent and formalised, rather than (as occurs in a few instances) relying on individual community safety officers in separate councils to provide this advice to their representative(s) on the Panel.

Making a difference

It is difficult to demonstrate the effectiveness of Police and Crime Panels after just one year. Commissioners themselves are only now able to stamp their individual personalities on their planned budgets, plans and precepts for 2014/15. We're of the view that it's as part of this planning exercise – between now and March 2014, and beyond – that Panels will come into their own as a strong, challenging and supportive voice to Commissioners – where Commissioners choose to listen and bring them on board.

Visibility, and representing the public voice

Visibility

In order to establish Panels' visibility to the public we have looked at their web presence. Doing so tells us something about how easy it is to find out information about their work. Of course, the amount of information available online about Panels cannot tell us a definitive story about how well they engage with the public, as it does not take into account any wider public engagement work which Panels might choose to undertake.

A number of Panels have no distinct web presence. Most do have a dedicated page on the website of their lead authority, setting out their role, remit, membership and responsibilities. For some, however, the only public evidence of the Panel's existence is the presence of its agendas and minutes in the public agenda management system of the lead authority.

The majority of meetings are not webcast. Given that many Panels cover wide geographical areas, the presumption in favour of webcasting might be seen as higher than with standard council meetings. We recognise that some lead authorities still have no facilities in place for webcasting and that the financial outlay for this is significant. We are also aware that some Panels move around, holding meetings in different locations, some of which do not have webcasting facilities.

We are aware of instances where members of the public have sought to record and broadcast footage of the Panel in session, something that ought to be encouraged in the absence of official facilities to do this.

It is vital that Panels are visible to those in the local community. The Panel must have a relatively high profile in order to provide local people with the information they will need in order to make an informed choice at the ballot box – quite apart from the role in assuring the public that the PCC is being effectively held to account between elections.

Getting the views of the public

Up to this point, most Panels have focused on formal set-piece meetings. As we have seen, this is likely to change. With this change will come, we expect, a more focused approach to public engagement. A number of the Panels aiming to carry out more “proactive scrutiny” are specifically planning to carry out such work in the coming months. It goes without saying that such work should be complementary to similar work being undertaken by the PCC, and that the justification for carrying out such work should directly reflect the Panel’s core role in holding the PCC to account. Panels should, as we highlighted earlier, be wary of creating an “industry” around their responsibilities that uses up a disproportionate amount of resource.

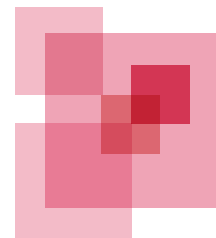
How can Panels go about engaging with, and representing, the public voice?

- It is likely that the PCC will receive digests of issues raised at neighbourhood beat meetings; the Panel could use this information to help to direct some of its work
- When the PCC proposes to formally consult or engage the public, the Panel could be directly involved in this work as part of its supportive role
- Steps – such as webcasting and better engagement with the media – could be taken around major set piece meetings (such as debates around the budget and precept, and the police and crime plan)
- As a matter of course, the web presence of Panels and their general “accessibility” to the public, both physically and virtually, must be addressed
- Where Panels plan to undertake “proactive scrutiny”, the subjects chosen should reflect both the Commissioner’s priorities and the priorities of local people (which are likely to be very similar). Such proactive scrutiny needs to be planned so as to actively seek the involvement of the public
- Steps to involve the public need to take account of the fact that Panels cover large geographical areas, making traditional public meetings and face-to-face contact difficult to achieve (and costly for Panels with resource constraints). Use of social media, and contact with representative groups (such as residents’ association) might provide a more targeted approach.

Securing meaningful change

The question, “are Panels effective?” is a difficult one to answer. Here, we will judge effectiveness in two ways:

1. Successfully fulfilling the statutory duties of the Panel (a minimal description of effectiveness).
2. Securing a tangible, positive impact for local people – bringing about, through their work, change that would not have occurred but for their involvement (a maximal description of effectiveness).



Most Commissioners have yet to make their mark on the policing landscape, and most Panels have recently come to the end of a six to eight month period dominated by frequent meetings to review the Police and Crime Plan, proposed Chief Constable appointments, senior OPCC appointments, the appointments of Deputies, and budget and precept setting. This work, driven by necessity, has led to some early positive outcomes. We are aware, for example, of the content of several Police and Crime Plans being changed as a direct result of Panel suggestions – but by and large it is still too early to say if Panels are effective, mainly because it is too early to say whether PCC's themselves are effective.

Many Panel chairs, independent members and Panel members are very positive about the future of Panels and their successes to date, and have a general desire to make things work, and to make them work well. However, there are a substantial number of dissenting voices. A number of Panel members and chairs to whom we have spoken, from all parties, have expressed cynicism about the likelihood of Panels having a long term effect. Some support officers, too, are dubious about how much Panels will be able to achieve in the future.

We think that a clear focus on mutually-agreed core tasks for Panels will help to secure their success. As we have noted previously, in some areas there is too much of a tendency to look at decisions after they have been made, and to focus on PCC decision-making as the central component of Panel's work. We don't consider that this presents the most effective and value for money use of the Panels time. A clearer focus on the Panels statutory duties – and the undertaking of work designed to directly feed into those duties – will, we consider, make Panels more effective within their existing financial constraints. But this will itself require close co-ordination with PCCs.

Ultimately, effectiveness comes down to making a difference on the ground. All the Panels in England and Wales are effective in that they have successfully concluded their statutory duties over the course of 2013. But few can yet demonstrate a tangible impact on the local community. We think that it is too early to expect this, but it should be Panels' ultimate aim to make a difference – to result in positive things happening that would not have happened but for their involvement. We do think that most Panels are on this trajectory, as they begin to undertake more proactive scrutiny and as relationships bed in. We are, therefore, confident that when researchers return to this issue in future years, they will see concrete examples of Panels bringing about this positive change. But it is not guaranteed, and in some areas more work will be required to make this happen.



| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Essex Police and Crime Panel | EPCP/033(a)/14 |
| Date: 19 June 2014 | |

Police and Crime Plan: Performance Report

Report by the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Panel

Enquiries to: Susannah Hancock (Executive Director): 01245 291613

susannah.hancock@essex.pnn.gov.uk

Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to update the Panel on progress in delivering against the 8 areas for focus within the Police and Crime Plan. The report focuses on full year performance for 2013/14, unless otherwise stated.

The Panel is invited to note the content of the report, identifying any areas that require further clarification or comment.

Background:

This report includes updated commentary on the key actions in hand or planned for each of the Areas of Focus, and information to the end of March 2014 for the range of selected indicators (Appendix 1).

The indicators will continue to be kept under review.

The Areas of Focus covered are:

- Reducing Domestic Abuse
- Supporting Victims of Crime
- Reducing Youth Offending and all types of Re-offending
- Tackling the consequences of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and Mental Health issues
- Improving Road Safety
- Improving Crime Prevention

The two Areas of Focus not reported within this report are 'Increasing efficiency in policing through collaborative working and innovation' and 'Ensuring local solutions meet local problems'. The first (Increasing efficiency) is covered in the Financial Update report along with financial performance. The second (Ensuring local solutions) is an underlying principle across all areas.

Future reporting:

As stated in the last performance report, the intention is to move to quarterly performance reporting. This will be presented each quarter to panel meetings. Where the performance information is available in advance of panel meetings, the reports will be circulated in advance, for discussion at meetings.

Dates are as follows:

| Performance for period up to | Report circulation date | Panel meeting date |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| End June 2014 (Q1) | | 18th September 2014 |
| End September 2014 (Q2) | | 27th November 2014 |

Attachments:

Appendix 1: PCC Police and Crime Plan Performance Report

PCC Police and Crime Plan Performance Report

This report covers the period from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 (unless specified otherwise).

Reduce Domestic Abuse

The **headline indicators** are:

- Number of incidents of domestic abuse
- Number of repeat incidents of domestic abuse
- Number of repeat offenders of domestic abuse (under development)
- Domestic abuse solved rate

Context:

Work to reduce domestic abuse remains a top priority for the PCC and the Chief Constable. The Commissioner chairs the Domestic Abuse Strategy Board and continues to lead on an ambitious programme of work across police, social care, health and the voluntary sector to tackle domestic abuse at the highest level.

In March of this year, HMIC published their inspection report on Domestic Abuse across all police forces in England and Wales. The report, entitled: 'Everyone's Business – Improving the police response to domestic abuse' found that overall the police response to Domestic Abuse was not good enough and improvements must be made.

The HMIC report into Essex Police was more encouraging, although further work is still needed to deliver improvements in some key areas. The HMIC lead inspector, Zoe Billingham, concluded the following:

"Essex Police now has a different approach to tackling domestic abuse than it did a year ago. Since HMIC's inspection in March 2013, the force has taken a number of positive steps to improve the service provided to victims of domestic abuse.

Rightly the force has prioritised improving the service it provides victims facing the highest risk of serious harm. It now needs to determine how victims assessed as medium and standard risk can be provided with an improved service.

The chief constable has demonstrated effective and visible leadership in taking personal oversight of the improvement activity, strongly supported by the police and crime commissioner. There has been significant improvement in the joint work with partners.

Some areas that have been identified as in need of improvement, are understandably work in progress. However, there are risks that some victims of domestic abuse may still not be getting the effective response or quality of service they need from the police.

A year after HMIC's original inspection some areas of concern identified then, remain now. The service provided to some victims remains fragmented and patchy. The force is committed to establishing a domestic abuse crime unit that will manage both investigations of domestic abuse related crimes, and provide support to victims.'

Essex Police have produced an action plan in response to all of the recommendations made by HMIC, which is now being implemented. The PCC is monitoring progress through his Performance and Scrutiny programme.

Key actions delivered and planned include:

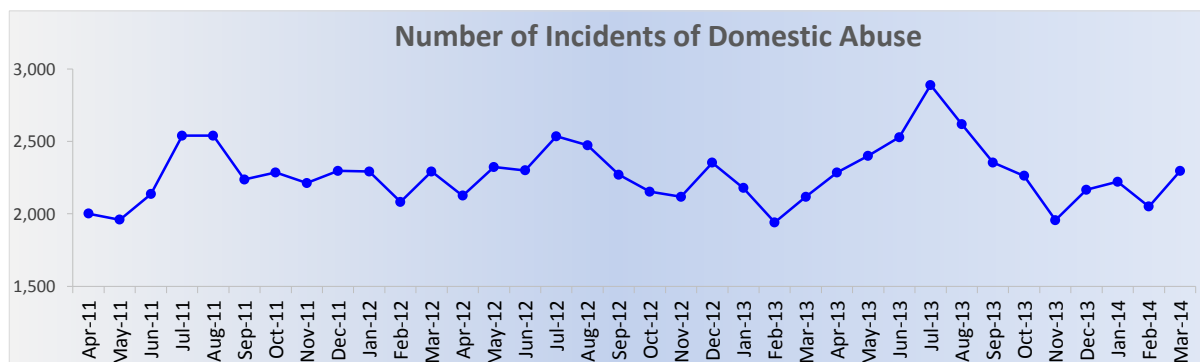
- The new Joint Domestic Abuse Triage Team is now in place in Essex, with a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) model in place in Thurrock and Southend. These involve police, social care and wider partners working together to share information and identify risk to keep victims safe.
- £540,840 of funding was made available in 2013/14 by the PCC to support the reduction of domestic abuse and to provide support to those who experience it.
- A joint Domestic Abuse Commissioning Group involving the OPCC, ECC, Southend, Thurrock, Probation and Health are working together to jointly commission support programmes, including expanding the Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVA) programme. This has led to an additional 10 new IDVAs recruited this year (14/15). A specification for a new Essex, Southend and Thurrock IDVA service will be published shortly, with a view to the new contract commencing April 1st 2015.
- A cross agency perpetrator working group is now in place, both to refresh the partnership perpetrator strategy and to expand the range / availability of behaviour change programmes available to perpetrators. The aim is to intervene early and offer these at a much earlier point in the process.
- The Chief Constable has led on a substantial review of operational processes and procedures around domestic abuse to make them more effective, ensuring that resources are more effectively deployed against risk. This has led to the establishment of specialist Domestic Abuse units.
- The Domestic Abuse Strategy Board has developed a performance dashboard, which enables the partnership to review performance across a range of cross cutting measures and hold each other to account for delivery of improvements.
- Health continues to be actively engaged in the DA Programme. The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) have recently published new guidelines in relation to the role of health in tackling domestic abuse. The guidance is proving valuable in evidencing the benefits to CCGs and wider health partners in intervening early.
- Work is underway, in partnership with the primary and secondary heads associations, to identify the most effective packages of information and support that can be delivered in schools around healthy and unhealthy relationships.
- Essex Police and ECC have led on a Domestic Abuse campaign over the summer period. Launched last week, the campaign encourages the public to stand together against Domestic Abuse, with a new film launched and promotional material giving the public more information about domestic abuse and where to go to access help. The campaign is about empowerment, showing that there is life after domestic abuse and that both men and women can be empowered to leave an abusive situation, change their lives and move forward.

In 2013/14 the PCC allocated funds of £540.84k for the following:

- *£222.84k to Victims Support to help fund the IDVA service for victims of domestic abuse (also referenced under the 'Supporting Victims' section.)*
- *£92.4k for the Community Budget pilot in Basildon & Braintree, where increased support will be placed around victims of domestic abuse.*
- *£88k for the Sexual Assault Referral Clinic (SARC)*
- *£50k to the DAISY project to provide awareness training, support and advice to medical staff and midwives.*
- *£27.62k to Basildon's Women's Aid and Victims Support to provide early intervention, support and advice to victims of domestic abuse.*
- *£26.48k to Colchester and Tendring Women's Refuge to place an IDVA trained domestic violence support worker in the multi-agency domestic abuse Hub (MASH).*
- *£33.5k to Braintree, Castle Point, Colchester, Epping, Rochford, Southend and Uttlesford CSPs for domestic abuse awareness and training projects, including £3.3k for the 'Cut it Out' campaign in Braintree.*

Reduce Domestic Abuse: Performance data

Number of incidents of domestic abuse



Source: Essex Police

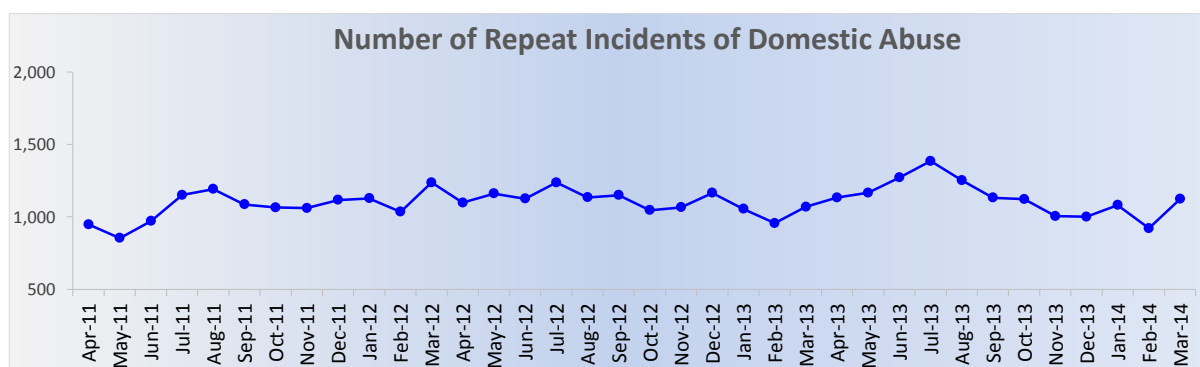
It is accepted that the number of incidents reported to Essex Police is likely to rise as people are encouraged to report domestic abuse. This indicator is therefore included to provide context.

The number of incidents reported during 2013/14 was 28,181. This figure equates to around 16.2 reported incidents per 1,000 head of population in Essex¹.

A change in the recording definition from April 2013² is likely to have contributed to the increase in the numbers of incidents recorded. Due to this change it would be misleading to compare 2013/14 data with figures from 2012/13.

There is a seasonal trend for higher numbers of reported incidents in the summer months. In the last quarter there has been a reduction in the number of domestic abuse incidents. This also tends to reflect a seasonal trend but may also, in part, be attributed to the work being undertaken by Essex Police to ensure the incidents recorded meet the ACPO definition of domestic abuse.

Number of repeat incidents of domestic abuse



Source: Essex Police

The total number of repeat incidents reported during 2013/14 was 13,689.

¹ ONS Mid Year Population Estimates 2010 – 1,737,994 for Essex, Southend and Thurrock

² National ACPO definition (Home Office Circular 003/2013) of domestic abuse was adopted by Essex Police in April 2013. This changes the age at which a person is recorded as being a victim of domestic abuse (from 15 to 16) and widens the relationships that are seen as domestic. For example, incidents between siblings are now included.

The percentage of repeat domestic abuse incidents each month has remained relatively stable, indicating that the number of reported repeat incidents has increased in proportion to the rise in the overall number of incidents reported.

Number of repeat offenders of domestic abuse

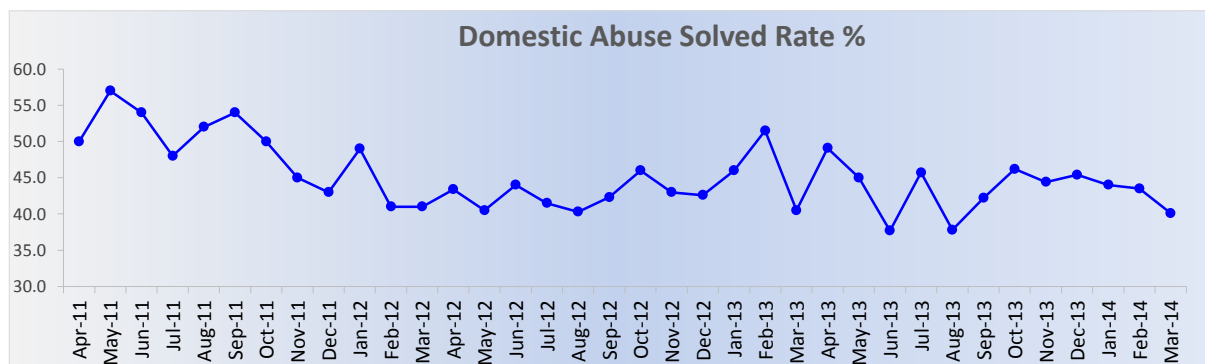
Essex Police worked with key stakeholders to finalise appropriate measure(s) to reflect the work being done to prevent offenders repeatedly committing domestic abuse.

Following national best practice the repeat offender cohort is determined by a predictive risk modelling technique, which identifies those perpetrators who are most likely to reoffend and to cause serious harm. By focussing on these high risk cases with a range of tactical approaches and resources, the risk to victims will be reduced by seeking to remove the offender's opportunity to abuse.

There are currently 106 perpetrators within Essex Police's repeat offender domestic abuse cohort.

Domestic abuse solved rate

The following information relates to domestic abuse incidents that have been classified as a crime. Whilst the headline indicator covers the solved rate³, contextual information is also provided on solved rates for different levels of risk, and the level and type of offences attributed to domestic abuse.



Source: Essex Police

The underlying trend appears to be generally downward. The solved rate for 2013/4 was 43.8%, against 43.3% for the same period the previous year - an increase of 0.5% points. The following table provides more insight into the number and nature of offences, and solved rates relating to high and medium level risk:

³ The total number of domestic abuse offences which have had an outcome in a given period, divided by the total number of Domestic Abuse offences multiplied by 100.

| | April-Mar 2013 | April-Mar 2014 | Change |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|
| All domestic abuse offences | 8893 | 9524 | 7.1% |
| All domestic solved rate | 43.3% | 43.8% | 0.5%* |
| Medium risk domestic abuse offences | 4871 | 5447 | 11.8% |
| Medium risk solved rate | 42.3% | 41.4% | -0.9%* |
| High risk domestic abuse offences | 1559 | 1914 | 22.8% |
| High risk solved rate | 55.4% | 57.5% | 2.1%* |

* % point change

The table below⁴ provides an indication of how domestic abuse features across crime types other than 'violence against the person'. The level of risk may be lower in some cases, but it is interesting to see how domestic abuse issues feature in a range of policing situations.

DOMESTIC OFFENCES AS A PROPORTION OF ALL CRIME

Data relates to period from 01/04/2013 to 31/03/2014

| CRIME TYPE | TOTAL OFFENCES | DOMESTIC OFFENCES | DOMESTIC OFFENCES AS A % OF ALL CRIME | DOMESTIC OFFENCES % |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Violence against the person | 19413 | 7259 | 7.3% | 76.3% |
| Public Order | 3678 | 564 | 0.6% | 5.9% |
| Possession of weapons | 865 | 8 | 0.0% | 0.1% |
| Sexual Crime | 1844 | 308 | 0.3% | 3.2% |
| Robbery | 1060 | 12 | 0.0% | 0.1% |
| Theft | 27131 | 252 | 0.3% | 2.6% |
| Vehicle offences | 12402 | 53 | 0.1% | 0.6% |
| Burglary | 13674 | 56 | 0.1% | 0.6% |
| Arson and criminal damage | 14069 | 880 | 0.9% | 9.2% |
| Drug offences | 3945 | 6 | 0.0% | 0.1% |
| Miscellaneous crimes against society | 1175 | 121 | 0.1% | 1.3% |
| GRAND TOTAL* | 99256 | 9519 | 9.6% | 100% |

* The total will be different to the official end of year figure as the data was run on the 27 April 2014.

⁴ 'Domestic offences' is any crime with a 'domestic abuse' tag in Police records.
Data is available for 2011/12 and 2012/13, but changes in definition from April 2014 make comparisons difficult.

Support Victims of Crime

The **headline indicators** are:

- Number of repeat victims of crime
- Satisfaction of victims of dwelling burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime with:
 - Making contact with the police
 - Action taken by the police
 - Being kept informed of progress
 - Treatment of staff
 - Overall service

Context:

From October 2014, funding for the majority of victims services is being devolved from the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) to PCCs. This presents a significant opportunity to better understand and respond to the needs of victims in Essex, through the commissioning of targeted services that meet local need.

We are working with partners and the voluntary sector to develop a Commissioning Strategy, and with colleagues in the Eastern Region to explore opportunities for jointly commissioning some of the victim referral and assessment processes, which the PCC will receive funding for from April 2015.

MOJ funding to PCCs also includes funding for restorative justice services. Restorative Justice enables offenders to repair some of the harm caused to victims and to make an apology. It also gives the victim an opportunity to explain to the offender about the impact of the crime on them and their families. Delivered effectively, and with the victim at the centre, restorative justice can deliver positive outcomes for victims in terms of satisfaction, and offenders in terms of reducing reoffending.

Key actions delivered and planned include:

- £458.98k of funding was made available by the PCC in 2013/14 to support victims of crime, and in particular support for those experiencing domestic abuse (*see also schemes funded under reducing domestic abuse which often focus on the victims*)
- A Victims Service Conference, *Building on Local Strength*, was held in March to begin discussions with the local voluntary and community sector about how local victims' services could be commissioned across Essex.
- The Victim Forum, bringing together representatives from a range of victims' service providers, has continued to inform the development of the Commissioning Strategy and related work
- Work is almost complete on developing a profile of victims across Essex and the range of services currently provided, in discussion with specialist victim service providers. This includes a targeted piece of work seeking the views of victims themselves.
- A draft Commissioning strategy will be published for consultation over the summer. We also plan to hold a number of focus groups to further understand the needs of specific groups and how these are best met

- A bid has been made to the MoJ's Competed Fund for £553k to strengthen services for victims of sexual violence in Essex, informed by an increasing understanding of service gaps and pressures. We expect to hear the outcome in late June 2014.
- The PCC is funding a number of Pathfinder Projects which, over the next 6 months, will help test and develop improved ways of working to support victims. These are being delivered through the voluntary and community sector. We estimate approximately 100K will be invested in this development work.
- An Essex Victims Portal online resource has been commissioned by the OPCC. This website will provide basic information to victims, their families and friends, and also members of the public and will help sign-post to local support services.
- Essex OPCC has been working with the Restorative Justice development agency 'Restorative Solutions' to develop a Restorative Justice (RJ) approach for Essex. Stage 1 of this work involved mapping existing provision and identifying needs. Stage 2 focuses on the design and implementation of a restorative justice system. Key stakeholders have been engaged in this programme throughout its development.
- There are on-going changes in Essex Police operations to improve the support provided to victims of crime and witnesses, including promoting the use of Victim Personal Statements and Business Impact Statements, and the option of Restorative Justice.
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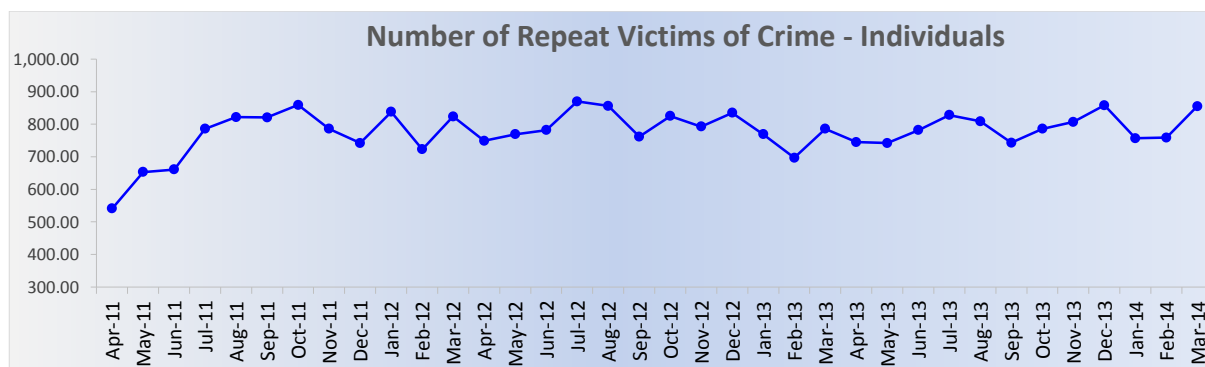
In 2013/14 the PCC allocated funds of £521.48k for the following:

- *£222.84k to Victims Support to help fund the IDVA service for victims of domestic abuse (also referenced under the 'Domestic Abuse' section.)*
- *£180.85k to the Essex/Southend/Thurrock Safeguarding Children's Board and Vulnerable Adults Protection Committee*
- *£30k to develop an online Victims Portal*
- *£32.5k to investigate and implement restorative justice programme in Essex*
- *£30k to Essex Probation for research on victims' perspectives to inform the Commissioning Strategy*
- *£18.685 to Southend Association of Voluntary Services for the pilot Safe as Houses scheme for older vulnerable people*
- *£6.6k to Epping CSP for projects to support victims of crime*

Supporting Victims of Crime: Performance data

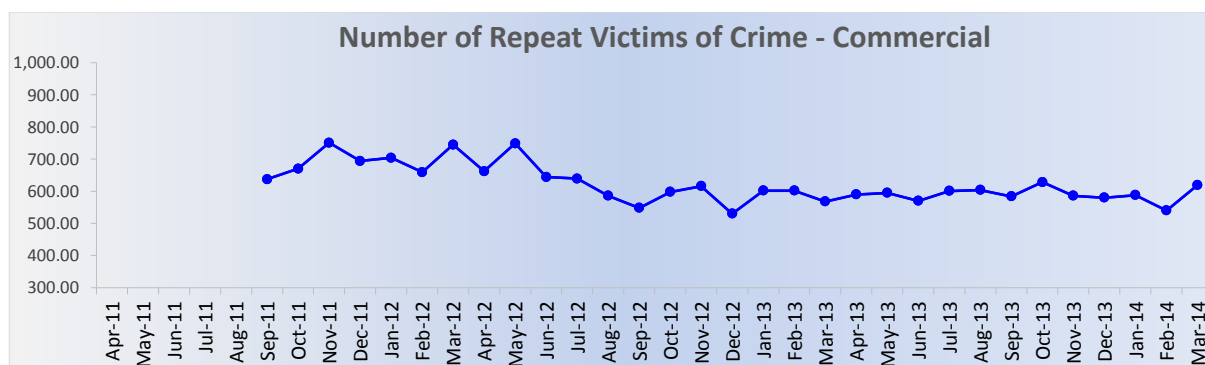
Number of repeat victims of crime

The graphs below show repeat victims of personal and commercial crime.



Source: Essex Police

The total number of repeat victims (individuals) during 2013/14 was 8,327, compared with 8,410 during 2012/13, a decrease of 83 incidents (1.0%).

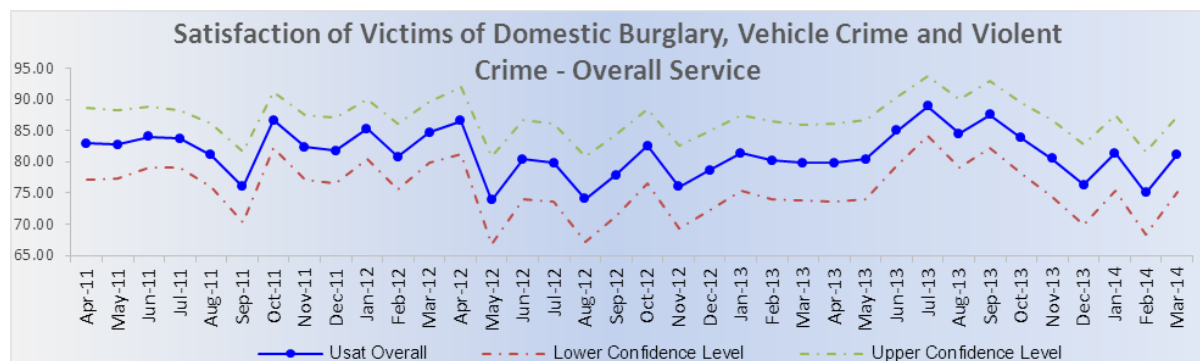


Source: Essex Police

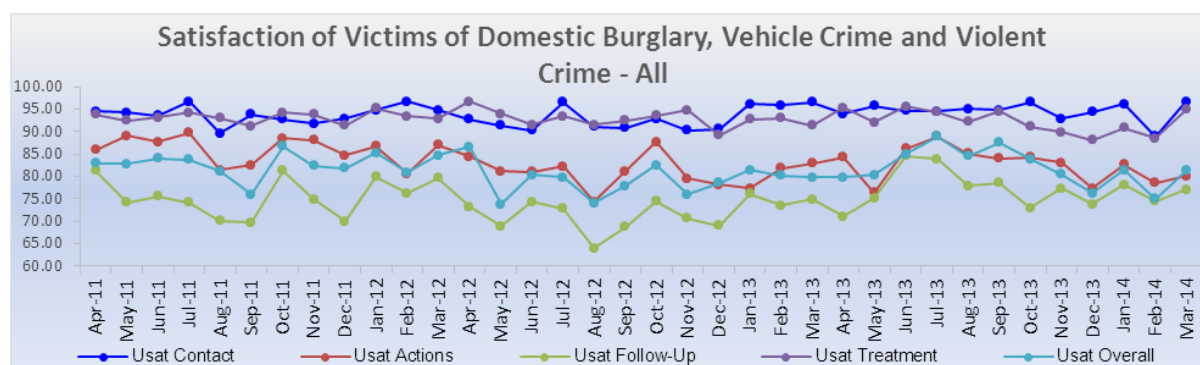
The numbers of repeat victims of commercial crime shows a generally decreasing trend, with 2,844 incidents recorded in 2013/14 compared with 3,572 in 2012/13 – a decrease of 728 incidents or 20.4%.

Satisfaction of victims of dwelling burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime⁵

The following graphs and table show satisfaction with the way in which Essex police support victims of crime, overall and for each stage of the engagement process.



Source: Essex Police



Source: Essex Police

The year-end satisfaction results (12 months ending 31st March 2014), relate to user satisfaction surveys undertaken for crimes between 10th January 2013 and 28th January 2014. When compared to last year, victim and witness satisfaction levels are higher in all areas tested, with the exception of satisfaction with treatment (0.6% points lower which is not statistically significant).

The 2013/14 result for satisfaction with follow up (77.1%) remains higher than any previous end of year satisfaction level in this area surveyed. This can be attributed to the monitoring and management of officer compliance with providing timely and quality feedback to victims; as well as improved management of victim expectations at the initial stage.

There is now no statistical difference between the level of satisfaction of BME and White victims surveyed for the overall service received.

The steady improvement indicated by the table overleaf is considered to be due to changing operational practice within Essex Police, including providing a central co-ordination and resolution point for victims and witnesses through the Victim Care Team.

⁵ Data obtained by telephone survey by a third party market research company. Views are taken from a sample of 'victims' aged 16 and over between six and twelve weeks after incidents relating to domestic burglary, vehicle crime, violent crime and racist incidents. Racist incidents are excluded by Home Office in their calculation so are also excluded by Essex Police in local calculation of this indicator (but used elsewhere).

| User Satisfaction | April 2012– March 2013 | April 2013– March 2014 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Making contact with the police (confidence interval) ⁶ | 93.0% (+/-1.4pp) | 94.5% (+/-1.2pp) |
| Action taken by the police (confidence interval) | 81.0% (+/-1.8pp) | 82.6% (+/-1.7pp) |
| Being kept informed of progress (confidence interval) | 71.8% (+/-2.1pp) | 77.1% (+/-1.9pp) |
| Their treatment by staff (confidence interval) | 92.9% (+/-1.2pp) | 92.3% (+/-1.2pp) |
| The overall service provided (confidence interval) | 79.3% (+/-1.8pp) | 82.0% (+/-1.7pp) |

When compared to last year, victim and witness satisfaction levels are higher in all areas tested, with the exception of satisfaction with treatment (0.6% points lower which is not statistically significant).

The monitoring of the reasons for failing to attend emergency incidents within standard response times is ongoing by Essex police. March 2014 results show:

- More than 35% of the failures were by less than 3 minutes,
- 48.5% were less than 5 minutes and 72.6% were less than 10 minutes.
- Visibility of availability, assertive dispatch and improving supervision will all have an impact on the less than 3 minute category.

Standard response times are;

90% Emergency incidents attended within 15mins in urban areas or 20 mins in rural areas.

⁶ Confidence intervals get smaller the larger the dataset

Reduce Youth Offending and All Types of Re-offending

The **headline indicators** are:

- First time entrants to the youth justice system
- Percentage of offenders aged under 18 who go on to reoffend
- Percentage of adult offenders who go on to reoffend
- Re-offending rates for those under Youth Offending Service (YOS) supervision
- Re-offending rates for those under Probation supervision

Context:

The OPCC and Essex Police are major contributors to the Reducing Re-Offending Board and are maintaining a focus strong on this agenda through initiatives such as IOM (Integrated Offender Management) and support to the Youth Offending Teams in Essex, Southend and Thurrock.

The Transforming Rehabilitation programme implemented in 2014 introduced a significant programme of change in relation to Probation and community supervision. It enables a range of different providers to deliver community interventions to offenders on a payment by results basis. This includes delivering supervision to those who have served less than 12 months in prison.

A total of 5 organisations have bid for the Essex contract package area. These are:

- a4e (Formerly Essex Probation Service)
- Home Group (Stonham)
- MTC Amey
- Seetec Business Technology Centre Limited
- Sodexo Justice Services

The Ministry of Justice has asked the Essex local panel to provide commentary around a draft marking specification to evaluate the bids. The local panel will have the opportunity to pass comment on the bids, which will be presented anonymously, but will not actually score the bids. The final decision as to which organisation wins the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) contract rests with the Ministry of Justice. The decision is expected sometime in early Autumn '14.

Key actions delivered and planned include:

- In all £750,220 of funding has so far been made available by the PCC to help reduce reoffending and to prevent it happening in the first place, including contributory funding to the Youth Offending Services, and support for Community Budget work and diversionary activities.
- The Commissioner has funded a number of youth related initiatives. For example, Essex Fire and Rescue service have been commissioned to provide interventions in partnership with the YOS. The first formal intervention took place in November. This intervention was focussed on young people from Southend. The intervention has been deemed so successful that Southend Borough council has decided to formally commission the Firebreak intervention for use by its YOT as a formal method of

behaviour intervention in the future. For the first time ever, Firebreak was used for adult offenders. The pilot course has delivered exceptional results. Five months after the event 100% of those who attended have remained offence free. A further intervention will be funded by the Commissioner for a similar cohort of adult offenders. If the second intervention produces similar results it is intended to pursue this with the newly formed Community Rehabilitation Company as a formal intervention for the future. We will continue to discuss engagement by Essex YOS for a wider countrywide approach to piloting this intervention.

- The PCC is funding a dedicated analyst to support the work of the Integrated Offender Management programme.

In 2013/14 the PCC allocated funds of £750.22k for the following:

- £443.8k to the Youth Offending Services in Essex, Southend and Thurrock.
- £110k to Community Budgets to support the reducing reoffending work.
- £45.2k to Positive Futures youth engagement in Basildon and Southend
- £33.42k to Chelsea FC Foundation
- £16k to Essex Fire and Rescue to review the potential of the Firebreak scheme
- £12.6k to Basildon Borough Council for a one year pilot project involving performing art engaging with young people who are in danger of offending or committing ASB
- £10.9k to Essex Youthbuild to provide a short maintenance course to young offenders or those at risk of offending
- £10k to Wakering Young People's Community project to run activities for young people in the school holidays
- £17.1k to Essex Boys and Girls Club to deliver four diversionary boxing projects in Maldon, Braintree, Grays and Uttlesford
- £6k to Witham Boys Brigade to pilot a sports engagement programme for young people
- £5.4k to ATF to provide football training sessions for ex-offenders and young offenders who have been through IOM
- £5k to the Only Cowards Carry training programme on weapons awareness
- £4k to Family Solutions West Essex to run a pilot family Boot Camp day at Lambourne End where anti-social behaviour is an issue
- £2.3k to Friends of Abandoned Dogs to provide volunteering opportunities to ex-offenders not ready for mainstream volunteering.
- £13k for drop-in centre Jaywick aimed at offenders and ex-offenders.
- £15.5k to Basildon, Southend and Thurrock CSPs for local initiatives in support of reducing offending and reoffending

Reduce Youth Offending and all types of Re-offending: Performance data

First time entrants to the youth justice system⁷

Data for youth re-offending has been presented by upper tier authority, as Youth Offending services are delivered (and supported by the Commissioner) at these levels.

| | Essex | Southend | Thurrock | England & Wales |
|--------------------|--|----------|----------|-----------------|
| | (PNC rate per 100,000 0-17 population) | | | |
| Jan-Dec 2009 | 1,631 | 667 | 2,012 | 1,257 |
| Jan-Dec 2010 | 1,064 | 477 | 980 | 928 |
| Jan-Dec 2011 | 804 | 448 | 476 | 712 |
| Jan-Dec 2012 | 570 | 453 | 491 | 537 |
| % change from 2011 | -29.2% | +1.2% | +3.1% | -24.5% |
| % change from 2009 | -65.1% | -32.1% | -75.6% | -57.3% |

Source: Youth Justice Management Information System (using data from Police National Computer)

There has been a considerable reduction in first time entrants to the Youth Justice System over the past 3-4 years, which is a national trend. This is considered to be mainly due to the increased use of diversionary responses to low level crime, such as Triage and Community Resolutions. A data update for first time entrants to the youth justice system will become available in July 2014

Percentage of offenders aged under 18 who go on to reoffend

There are two different measures of youth re-offending in Essex – national figures from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), which are published two years in arrears, and data from Essex Police which is more timely with a six month time lag but does not use the official definition of proven reoffending⁸. The national data is presented below:

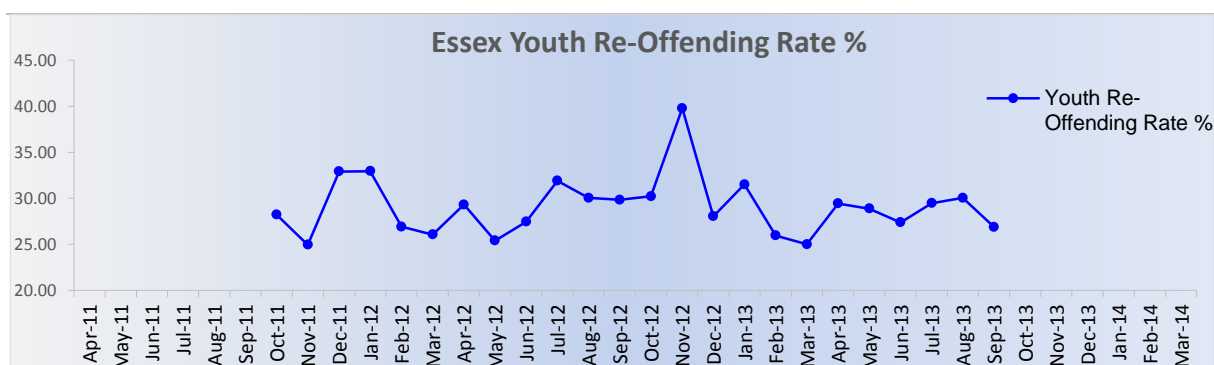
| Youth Reoffending | Period/change | Essex | Southend | Thurrock | England and Wales |
|---|----------------------|--------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| % of offenders who reoffend | Year end Dec 2011 | 28.2% | 48.2% | 33.7% | 35.9% |
| | Change from 2005 | +0.2pp | +12.4pp | +5.3pp | +2.3pp |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | +0.9pp | +7.6pp | 0.0pp | +0.6pp |
| Average number of re-offences per reoffender | Year end Dec 2011 | 2.77 | 2.84 | 4.16 | 2.89 |
| | Change from 2005 | -3.2% | +5.1% | +63.2% | -0.8% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | +6.0% | +9.7% | +40.0% | +0.4% |
| Average number of re-offences per offender (frequency rate) | Year end Dec 2011 | 0.78 | 1.37 | 1.40 | 1.04 |
| | Change from 2005 | -2.5% | +41.6% | +93.4% | +6.0% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | +9.4% | +30.3% | +40.1% | +2.1% |
| Average number of previous offences per offender | Year end Dec 2011 | 1.82 | 4.52 | 3.86 | 2.48 |
| | Change from 2005 | +61.1% | +215.5% | +234.8% | +54.5% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | +4.2% | -0.1% | +41.2% | +4.5% |
| Cohort size | Year end Dec 2011 | 2,019 | 170 | 187 | 74,684 |
| | Change from 2005 | -46.8% | -70.0% | -60.0% | -54.3% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | -21.9% | -11.5% | -36.4% | -19.8% |

Source: Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, Ministry of Justice, December 2011

⁷ Rate of 10-17 year olds receiving their first reprimand, warning or conviction and coming to the attention of the YOS per 100,000 population. Indicator included in Public Health Outcomes Framework.

⁸ The official definition is offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court or received a reprimand or warning over a 12 month period, who went on to commit a proven re-offence within a one year follow up period or a further six month waiting period. A proven re-offence is defined as a caution (for adults), a final warning or reprimand (for juveniles), a non-custodial conviction or a discharge from custody. The data source is the extract of the Police National Computer (PNC) held by the Ministry of Justice and statistics refreshed quarterly. Essex Police data is taken from the Police CrimeFile system, is based on one month rather than twelve months and is 6 months in arrears to allow time for matching offenders to crimes.

More recent Police data (below), using the different definition, indicates a youth reoffending rate of 26.9%, for the whole of Essex (September 2013)⁹. The data is six months in arrears to allow time for the police to establish who the offenders are for a crime. The next data update is due in October 2014.



Source: Essex Police

Percentage of adult offenders who go on to reoffend

As with youth reoffending, there are the different measures for adults: the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) figures, published two years in arrears, and data from Essex Police with a six month time lag but which does not use the official definition of proven reoffending¹⁰.

The national information is as follows:

| Adult Reoffending | Period/change | Essex | Southend | Thurrock | England and Wales |
|---|----------------------|--------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| % of offenders who reoffend | Year end Dec 2011 | 22.1% | 24.0% | 22.1% | 25.5% |
| | Change from 2005 | +1.4pp | -2.2pp | -1.4pp | +0.6pp |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | -0.6pp | -0.8pp | -0.2pp | +0.3pp |
| Average number of re-offences per reoffender | Year end Dec 2011 | 2.90 | 2.98 | 2.66 | 2.91 |
| | Change from 2005 | -4.1% | +0.5% | -17.8% | -6.0% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | +3.0% | +8.7% | -9.4% | +1.4% |
| Average number of re-offences per offender (frequency rate) | Year end Dec 2011 | 0.64 | 0.71 | 0.59 | 0.74 |
| | Change from 2005 | +2.2% | -8.0% | -22.6% | -3.8% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | +0.4% | +5.2% | -10.2% | +2.4% |
| Average number of previous offences per offender | Year end Dec 2011 | 9.85 | 13.02 | 9.27 | 12.74 |
| | Change from 2005 | +21.1% | -9.2% | -7.5% | +11.0% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | +6.9% | -2.8% | -6.3% | +4.5% |
| Cohort size | Year end Dec 2011 | 11,109 | 1,897 | 1,701 | 538,754 |
| | Change from 2005 | +9.7% | +14.8% | +26.4% | +1.3% |
| | Change from Dec 2010 | -3.8% | +5.4% | +1.7% | -3.0% |

Source: Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, Ministry of Justice, December 2011

The next data update is due in October 2014.

Adult re-offending in Southend differs from the rest of the Essex area in that the rate has risen over the last two measured quarters. The actual number of additional re-offenders is relatively small. Colleagues in Essex Probation Service (now the Community Rehabilitation Company) have been asked to seek to identify any factors that may influence offending based on geographical factors.

⁹ There is no apparent reason for the spike in the rate in November 2012

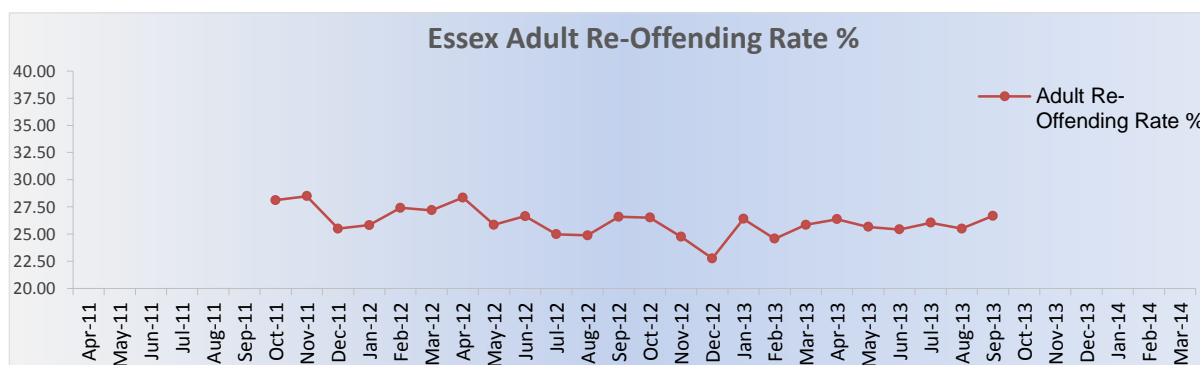
¹⁰ See note 9

In particular they wish to consider if any of the following factors have an undue influence in the Southend area:

Seaside town effects of increased visitors
 Transient nature of the population
 Night time economy issues

The findings from the CRC review will be shared with the panel when these are known.

Rates of re-offending across greater Essex continue to fall.



Source: Essex Police

Re-offending rates for those under YOS supervision

Data from Essex Youth Offending Service suggests that 32.9% of the cohort being supervised by the YOS reoffend within twelve months (tracking a January - March sample throughout the year)¹¹. This has remained fairly stable over time with 31.1% in 2010/11, 32.9% in 2011/12 and 32.9% in 2012/13. We are working with Southend and Thurrock YOS to obtain a similar data set.

It should be noted that, as a result of the significant reductions in young people coming in to the youth justice system, those who do enter and go on to reoffend become that much more challenging to work with. This means that the YOS are working with smaller numbers but with increasing complexity.

Re-offending rates for those under Probation supervision

The national MoJ figures provide information on offenders under Probation Trust supervision, on Community Orders and on Licence, i.e. released from prison.

The following table shows the position for Essex:

¹¹ The January – March cohort is tracked for a financial year, with a 3 month time lag to allow for police/court processes. Offenders under Essex YOS supervision who went on to commit a proven re-offence within a one year follow up period. This is based on the old NI19 definition. Information is supplemented by Essex YOS to include type of disposal, type/gravity of re-offence, age and looked after status.

| Adults under Essex Probation Trust supervision re-offending year ending December 2011 | Community Order | Under Licence |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|
| % of offenders who re-offend | 34.1% | 34.0% |
| Average number of re-offences per re-offender | 3.22 | 3.28 |
| Average number of re-offences per offender (frequency rate) | 1.10 | 1.11 |
| Number of offenders in cohort | 4,031 | 594 |
| % who reoffend adjusted against baseline (predicted rate) | 34.8% | 36.2% |

Source: Proven Re-offending Statistics Quarterly Bulletin, Ministry of Justice, December 2011

The next data update is due in October 2014.

Tackle consequences of alcohol and drugs abuse, and mental health issues

The **headline indicators** are:

- Engaging in effective alcohol and drugs treatment
- Leaving alcohol and drugs treatment in a planned way
- Prison to community – continuity of alcohol and drugs care
- Number of Night Time Economy (NTE) crimes
- Number of S136 enactments

Context:

The Department of Health estimates suggest that approximately 336,700 people aged 16 and over in Essex report that they are engaging in hazardous, harmful and dependent drinking. There are an estimated 4,668 opiate and/or crack (OCU) drug users. The drug test on arrest pilot indicates that 28% of individuals arrested in Essex are under the influence of drugs at the point of arrest. This is broadly in line with the national average.

The PCC is a member of the Health and Well Being Board and works closely with partners across health to progress issues in relation to health and criminal justice. This includes improved information sharing across agencies. The OPCC is also represented at the Integrated Substance Misuse Commission Group (ISMCG) and works to bring together all agencies who work in this field.

Key actions delivered and planned include:

- The PCC is co-hosting a Mental Health and Criminal Justice conference with the charity MIND at the end of June. The conference will look at some of the challenges around mental health and offending, and explore partnership solutions to address them.
- Essex Police has instigated a Mental Health Working Group as a sub group of the Essex Safeguarding Board. The purpose of the group is to implement the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat in Essex across the partnership. The group has created an action matrix mirroring that of the national document and will co-ordinate improvements in service across the partnership, agreeing a Local Action Plan and drafting a joint statement by December 2014.
- £630.5k of funding has been made available by the PCC to schemes to help break the dependency on alcohol and drugs, including continued funding for the Drug Intervention Project and Young People's Substance Misuse programmes
- South Essex Mental Health Trust is undertaking a pilot scheme with local partners, including the Police & OPCC, to provide liaison and diversion services within the criminal justice system. The objective of this project is to identify and assess people with mental health needs, learning disabilities, substance misuse problems and other vulnerabilities to ensure they receive appropriate support. Access to these services does not imply that individuals will avoid criminal justice sanctions where appropriate, but that the process will be better informed, and access to relevant interventions will be improved. Liaison and diversion services are intended to improve the health and criminal justice outcomes for adults and children who come into contact with the criminal justice system where a range of complex needs are identified as factors in their offending behaviour. This activity is part of a national programme and has been informed by successful trials elsewhere in the country.

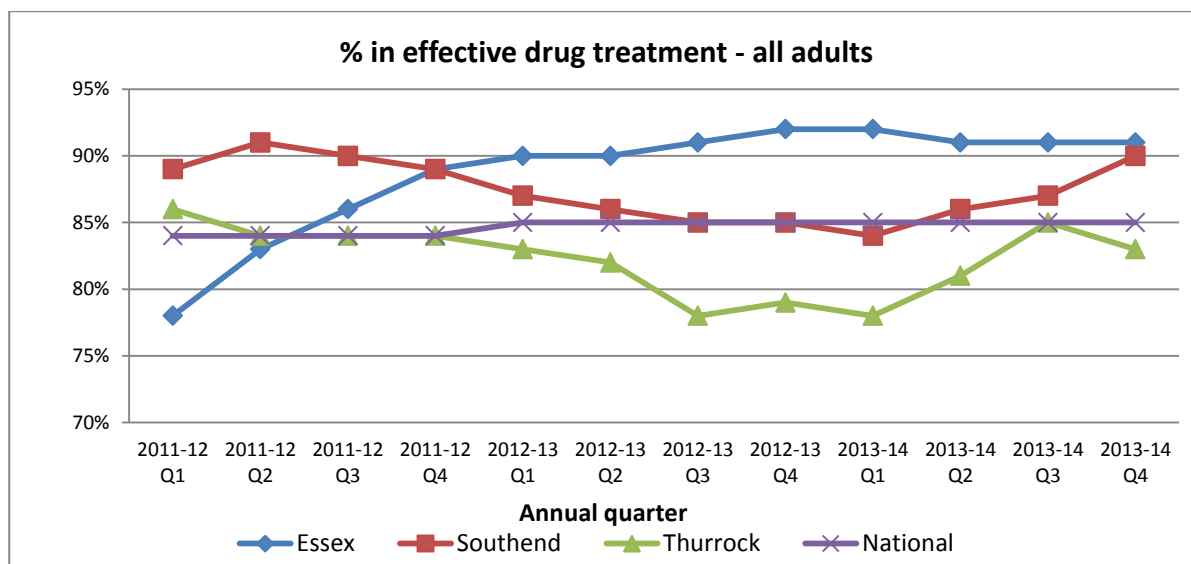
In 2013/14 the PCC has allocated funds of £630.5k for the following:

- *£503k to Essex, Southend and Thurrock for the Drug Intervention Project and Young People's Substance Misuse programmes*
- *£59.5k to Basildon, Chelmsford, Colchester, Southend, Tendring and Thurrock CSPs for local initiatives to help reduce misuse of alcohol and drugs*
- *£18k to the Essex Drug and Alcohol Abuse Team for the RiskAvert programme*
- *£16.8k to Argos/Open Road to provide training and subsequent employment for up to twelve individuals who have been through the Criminal Justice System and received treatment through the Open Road rehabilitation programme*
- *£13.7k to the Safer Chelmsford partnership for their Reduce the Strength campaign*
- *£3.6k for the Colchester Reduce the Strength campaign*
- *£10.9k to 57 West for programmes in Rochford and Southend*
- *£5k to the Safer Chelmsford Partnership for a research project that will consider the impact of the Night Time Economy on the emergency services*

Consequences of alcohol & drugs abuse, & mental health issues: Performance data

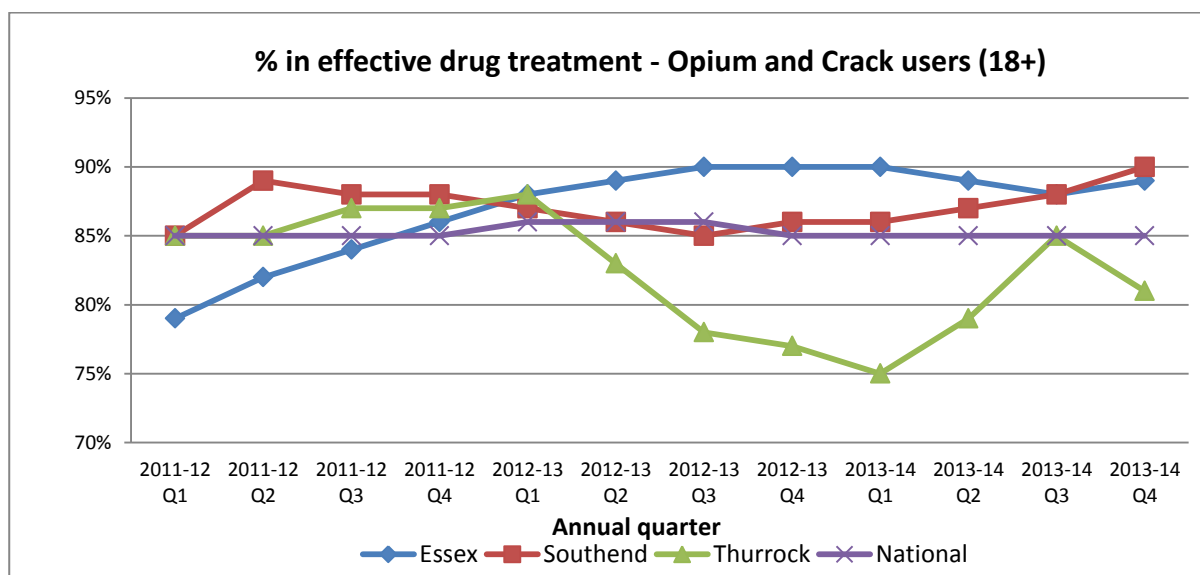
Graphs for alcohol and drugs treatment are presented by the administrative areas of Essex, Southend and Thurrock, as treatment services are provided by each upper tier authority.

Engaging in effective treatment (drugs)¹²



Source: Essex DAAT

There has been a steady increase in engagement with treatment in Essex from 78% to 91% over the period. This compares with a fairly stable national picture (84-85%) and a downward and apparently recovering trend for Southend (90%) and Thurrock (83%). The numbers in treatment in Q4 2013-14 were 2,923 in Essex, 805 in Southend and 387 in Thurrock. The national figure is 183,127.



Source: Essex DAAT

¹² The number of clients entering structured treatment who engage with treatment for 12 or more weeks or discharge from treatment in a planned and agreed way prior to 12 weeks of commencing, as a % of the total number of clients entering treatment. Aged 18+ (under 18s tend to be low number, with almost no OCUs – more an issue with alcohol)

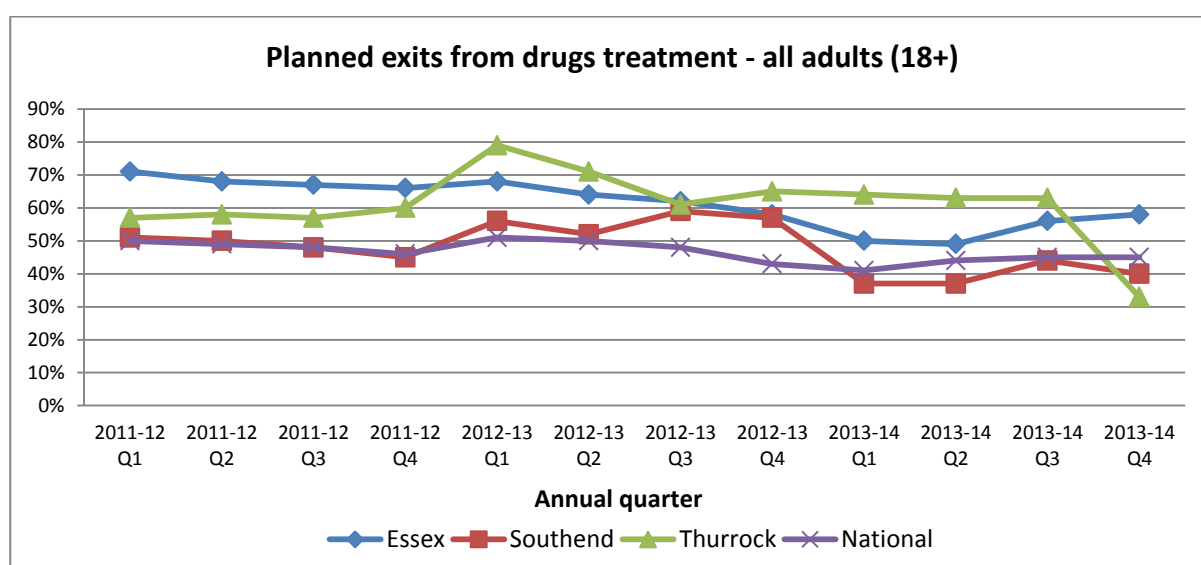
The pattern is similar for opium and crack users. There has been a steady increase in Essex from 79% to 89%, a relatively stable position nationally (85%), an increase was shown in Southend (90%) and Thurrock (81%). Actual numbers for Q4 2013-14 were 2,098 in Essex, 608 in Southend, 210 in Thurrock and 150,855 nationally.

Engaging in effective treatment (alcohol)

Trend data for this indicator has been nationally placed on hold and publication is not expected until Q1 next year.

For the Essex administrative area 1,965 clients were receiving alcohol treatment interventions, and this number is expected to rise with additional investment from April 2014 for criminal and non-criminal justice alcohol provision.

Leaving treatment in a planned way (drugs)



Source: Essex DAAT

The proportion has fallen in Essex (71% to 58%), Southend (51% to 40%) and nationally (50% to 45%), over the period. The proportion in Thurrock rose from 57% to 63% during the period but fell at Q4 to 33%. 60% to 70% is considered to be a good range.

Leaving treatment in a planned way (alcohol)

Trend data for this indicator was expected to be available at the end of 2013/14, but has since been nationally placed on hold and publication is not expected until Q1 next year

Prison to community – continuity of alcohol and drugs care¹³

This indicator had not been reported since Q1 2012/13 when the figure was 63%. Local data is now available for 2013/14.

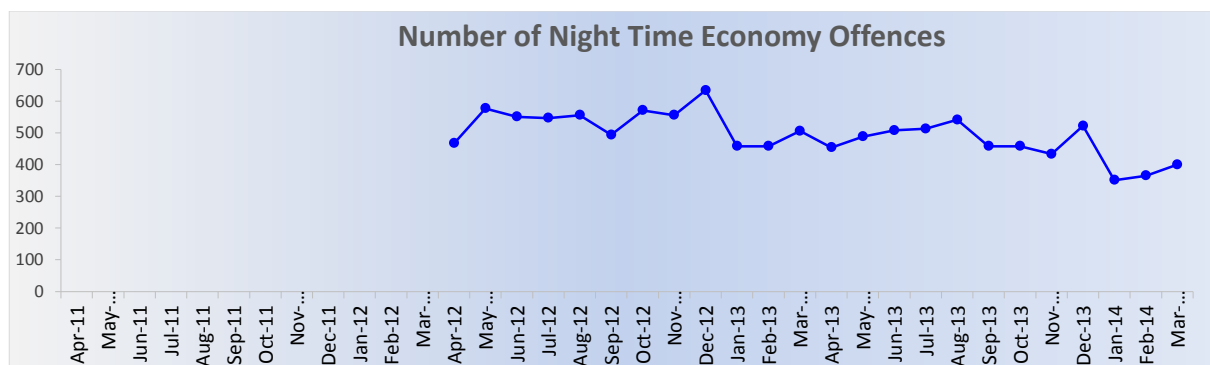
Prison to community – continuity of care (Essex)

| 2011-2012 Q1 | 2011-2012 Q2 | 2011-2012 Q3 | 2011-2012 Q4 | 2012-2013 Q1 | 2012-2013 Q2 | 2012-2013 Q3 | 2012-2013 Q4 | 2013-2014 Q1 | 2013-2014 Q2 | 2013-2014 Q3 | 2013-2014 Q4 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| n/a | 66% | 73% | 61% | 63% | n/a | n/a | n/a | 33% | 48% | 46% | 53% |

Source: Essex DAAT

Number of Night Time Economy (NTE) crimes

A measure to capture Night Time Economy crimes has been developed by Essex Police.¹⁴



Source: Essex Police

There were 5,513 offences in the period April 2013 to March 2014, compared with 6,142 for the previous year, a reduction of 629 (10%).

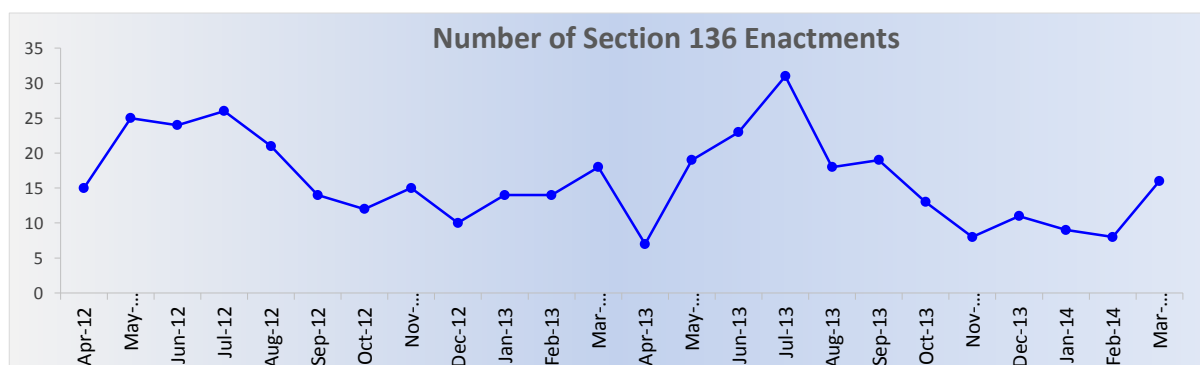
Number of S136 enactments¹⁵

Information on the consequences of mental health issues for crime and policing is fairly sparse. The following graph has been included to indicate the number of situations where an individual's mental health leads to them being detained in custody.

¹³ The number of clients receiving structured treatment whilst in prison who, upon release from prison, successfully engage with the community provider

¹⁴ The measure captures offences committed between 18.00 and 06.00 and includes crime types that are most relevant to the NTE, including violence against the person, offences relating to drugs & alcohol and public order

¹⁵ Under Section 136 of the Mental health Act 1983 if a Police Officer finds in a place to which the public have access a person who appears to him/her to be suffering from mental disorder and to be in immediate need of care or control, the constable may, if they think it necessary to do so in the interests of that person or for the protection of other persons, remove that person to a place of safety (S136 Order). A person removed to a place of safety under this section may be detained there for a period not exceeding 72 hours.



Source: Essex Police

Essex Police are currently reviewing their plan as to how best to deliver full engagement within the Mental Health Concordat. This Concordat requires all statutory agencies to work in close partnership to deliver better mental health outcomes for all service users.

Work continues to prepare for the introduction in the South of the County for the intervention and diversion project where mental health professionals will be deployed with Police Officers in order to facilitate early diagnosis and intervention. This project should “go live” within the next month or so. The project is owned by the South Essex Partnership Trust Foundation. The Deputy PCC recently met a consultant who has been seconded on to the SEPT project team. As a consequence the DPCC will attend the next meeting of the project management group to be held on 17 June. He will be able to give the panel a verbal update as the date of this meeting precedes the panel meeting but post dates submission of the papers.

Essex Police has submitted a bid for funding to the Home Office with a view to seeking to set up a similar trial programme in the North of the county. (Carly can add more than me about the content and timing of the bid)

Improve Road Safety

The **headline indicators** are:

- Number of people killed and seriously injured in road collisions
 - Total
 - Motorcycle / powered two wheel vehicles
 - Young car drivers (17-25 years)
 - Pedestrians
 - Cyclists
 - Children and young people (0-17)
 - Drink drivers

Context:

715 people were killed or seriously injured (KSI) on Essex's roads in 2013/14. This was an increase of 46 incidents (6.9%) against the numbers of those killed or seriously injured during the previous year.

However, the number of KSI fatalities showed a decrease of 11.9% in 2013/14 reducing to 37 incidents against 42 recorded the previous year.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Essex Police are both represented at meetings of the Casualty Reduction Board.

Key actions delivered and planned include:

- £15,900 of funding has been made available by the PCC for road safety initiatives

Pro - active Roads Policing / Road Safety operations 13/14

- During 2013/14 22,738 vehicles were stopped as a result of a pro-active road safety / road crime operation. These stops resulted in 119 arrests, 531 vehicle seizures (no insurance), 8,983 drivers referred onto an education course as opposed to prosecution & 4,921 fixed penalties. These operations occurred on routes and areas subject to identified KSI collisions and very often involved co-operation from partner agencies such as Essex County Council Highways, VOSA, HMRC, BTP & local authority licencing.

Motorcycling

- During 13/14 Essex Police as part of the Safer Essex Roads Partnership launched Essex Hugger targeting motorcyclists with a new more robust educational safety campaign. The scheme resulted in delivery of one common motorcycle safety educational theme throughout Norfolk, Suffolk & Essex.
- Essex Police holds regular engagement opportunities known as "Pit stop" days with Essex County Council and Essex Fire & Rescue set to engage motorcyclists on key identified routes at weekends with the intention of encouraging additional motorcycling training such as the National Bike Safe scheme.
- The National NDORS RIDE course removed the practical element of the syllabus. Essex Police recognised the importance of practical skills and now provide a practical one day optional course to those students attending the RIDE course with the course cost met by the partnership.

Cycling

- Essex Police has during 13/14 investigated the possibility of providing an online educational cycle course as opposed to prosecution for offences such as lighting & riding on the footpath. The course provider has now been sourced with a suitable on line educational interactive product that will be available to offer in June 2014.

Young Drivers

- Essex Police during 2013/14 carried out Operation WAGTAIL which focused upon intelligence led activity relating to “cruiser” events which mainly occur in the South of Essex. Additional dedicated resources deploy specific tactical options to address incidents of poor driving behaviour (racing on the highway) and community concerns in areas such as Canvey Island, Thurrock & Basildon. A multi - agency approach is also used to engage with this road user group.
- Essex Police in partnership with Essex County Council, Southend Borough Council & Thurrock Borough Council deliver focused educational input into events such as Roadster, road runner and crucial crew aimed at young people prior to the age of driving.

National Driver / Rider offender courses NDORS

- During 2013/14 Essex Police delivered the full range of national educational courses falling within the National Driver Offender Rectification Scheme (NDORS). These courses apply to low end offending and offered as an alternative to prosecution. The full range includes courses covering speed, seat belt, mobile phone, careless driving (collision & non collision), RIDE (P2W). The option of education allows Essex Police to embrace the full ethos behind National Road Safety Strategies which identify the benefit of education as opposed to prosecution for low ending offending.

Drink Driving

- Essex Police actively participates with the two National ACPO campaign periods covering summer and Christmas set around Drink driving. With the support of partners and local media the campaigns centre around the consequences of drink -driving and a significant focus upon the public using partners such as Crime stoppers to provide local intelligence relating to drink driving. Summer 2013 (June) resulted in 2616 road side breath tests with 94 failing/refusing. December 2013 resulted in 3409 road side breath tests with 114 failing/refusing. The Christmas campaign was also supported by HM Courts ensuring offenders were brought to justice within 24hours where possible.

Commercial Vehicle road checks

- Essex Police supports the nationally led Operation MERMAID focusing upon commercial vehicle safety and road crime with a specific emphasis placed upon the permitted hours of rest and driving taken by commercial vehicle drivers. Regular checks are conducted alongside our most strategic roads in an effort to detect regular offending and those companies and organisations that use the road network to commit crime both locally and nationally.

Community Speed Watch & Volunteers

- Volunteers within road safety play a significant role as highlighted by the 80 active Community Speed Watch groups located across the force area. Many groups actively support specific road safety campaign weeks with voluntary activity set around their own communities and schools promoting road safety. A team of Special Constables has now been created supporting the work of The Casualty Reduction Section based at South

Woodham. The team of 8 officers support the wide and varied range of road safety and road crime operations adding significant benefit to the overall section.

To date, in 2013/14 the PCC has allocated funds of £15.9k for the following:

- *£8k to Essex County Council for Pilot scheme to increase the level of enforcement – includes: cycling on pavements/shopping centres, 'Bikeability' course and a 'Let's Look Out' campaign to raise awareness for motorists/cyclists.*
- *£7.9k to Uttlesford CSP for a safe driving scheme*

Improve Road Safety: Performance data¹⁶

¹⁶ Data for 2012/13 is final with the rest subject to change. Monthly data is generally extracted during the second week after the end of each period. Sub-category figures prior to June 2013 were done retrospectively and are more likely to represent the final figures.

Number of people killed and seriously injured in road collisions¹⁷

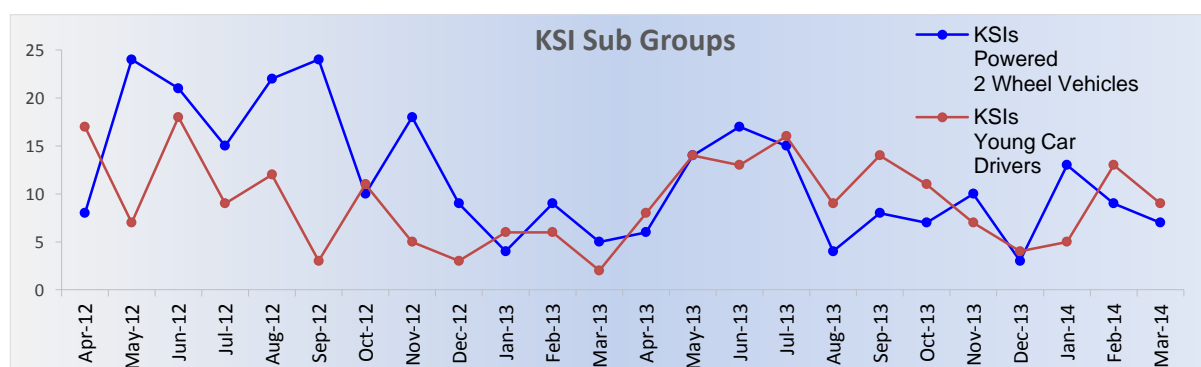


Source: Essex Police

The reduction in incidents in late 2013 may have been due to fewer vehicles on the roads travelling at slower speeds in the winter weather. There are apparent increases in serious injury collisions in summer months, which may be linked to the warmer weather conditions and increased amount of travel.

Numbers killed and seriously injured by mode of travel

The following graphs show trends for various modes of transport and situations¹⁸



Source: Essex Police

Motorcycle collisions involving serious injury remain a significant issue, although numbers appear to be falling. There were 159 during the reporting year 2013/14, which are ten less collisions than recorded the previous year.

Nationally numbers fell for the number of motorcycle users killed (-9% from 2011 to 2012) or seriously injured (-5%), with motorcycle traffic decreasing by 2% over the same period.¹⁹ The full data for 2013 will be released in June 2014.

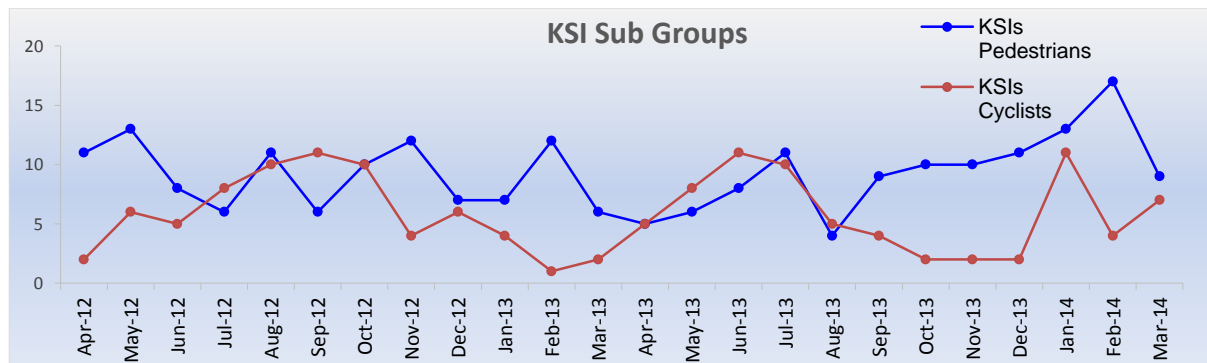
¹⁷ **Killed:** Casualties who sustain injuries which cause death less than 30 days after the accident.

Serious injury: An injury for which a person is detained in hospital as an "in-patient", or any of the following injuries whether or not they are detained in hospital: fractures, concussion, internal injuries, crushings, burns (excluding friction burns), severe cuts, severe general shock requiring medical treatment and injuries causing death 30 or more days after the accident. An injured casualty is recorded as seriously or slightly injured by the police on the basis of information available within a short time of the accident.

Slight injury: An injury such as a sprain (including neck whiplash injury), bruise or cut which are not judged to be severe, or slight shock requiring roadside attention (excluded from figures on KSIs).

¹⁸ Where information is available. Note these figures will not sum and there will be some overlap in categories.

The number of young car drivers (17-25 years) who were killed or seriously injured on the roads is an area of particular concern. In 2013/14 there were 134 incidents involving young car drivers, a (28.8%) increase from the figure for the previous year (104).

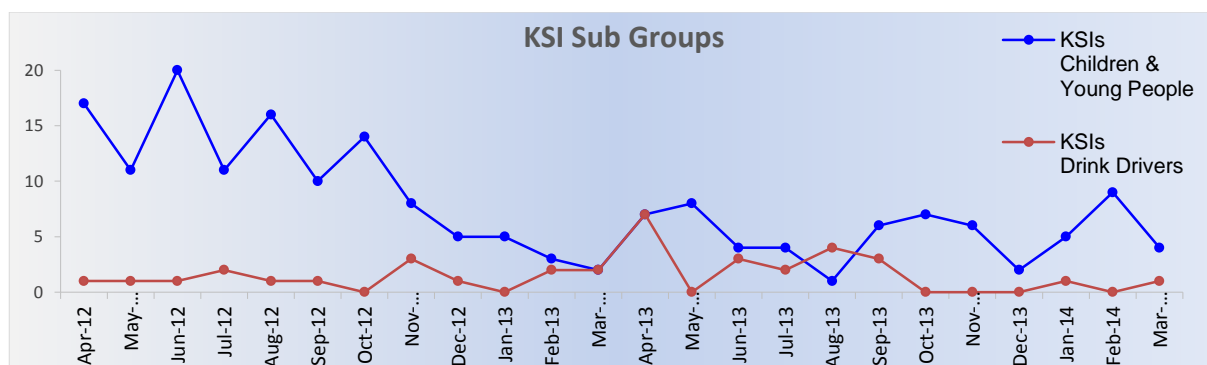


Source: Essex Police

Cycling road safety remains a concern, with 98 people killed or seriously injured during 2013/14 compared with 72 for the same period a year earlier.

The number of collisions involving pedal cycles (KSI) in the final quarter of 2013/14 has increased from 10 to 22 against the same period for the previous year. This may be attributable to the milder weather throughout the winter, which has promoted greater use of this mode of transport far earlier when compared to last year.

A Department for Transport study showed the number of pedal cyclists killed nationally rose by 10% from 2011 to 2012, while the number of pedal cyclists reported to the police as seriously injured in a road accident increased by 4%. This is the eighth year that the number of seriously injured cyclist casualties has increased.²⁰ The full data for 2013 will be released in June 2014.



Source: Essex Police

78 children and young people were killed or seriously injured on the roads in Essex in 2013/1, which is 44 (36%) fewer than in 2013/14.

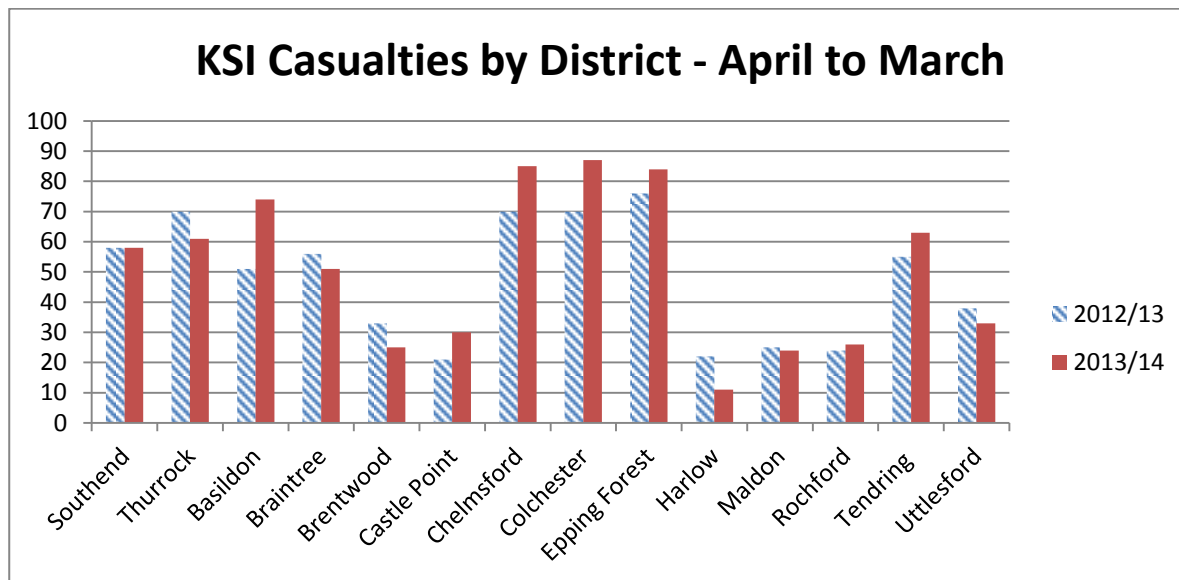
¹⁹ Reported Road Casualties in Great Britain: Main results 2012 (Released 27 June 2013)
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/208736/reported-road-casualties-in-great-britain-main-results-2012.pdf

²⁰ See note 20

Drink driving related collisions, although relatively low, are higher than in 2012/13, with 29 during 2013/14 compared with 15 the year before.

Geographic hotspots

The following chart shows the area where people were killed or seriously injured. The distribution tends to mirror major road networks, with most occurring on A roads and unclassified roads.



Source: Essex Police

Note: This data was run on 28th April and therefore will not match the official total previously mentioned.

Improve Crime Prevention

The **headline indicators** are:

- Number of recorded crime offences
- Solved crime rate
- Percentage of people who think the Police are doing a good job in their area
- Percentage of residents feeling safe outside in their local area (day/night)
- *Percentage spend on crime prevention (to be developed)*

Context:

Crime prevention remains a high priority, with Essex Police continuing to focus their efforts on this important area. The OPCC continues to work with partners in the development of crime prevention strategies and £283,850 of funding has been made available in this area

Key actions delivered and planned include:

PCC Crime Prevention

In 2013-14, the PCC has funded more than £130K of diverse projects through the New Initiatives Fund (NIF). More detail on these can be found in the appendix to the Finance Report, also presented to this meeting.

Examples of crime prevention projects funded through NIF include the Crime Stoppers campaigns:

- **Rural Crime Campaign**
The campaign was launched on 12 March 2014 and targets rural communities and the under-reporting of crime in such areas. It strongly supports the vision of the PCC's Rural Crime Forum, the Essex police Rural Crime Strategy and the rural focussed elements of the Police and Crime Plan.
- **Rogue Trader Week 2014 (7-11/4/14)**
Building on the success of last year's campaign Crime Stoppers distributed support via leaflets and flyers to raise public awareness of doorstep crime and increase reassurance thereby reducing the fear of crime.
- **Operation Insight**
Essex Police launched Operation Insight in Oct 2013. This operation was specifically aimed at reducing domestic burglary and is based on a predictive policing model. The operation involves a new approach to crime pattern analysis and identifying areas of potential risk after a burglary has occurred. Informing residents and supplying crime prevention advice in the vicinity of a burglary supported by directed patrols by both police and partner agencies resulting in an annual reduction of 5%. This overall reduction is even more pleasing when noting that the first half of the year was seeing a continuing rise in domestic burglary. Since October 2013 the domestic burglary trend has continued to reduce, this in contrast to a significant 2 year increase prior to Op Insight launch.

- **Metal Theft**

There have been ongoing campaigns since the launch of operation Tornado in 2012, particularly around theft of catalytic converters. This was refreshed in May 2014.

NIF funding has supported the development of the Community Messaging Service, which is now in the final development stage, and once launched will give Essex residents the means to receive information from Essex Police, specialist Watch groups and other agencies in the county tailored to their particular preferences for content, priority and means of communication such as text or email.

The NIF has funded £40K to support rural specials to help prevent crime in rural parts of Essex.

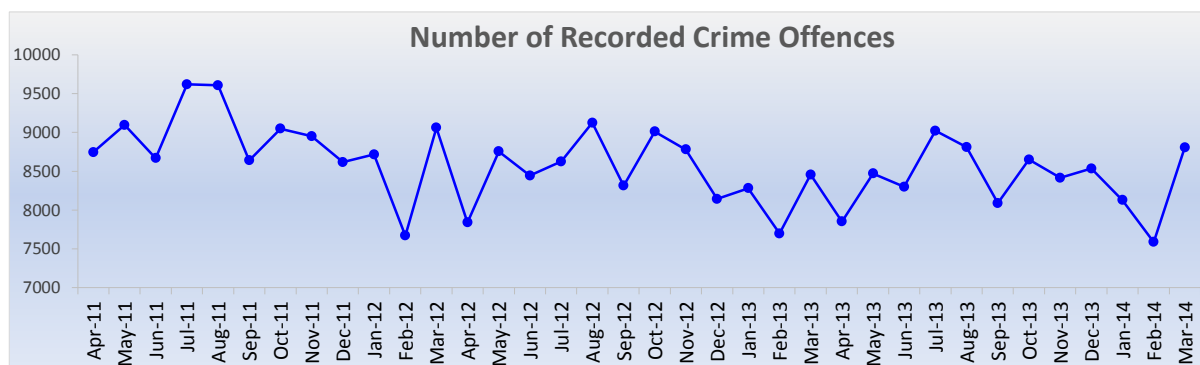
Other NIF projects aimed at crime prevention in 2013-14 include the 'Support 4 Sight' project launch: the county-wide sighted guiding and road safety for visually impaired people', which included mobility instruction and road safety training.

NIF money also helped to deliver a weapons awareness course across Essex, funding towards a cycle response team to patrol, provide safety cover, rescue and first aid to those who require it along the beach front based from Chalkwell, and help to set up a Street Pastor team in Saffron Walden.

To date, in 2013/14 the PCC has allocated funds of £283.85k for the following:

- £85k for Crimestoppers, Specials and Community Messaging System
- £75.5k to Basildon, Castle Point and Rochford, Colchester, Epping, Maldon, Southend, Tendring and Uttlesford CSPs for local crime prevention initiatives
- £53k for the Community Budget Strengthening Communities programme
- £42.5k from Force grants to Crimestoppers
- £10.5k to Neighbourhood Watch schemes
- £6.6K to Castle Point and Rochford Association of Voluntary Services for a Befriending Service
- £5k to Support 4 Sight project on crime prevention and road safety for the visually impaired.
- £3k for Ugly Mugs, a scheme aimed at protecting sex workers from violent offenders
- £1.25k to Saffron Walden Street Pastors
- £1k for the Redeeming Our Communities (ROC) launch in Chelmsford in November
- £0.5k for marketing material at the Rural Crime Awareness Day (November)

Number of recorded crime offences



Source: Essex Police

Recorded crime in the county has dropped from 100,144 in 2012/3 to 99,346 in 2013/14, a fall of 0.8%.

In the year to the end of December 2013, the independent Crime Survey of England and Wales showed that overall crime fell by 15% against the same period the previous year, to the lowest level since the survey began in 1981.

Police recorded crime, including fraud, showed a decrease of 2% compared with the same period the previous year. Police recorded crime figures continue to show year-on-year reductions.

Data released by the Office for National Statistics shows crime in Essex fell by 2% over the year period to December 2013. Crime in the other counties in the East of England is also down, by an average of 5%.

Recorded crime by type:

| Crime Type | | # Offences - Cumulative | | # diff | % diff |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| | | April 2012 to Mar 2013 | April 2013 to Mar 2014 | | |
| ALL CRIME | | 100144 | 99346 | -798 | -0.8 |
| Burglary | Burglary in Dwelling (inc. attempts) | 7883 | 7488 | -395 | -5.0 |
| | Burglary in Other Than in Dwelling | 6371 | 6187 | -184 | -2.9 |
| | Shoplifting | 8897 | 9688 | 791 | 8.9 |
| | Other Theft and Handling | 12297 | 12126 | -171 | -1.4 |
| | Vehicle Crime | 12414 | 11713 | -701 | -5.6 |
| Violent Crime | Most Serious Violence | 777 | 869 | 92 | 11.8 |
| | Serious Sexual Crime | 1078 | 1469 | 391 | 36.3 |
| | Other Violent Crime | 19951 | 21870 | 1919 | 9.6 |
| | Robbery | 1198 | 1602 | 404 | 33.7 |
| Criminal Damage | | 14403 | 14078 | -325 | -2.3 |
| Racially Aggravated Crime | | 743 | 821 | 78 | 10.5 |
| Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents | | 56447 | 54057 | -2390 | -4.2 |

Source: Essex Police

The table indicates the key points that the numbers of incidents of recorded crime in the previous areas of concern of dwelling burglary and vehicle crime are now reducing, whilst incidents of serious sexual crime, robbery and shoplifting are increasing.

The rise in the reporting of serious sexual crime could be a reflection of greater public awareness of this topic.

Solved crime rate



Source: Essex Police

The solved rate has shown improvement during 2013/14 (27% in 2012/13 to 29.17% in 2013/14 – a 2.17% increase).

Solved crime by type:

| Crime Type | | Solved Rate - Cumulative | | % pt. diff |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| | | April 2012 to Mar 2013 | April 2013 to Mar 2014 | |
| ALL CRIME | | 27.00 | 29.17 | 2.17 |
| Burglary | Burglary in Dwelling (inc. attempts) | 10.57 | 15.38 | 4.81 |
| | Burglary in Other Than in Dwelling | 7.24 | 6.21 | -1.03 |
| Theft related crime including Vehicle Crime | Shoplifting | 62.40 | 65.56 | 3.16 |
| | Other Theft and Handling | 11.04 | 13.27 | 2.23 |
| | Vehicle Crime | 4.54 | 5.06 | 0.52 |
| Violent Crime | Most Serious Violence | 37.07 | 41.31 | 4.24 |
| | Serious Sexual Crime | 17.07 | 18.92 | 1.85 |
| | Other Violent Crime | 45.57 | 43.68 | -1.89 |
| | Robbery | 14.61 | 20.90 | 6.29 |
| Criminal Damage | | 17.08 | 17.46 | 0.38 |
| Racially Aggravated Crime | | 35.94 | 38.86 | 2.92 |

Source: Essex Police

As occurred last year, the crimes with the highest solved rates are shoplifting, other violent crime, most serious violence and racially aggravated crime, and the crimes with the lowest solved rate are vehicle crime and burglary other than a dwelling.

Solved rates for dwelling burglary and robbery continue to show significant improvement.

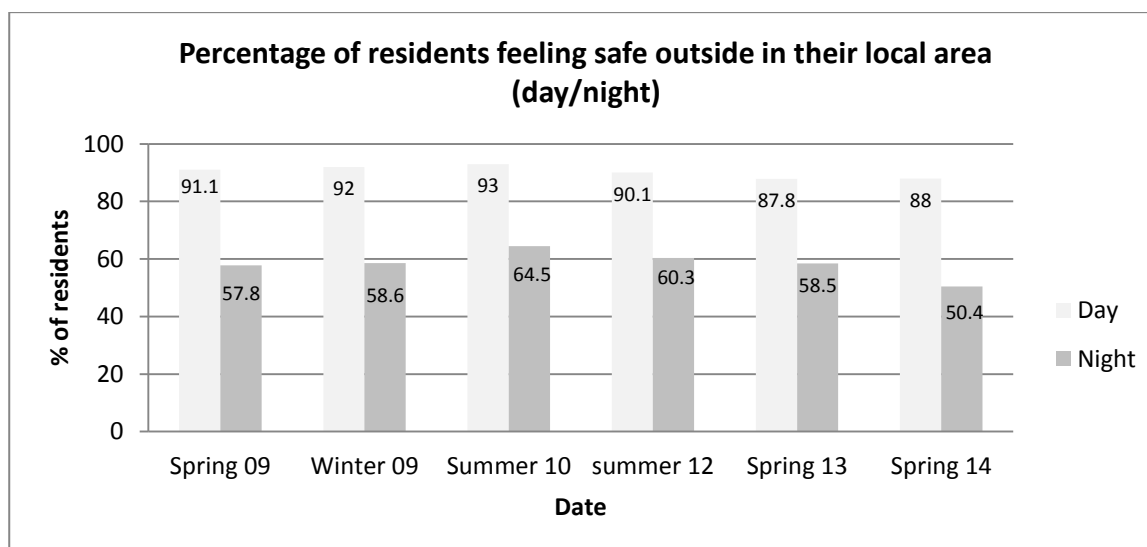
Percentage of people who think the Police are doing a good job in their area



Source: Essex Police - Crime Survey for England and Wales

56.60% thought the Police were doing a good job in their area in the rolling twelve months ending December 2013. This was a slight reduction on the 58.75% achieved the previous quarter. The high and low ranges reflect the degree of confidence in the results.

Percentage of residents feeling safe outside in their local area (day/night)



Source: Essex County Council Tracker Data (excludes Southend and Thurrock)

Please note that the Spring 2014 figures are preliminary and are likely to change slightly after weighting to take account of different levels of response across the districts. The figures will not change greatly, but may be marginally higher.

Further analysis of the data will be undertaken when the figures have been finalised.

AGENDA ITEM 9b

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Essex Police and Crime Panel | EPCP/033(b)/14 |
| Date: 19 June 2014 | |

PCC Finance Update

Report by the Treasurer of the PCC to the Panel

Enquiries to Charles Garbett 01245 291612 charles.garbett@essex.pnn.gov.uk

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To provide the panel with:

- i) A financial summary of the provisional 2013/14 revenue and capital outturn.
- ii) An update on the progress made in allocating Community Safety Grant (CSG) monies for 2014/15
- iii) A commentary on the progress to date in delivering the 2014/15 financial plans.

2. Recommendation

The Panel is requested to discuss the contents of this report and comment as appropriate.

3. 2013/14 Revenue Outturn

- 3.1 The provisional budget underspend is **£4.9m** after allowing for carry forwards and transfers to specific earmarked reserves. Details of the provisional outturn are shown at Appendix A.
- 3.2 Before allowing for carry forwards and transfers to earmarked reserves there was an underspend of **£6.5m** for Net Operating Expenditure. An underspend of this order of magnitude was expected in February when the 2014/15 budget was reduced by £7.9m to reflect the anticipated 2013/14 underspends.
- 3.3 This underspend is a provisional figure as there is significant accounting work to be undertaken over the next few weeks, particularly in relation to the capital account, collection fund, balance sheet, insurance, pension and restructuring costs. Furthermore, as this is the first year of closing the accounts in SAP, further reviews will be taking place to ensure financial transactions are recorded in the correct financial year. The final outturn report, post audit, is due in September but significant variations to date to date are highlighted below.

Police Officers Pay

- 3.4 Under-spending on police officers pay was £1.3m following a budget transfer of £2m from police officers pay to premises for much needed additional repairs and maintenance.
- 3.5 The original budget was based on 3,338 FTEs at 1st April 2013 plus a reform savings target to be deducted from the pay budgets of £3.045m. The majority of this savings requirement would impact on police officer numbers. The number of police officers at the end of this financial year was 3,186 FTEs.

Police Officer Overtime/TDA

- 3.6 Police Officer overtime overspent by £0.2m and Temporary Duty Allowance (TDA), i.e. acting up by £0.25m.

Police Staff Pay

- 3.7 Police staff pay and allowances underspent by just over £1m. From an establishment of 1,833 FTE there was 1,773 FTE staff in post at the 31st March 2014.

PCSO's

- 3.8 PCSO pay was underspent by almost £1.5m due to unfilled vacancies. Against an establishment of 362 FTE's. At the end of March there were 298 PCSO's in post.

Athena Software

- 3.9 Following successful completion of user acceptance testing for technical go-live work on the Athena programme in April work is progressing on the delivery of phases of the Final Elements Plan to be completed in the autumn. Operational live running is scheduled for early 2015. A specific reserve of currently £1.7m has been established to fund implementation costs in Essex. The costs consist mainly of local IT developments and officer training and are still subject to change as the full scope and benefit of the new system is brought into view.

4. Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

- 4.1 The forecast under spend for the OPCC reported to both the October and December 2013 meeting of the Panel of £198k on the budget of £1.15m.
- 4.2 The provisional outturn shows an under spend of £198.5k, which is analysed below.

Table 1: OPCC Expenditure compared with 2013/14 Budget

| Budget Heading | Forecast Budget £'000 | Actual Expenditure £'000 | Variance £'000 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Staff Pay | 739 | 646 | -93 |
| Conference expenses | 3.5 | 3.5 | 0 |
| Premises | 2.5 | 7 | 4.5 |
| Travelling | 16 | 15 | -1 |
| Supplies & Services | 188 | 107 | -81 |
| Audit fees | 201 | 173 | -28 |
| Total expenditure | 1,150 | 951.5 | -198.5 |

- 4.3 In addition to the OPCC the PCC directly owns the budgets for the Council Tax Sharing Agreement with billing authorities and also the budget for a range of community safety grants.
- 4.4 The 2013/14 cost of the Council Tax Sharing Agreement amounted to £257k which enabled losses to be minimised on the collection fund due to changes in the funding of council tax benefit. The cost also contributed to the introduction of 'technical changes', such as the removal of certain council tax discounts, thereby also increasing the amount of council tax collected. This Agreement is currently under review by the PCC.

5. Community Safety Grants

- 5.1 The PCC's allocation of grants is subject to a separate report, see Annex to this report.

6. Innovation Fund

- 6.1 The Government established a national Police Innovation Fund of £50m per year from 2013/14. This was designed to support collaborative initiatives that enable more efficient, effective and modern policing for example through improved ICT and digital working.
- 6.2 In addition, there was a Precursor fund of £20m available for 2013/14. In conjunction with other parties the PCC has submitting five bids for this fund and for the on-going funds available. A response from the Government is currently awaited.

7. 2013/14 Capital Outturn

- 7.1 The 2013/14 capital estimates approved in February 2013 included a forecast of **£8,385k** capital expenditure in the financial year. During the year, as an assessment of the condition of the estate progressed it became clear that a fundamental review was required. The estates review is in progress with the results being available this autumn. A similar review of IT investment is also being undertaken. Capital investment during 2013/14 was therefore confined to essential works only pending the outcome of these reviews.
- 7.2 In addition, there was underspending on IT due to the slippage in the Athena project and also in the procurement of some replacement vehicles. As a result, amendments to the capital programme and changes to individual project's payments profile led to a net downward movement in the 2013/14 payments forecast. The final forecast for 2013/14 was **£5,830k**.
- 7.3 The provisional outturn position is **£5,776k**, which is an underspend of **£54k** (0.9%) compared to the latest forecast and an underspend of **£2,609k** (31%) compared to the original forecast.

Table 2: Capital Expenditure 2013/14

| | Original Expenditure Forecast £'000 | Final Expenditure Forecast £'000 | Provisional Outturn £'000 | Variance | |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------|----------|-------|
| | | | | £'000 | % |
| Projects starting in 2012/13 or earlier years | 3,485 | 1,552 | 1,500 | (52) | (3.3) |
| | 4,900 | 4,278 | 4,276 | (2) | (0.0) |

| | | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| 2013/14 Projects | | | | |
| Total | 8,385 | 5,830 | 5,776 | (54) (0.9) |

- 7.4 A summary of capital outturn by project type is set out in the Table 3 below. This highlights the significant reduced spending on capitalised property expenditure

Table 3: Comparison between the provisional 2013/14 outturn

| Capital Projects | Original Expenditure Forecast £'000 | Provisional 2013/14 Outturn £'000 | Variance (underspend) £'000 |
|------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Automatic Number Plate Recognition | 307 | 30 | (277) |
| IT Projects | 3,697 | 3,230 | (467) |
| Property | 1,208 | 187 | (1,021) |
| Transport | 2,961 | 2,111 | (850) |
| Other | 212 | 218 | 6 |
| Total | 8,385 | 5,776 | (2,609) |

- 7.5 Capital expenditure is largely financed from the capital resources of government grant and capital receipts. Table 4 sets out the resources that were available in 2013/14 and their provisional application to finance capital expenditure in the year.

Table 4: Provisional Capital Funding for 2013/14

| Source of funds | Opening balance of funds at 1 April 2013 £'000 | Plus income in 2013/14 £'000 | Less financing of capital payments in 2013/14 £'000 | Closing balance at 31 March 2014 £'000 |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Govt grant | 7,885 | 2,941 | (5,669) | 5,157 |
| Capital receipts | 7,150 | 224 | (88) | 7,286 |
| National Police Air Service | 248 | 165 | | 413 |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|---------|--------|
| capital credit for helicopter | | | | |
| Revenue contributions | 13 | 24 | (19) | 18 |
| Total | 15,296 | 3,354 | (5,776) | 12,874 |

7.6 Table 4 includes capital receipt income at £224k, which is just less than the estimate of £242k shown in the budget report to this Panel in January. To date for 2014/15 capital receipts of £250k have been received as a contribution to the forecast of £3.7m. The capital disposals plan is being closely monitored.

7.7 Provisional position provides for capital resources totalling **£12.874m** being carried into 2014/15. The extent to which this resource, supplemented by additional capital grants and capital receipts in 2014/15 and the medium term meets required capital investment, given the outcome current estates review and IT review, will be brought back to a future meeting of this Panel.

8. Reserves

8.1 The balance on the General Reserve at the end of 2012/13 was **£19.1m** with a planned withdrawal of £2.7m during 2013/14. The underspend of £4.9m will also be transferred to the General Reserve shown in Appendix B. The provisional General Reserve balance as at 31st March 2014 will be £21.3m reducing to £15.7m by 31 March 2017. There is no planned withdrawal from the General Reserve for 2014/15. The General Reserve is equivalent to 8% of budgeted net expenditure for 2014/15.

8.2 The level of forecast general reserves, at £19.1m, is used to provide essential working capital in order to avoid expensive short term borrowing and also to provide a contingency for unexpected operational demands. This level is currently under review with a view to ensuring sound liquidity whilst avoiding maintaining funds that would be better employed in helping to meet savings targets.

8.3 Moreover, the reserves have been building up as a result of current under spending and this will enable the impact of financial pressures to be mitigated moving forward.

9. Comment on 2014/15

9.1 Financial monitoring is very active and decisions are being taken at an early stage to ensure delivery of financial plans and any corrective measures are taken at an early stage.

9.2 New financial monitoring mechanisms are being introduced early during the current financial year to ensure that spending plans are delivered. The mechanisms take advantage of the investment made in new financial systems which facilitate much more agile financial monitoring.

- 9.3 A strategic capital board has been established to enable the PCC to take capital investment decisions that best meet the requirements of the service. This is particularly important whilst pending the outcome of the estates and IT reviews.
- 9.4 The regular monthly financial scrutiny of the Police budget has been revamped to include a programme of subjects that will be scrutinised in addition to the regular diet of financial monitoring at both strategic and operational level.
- 9.5 A Finance Committee has been formed and will be attended by advisors with a brief to ensure sound strategic financial planning and delivery.
- 9.6 As the first financial monitoring of 2014/15 is in progress the above mechanisms and groups will have met by the end of June, the first quarter. All of the above work will feed into and influence that of the EVOLVE team who are vested with the task of delivering required 2014/15 saving of £11.1m.

APPENDIX A

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR ESSEX 2013/14 Provisional Outturn

| | <i>Original Budget</i> | <i>Current Year Virements</i> | <i>Current Budget</i> | <i>Actuals to Date</i> | <i>Actual Variance Over / (under) Spend</i> |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Employees | | | | | |
| Police Pay and Allowances | 173,523 | (5,239) | 168,284 | 166,981 | (1,303) |
| Operational Performance Budget | 476 | 20 | 496 | 403 | (94) |
| Police Officer Overtime / TDA | 2,979 | 1,708 | 4,687 | 5,146 | 459 |
| Police Officer Bank Holiday Overtime | 1,587 | 6 | 1,593 | 1,734 | 140 |
| Police Staff Pay and Allowances | 58,919 | 2,460 | 61,379 | 60,318 | (1,061) |
| PCSO Pay | 10,079 | (106) | 9,973 | 8,511 | (1,462) |
| Police Staff and PCSO Overtime | 1,016 | 250 | 1,266 | 1,272 | 5 |
| Police Staff Agency | 208 | 123 | 331 | 522 | 192 |
| Pensions (Ill Health / Medical) | 4,029 | (0) | 4,029 | 4,068 | 39 |
| Training | 838 | 57 | 895 | 969 | 74 |
| Other Employee Expenses | 793 | (7) | 786 | 682 | (104) |
| Premises | 9,591 | 1,077 | 10,668 | 10,483 | (185) |
| Transport | 7,913 | (757) | 7,156 | 6,196 | (961) |
| Supplies and Services | 21,670 | (551) | 21,119 | 19,810 | (1,309) |
| Agency Services | 3,659 | 4,196 | 7,855 | 7,633 | (221) |
| Gross Operating Expenditure | 297,280 | 3,237 | 300,517 | 294,727 | (5,790) |
| Income | (23,261) | (6,180) | (29,441) | (30,315) | (874) |
| Net Cost of Services | 274,019 | (2,943) | 271,076 | 264,412 | (6,664) |
| Interest Receivable / Payable | (294) | (0) | (294) | (187) | 107 |
| Net loss/(surplus) on the disposal of fixed assets | 32 | 0 | 32 | 20 | (12) |
| Net Operating Expenditure | 273,757 | (2,943) | 270,814 | 264,245 | (6,569) |
| Capital & Other Adjustments | 521 | 0 | 521 | 521 | 0 |
| Net contributions to earmarked reserves | | | | | |
| Budget carry forwards | 0 | (493) | (493) | 1,087 | 1,580 |
| Other earmarked reserves | 0 | 3,436 | 3,436 | 3,539 | 103 |
| Net Expenditure | 274,278 | (0) | 274,278 | 269,392 | (4,886) |
| Contribution to/(from) General Balance | (2,705) | 43 | (2,662) | 2,224 | 4,886 |
| BUDGET REQUIREMENT | 271,573 | 43 | 271,616 | 271,616 | 0 |

APPENDIX B

Current & Forecast Reserves

| | Actual @ 31/3/13 (£m) | 2013/14 Forecast Movements @ 31/3/14 (£m) | 2014/15 Forecast Movements @ 31/3/15 (£m) | 2015/16 Forecast Movements @ 31/3/16 (£m) | 2016/17 Forecast Movements @ 31/3/17 (£m) |
|--|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Specific Revenue Reserves | | | | | |
| Leased Property Dilapidations Reserve Original | 0.2 | - | 0.2 | - | - |
| Leased Property Dilapidation & Maintenance Reserve | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.5 | - | - |
| Estates Plan | - | 2.3 | 2.3 | - | - |
| Support Services Project Team | 0.3 | (0.2) | 0.1 | - | - |
| Athena | - | 1.7 | 1.7 | - | - |
| POCA | 0.6 | - | 0.6 | (0.3) | - |
| Specific Revenue Reserves | 1.5 | 3.9 | 5.4 | (0.3) | - |
| Carry Forwards Reserve | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.9 | - | - |
| General Reserve | 19.1 | 2.2 | 21.3 | (1.5) | (4.1) |
| GR as % of net revenue expenditure | 7.2% | 7.8% | 8.0% | 7.6% | 6.0% |
| Total Revenue Reserves | 21.7 | 6.9 | 28.6 | (1.8) | (4.1) |
| Specific Capital Reserves | | | | | |
| Usable Capital Receipts | 7.4 | 0.3 | 7.7 | (3.9) | (2.9) |
| Unapplied grants & other contributions | 7.1 | (2.9) | 4.2 | (1.9) | (1.2) |
| Long term liabilities | | | | | |
| Capital Grants - receipts in advance | 0.8 | 0.2 | 1.0 | - | - |
| Total Capital Reserves | 15.3 | (2.4) | 12.9 | (5.8) | (4.1) |
| Usable Provisions | | | | | |
| Insurance (for known outstanding claims) | 1.2 | (0.7) | 0.5 | (0.8) | (0.8) |
| Restructuring (for known redundancies @ 31.03) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Usable Provisions | 1.2 | (0.7) | 0.5 | (0.8) | (0.8) |
| Grand Total | 38.2 | 3.8 | 42.0 | (8.4) | (9.0) |
| Internal Borrowing on past capital projects | (9.6) | 0.5 | (9.1) | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Reserves Financed by Cash | 28.6 | 4.3 | 32.9 | (7.4) | (8.0) |
| | | | 18.4 | 11.0 | 3.0 |

AGENDA ITEM 9b ANNEX

Finance Update

Progress on allocating Community Safety Grants 2014/15

Report by the Treasurer of the PCC to the Panel

Enquiries to;

Charles Garbett, Treasurer, 01245 291612 charles.garbett@essex.pnn.gov.uk, or

Greg Myddelton AD for Commissioning 01245 291644

greg.myddelton@essex.pnn.police.uk

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report is intended to provide an update to the Panel on progress of the PCC in allocating community safety funding for the year to date as at end May 2014. It will also provide an overview of the grants position from the previous financial year

2. 2014/15 PCC budget and allocation of Community Safety Grants

- 2.1 In total £3.63m of grant money is available to the PCC to allocate during 2014/15.
- 2.2 The detail of spending allocated to date by the PCC is shown in Appendix 1. A total of £192k of grant monies have been spent and a further £2.281m has been agreed in principle. This amounts to over 68% of grant monies 'allocated' by the end May 2014, which is just 2 months into the financial year.
- 2.3 There was a carry-forward of part of the 2013-14 budget into this financial year. This was partly due to the timing of some funding allocations, which the OPCC was unable to process in 2013-14 but which are payable in the current financial year.
- 2.4 Referring to each separate fund within the total sum of grant monies available:

Community Safety Fund

- 2.5 The Community Safety Fund of £2.125m has been supplemented by £226k from 2012-13 carry forward monies by the PCC to a total amount of £2.351m to support the allocation of community safety grants during 2014/15. To date £1.298m has been allocated by the PCC largely to CSP's, drug and alcohol teams and the youth offending service. This represents a commitment by the PCC to continue to support these local organisations despite increasing financial pressures.

Whole Essex Community Budgets

- 2.6 The PCC continues his support for the Public Service Reform Unit (formerly Whole Essex Community Budget). The programmes for reducing re-offending, strengthening communities, domestic abuse (including the multi-agency safeguarding hub) are expected to make a strong and measurable contribution to the delivery of the Police & Crime Plan.
- 2.7 The joint commissioning of a Countywide IDVA service is an example of the legacy of the WECB project designed to encourage public sector service re-design and co-ordination of commissioning activity and alignment of funding streams.

Force Grants to the PCC

- 2.8 The PCC has continued to pass funding, previously met from the Force budget, to organisations such as Youth Offending Services and Safeguarding Boards. The value of this funding for 2014-15 is £570.2k. The PCC continues to monitor the services being provided in exchange for the contributions being made in order to ensure value for money.

New Initiative Fund

- 2.9 A summary of the funding allocated via the New Initiatives Fund in 2013-14 is shown in Appendix 2 below. Given the success of this fund in 2013-14 the PCC decided to extend the funding for 2014-15, albeit at a reduced scale of £300k.
- 2.10 The NIF continues to attract a large number of bids from a wide range of organisations for projects that are aimed at addressing all of the areas of focus within the Police & Crime Plan.
- 2.11 The CSP's and the wider Essex partnership have played a key role in the decision making process. This is highly valued and something that the PCC views as critical to the success of the NIF.

Victims' Services

- 2.12 The Minister of State for Policing, Criminal Justice and Victims has provided grant funding totaling £640k for capacity and capability funding to inform the commissioning of services for victims of crime (including restorative justice services) starting October 2014.
- 2.13 These grant monies are intended to be spent within the financial year 2014-15 to enable the PCC to:
- i) Build the capacity and capability of potential providers of services for victims (including potential providers of restorative justice services) from the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector.
 - ii) Commission restorative justice services if capacity and capability are sufficient in relation to these services.
 - iii) Prepare for local commissioning.
- 2.14 To date £243.7m (38%) has been allocated.

APPENDIX 1

Progress made to date in the allocation of 2014/15 grant monies

| Fund | Budget £'000 | Recipients | Allocation £'000 |
|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| Community Safety Fund Carry forward from 13/14 | 2,125 226 | Payments made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mind Conference June 2014 Essex Community Foundation Essex Thurrock Sub-total – payments made Subsequent payments/(agreed in principle): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basildon Braintree Brentwood Castle Point Chelmsford Colchester Epping Forest Harlow Maldon Rochford Southend Tendring Thurrock Uttlesford Victim Support Essex Drug & Alcohol Team Essex Drug & Alcohol Team Positive Futures Youth Engagement Programme Essex Youth Offending Programme Southend Youth Offending Service Thurrock YOS Southend Drug & Alcohol Team Thurrock YOS Chelsea Football Club | 4 150 12.9 10 176.9 31 16 10 13 16 16 21.8 16 16 13 50.4 16.5 58 16 222.8 268.9 130.9 27.1 84.7 18.6 18.9 54.3 48.9 33.4 |

| | | | |
|---|--------------|--|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foundation • MARAC secretariat • Crimestoppers • Essex YOS • Essex Safeguarding Children Board • Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children's Board • Essex Vulnerable Adults Protection Committee • Essex DA Co-ordinator • Thurrock Adult Protection Committee • Southend Adult Protection Committee • Neighbourhood Watch • Eastern Manager's cost (Crimestoppers) • NHS England (SARC) | 75 5 168.5 66.4 15 58.5 10 7.9 10 10.5 5 88 1738 |
| | | Sub total | 436.1 |
| | | Fund remaining | 436.1 |
| Community safety total | 2,351 | | 2,351 |
| Whole Essex Community Budget | 290 | Subsequent payments/agreed in principle: i) Reducing re-offending ii) Strengthening Communities iii) Domestic Abuse iv) Strategic Resource Pool | 290 48 69 156 17 |
| Whole Essex Community Budget total | 290 | | 290 |
| New Initiative Fund | 349 | Subsequent payments/agreed in principle: i) Princes Trust ii) Autism Anglia Fund remaining | 24.2 0.3 324.3 |
| New Initiative Fund total | 349 | | 349 |
| Victims Budget 14/15 | 640.1 | Payments made: i) Domestic Abuse External Partners ii) Commissioning Support iii) DA Co-ordinator post for | 1.2 4.6 8 |

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| | | 14/15 | |
| | | iv) Safer Places | 1.4 |
| | | Sub-total – payments made | 15.4 |
| | | Subsequent payments/agreed in principle: | |
| | | i) Victims Perspective | 30 |
| | | ii) Victims Conference | 1 |
| | | iii) Restorative Solutions | 19.5 |
| | | iv) Commissioning Support | 18.3 |
| | | v) Restorative Solutions | 12.5 |
| | | vi) Victims Pathfinder Projects | 120 |
| | | vii) MARAC secretariat | 27 |
| | | Sub-total – payments agreed | 228.3 |
| | | Fund remaining | 396.4 |
| Victims Total | 640.1 | | 640.1 |
| Grand Total | 3,630 | | 3,630 |

Grants – 2013/14

| Cost Elements (Cost Centres) | Current Budget (£) | Actual (£) | Actual Variance (£) |
|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Community Safety Fund | 1,462,300 | 1,236,382 | -225,919 |
| WECEB | 290,000 | 272,760 | -17,240 |
| NIF | 500,000 | 451,059 | -48,941 |
| Force Contribution | 663,348 | 658,645 | -4,703 |
| Total | 2,915,648 | 2,618,846 | -296,802 |

New Initiative Fund - Grants Awarded 2013-14

Appendix 2

| Project | Concept | Amount |
|--|--|---------------|
| Youth Offending | | |
| Essex Youthbuild (construction & maintenance C&G) | To provide a short 5 week taster maintenance course to young offenders or those at risk of offending | 10,906 |
| EB&GC boxing diversion - Thaxted & Burnham | Deliver 2 diversionary boxing projects aimed at 11-19 year olds who are NEET (not in employment, education or training) or at high risk of becoming NEET | 8,550 |
| Family Solutions - West Essex ASB bootcamp | Pilot Family Boot Camp Day at Lamburne End where ASB is a major factor. Parents and children involved in workshops to those families currently in the Family Solutions Service | 4,000 |
| Only Cowards Carry | Training programme on weapons awareness and the consequences targeted at primary, secondary schools & young adults via presentations, videos and printed literature | 5,000 |
| Wakering Young People's ASB Community Project | Activities for young people during school holidays | 10,000 |
| Witham Boys Brigade sports engagement | Pilot to run a sports engagement programme for young people. Build self-confidence, engagement and create routes into education | 6,044 |
| Achieving Through Football (training sessions) | To provide football training sessions for ex-offenders and young offenders who have been through the IOM section at Southend Probation Services, in addition to those referred from the Homeless resource Action Project. | 5,400 |
| Basildon Borough Council - art project | 1 year pilot project involving performing art engaging with young people who are in danger of offending or committing ASB, steering them away from crime. | 12,600 |
| Eastside Youth Training Programme | Sports and physical activity project aimed at enabling young people to develop healthy lifestyles | 8,897 |
| EB&GC boxing diversion - Braintree & Grays | Deliver 2 diversionary boxing projects aimed at 11-19 year olds who are NEET (not in employment, education or training) or at high risk of becoming NEET | 8,550 |
| Jaywick drop-in centre (Essex Offender Services) | Coffee morning/Drop in centre where attendees (particularly offenders & ex-offenders) feel comfortable and able to engage with support staff | 13,000 |
| Total | | 92,947 |
| Alcohol & Drugs | | |
| Risk Avert | RiskAvert Programme for young vulnerable people from complex families | 18,040 |
| 57 West volunteer trainer | Fund a community worker to train volunteers, co-ordinate weekly activities e.g. drop in for young people, offer educational awareness of drug/alcohol | 10,895 |
| Safer Chelmsford Partnership night time economy research | A 3 month research project that will consider the impact of Chelmsford's night time economy on the emergency services, with the evidence used to inform the decision around the requirement of an SOS bus, or equivalent. | 5,000 |
| Reduce the Strength (Chelmsford) | The partnership will introduce new measures to combat alcohol related disorder. The aim is to encourage licensees of off licences to voluntarily remove all super strength lager, beer and cider from sale and also voluntarily change the terms of their licence to include a condition not to sell such items. | 13,680 |

| | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| Reduce the strength (Colchester) | Restrict sale of cheap, high-strength alcohol in City Centres which will reduce the number of alcohol related offences (often violent offences) and incidents of anti-social behaviour | 3,610 |
| Open Road - Argos project | This project offers service users that have been through the criminal justice system on one or several occasions and have received a full and comprehensive recovery treatment programme from Open Road regarding their drug and alcohol use an opportunity to develop their skills, training and employment prospects. | 16,800 |
| Total | | 68,025 |
| Crime Prevention | | |
| Essex Community Fund Police Property Act | Funding for projects jointly funded by the Police Property Act (managed by Essex Community Foundation) | 870 |
| Chalkwell Lifeguards | Introduce a cycle response team to Chalkwell Lifeguards, which will provide patrols, safety cover, rescue and first aid to those who require it along the beach front based from Chalkwell. | 1,653 |
| Maldon CSP - ASB diversionary activity | Project targeted for 60 young people for 12 weeks. Diversionary activities to address ASB | 5,640 |
| Operation Home Safe | Operation 'Home Safe' pilot initiative targeting estate agents/burglary dwelling hot spot areas. Circulate Home Safe packs to estate agent to give out to new home owners on completion of sale | 1,485 |
| Safer Homes Safer Lives befriending service | Befriending Service-Safer Homes, Safer Lives. Up skill existing volunteers, funding for additional training | 6,653 |
| Basildon ASB seminars | Organise 3x1 day seminars for 90 community safety practitioners outlining new tools/powers for ASB | 2,985 |
| Saffron Walden Street Pastors | Establish a Street Pastor scheme in Saffron Walden | 1,250 |
| Support 4 Sight | Project launch the 'sighted guiding & Road Safety for Visually Impaired People', which includes mobility instruction and road safety training. | 5,040 |
| Ugly Mugs | Training for officers in addressing the sex worker industry | 3,000 |
| Redeeming Our Communities (ROC) | Conversation events targeting ASB and crime | 1,000 |
| Rural crime carrier-bag security advice handouts | Provide 2,000 carrier bags as hand outs with security advice at the Rural Crime Awareness Day. | 540 |
| CCTV Units x 5 - (capital) | Loaned CCTV cameras will be used to gather evidence in support of allegations of Anti-Social Behaviour, deterring bogus callers, and to reassure potential victims | 1,053 |
| Operation Homeguard | Seek the use of volunteers to support engagement, distribute crime prevention information and be a highly visible deterrent | 1,250 |
| Knifecrimes.org (Westley's Weapons Awareness) | Fund the delivery of 'Westley's weapons awareness' course | 5,000 |
| Crime Stoppers targetted campaigns | Four targeted & bespoke campaign run in consultation with Essex Police. Over the next 12 months, increase awareness, tailored messages, distribute posters. | 25,000 |
| Rural Specials | A dedicated rural team to support what already is in place by regular officers. | 40,000 |
| Community Messaging System | This system provides a internet based platform to significantly improve the dynamic flow of information between police, partners and the communities of Essex. | 20,000 |

| | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| Firebreak | Provision of Firebreak course | 10,000 |
| Total | | 132,419 |
| Victims | | |
| Autism Anglia | To provide awareness-raising literature to educate Essex Police officers and staff when dealing with victims or alleged perpetrators of crime with Autism | 380 |
| SAVS 'Safe as Houses' project | 10 month pilot programme 'Safe as Houses' home visits targeting elderly vulnerable residents following a series of incidents. Achieve safer neighbourhood | 18,685 |
| Total | | 19,065 |
| Domestic Abuse | | |
| Braintree DC 'Cut it out' campaign | 'Pilot Domestic Abuse 'Cut it Out' campaign in hairdressers/beauty salons for female victims and their children. Deliver a series of training events plus posters, information cards and contact details | 3,290 |
| Daisy Project | Experienced practitioner to provide training and build awareness - link with Daisy Maternity and Daisy A&E. Training to clinical staff, support & advice to midwives and take referrals. Provide training to A&E clinicians to increase awareness and refer to the Daisy Practitioner who can risk assess an data input. | 50,000 |
| Colchester & Tendring Women's Refuge IDVA | To place an IDVA trained domestic violence support worker in Chelmsford HQ DA Hub (MASH). | 26,480 |
| Basildon's Women's Aid support worker | Increase qualified DA Support Worker in the Hub, for those at high risk & provide support to victims at risk. | 27,620 |
| Victims Support IDVA | Provide a specialist service for people who have been victims of sexual violence | 15,000 |
| Victims Support hospital IDVA | Provide a specialist early intervention, support and advocacy service for victims of domestic abuse in a recognised hot spot - Basildon. | 12,690 |
| Total | | 135,080 |
| Road safety | | |
| Bike-ability course (ECC) | Pilot scheme to increase the level of enforcement - cycling on pavements/shopping centers 'Bikeability course. | 5,000 |
| Let's Look Out campaign (ECC) | Let's Look Out campaign. Raise awareness for motorists/cyclists. | 3,000 |
| Total | | 8,000 |
| Reducing reoffending | | |
| Friends of Abandoned Dogs | To provide volunteering opportunities to ex-offenders not ready for mainstream volunteering. | 2,300 |
| Firebreak - Probation Services | To offer a 5 day empower intervention course targeted at 18 – 24 year olds who have been referred by the Probation Service | 5,000 |
| Firebreak - Transport/Promotional DVD | To commission a promotional DVD to be used by Firebreak and the PCC | 1,000 |
| Total | | 8,300 |
| Grand Total | | 463,836 |

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Essex Police and Crime Panel | EPCP/034/14 |
| Date: 19 June 2014 | |

Part-Night Lighting

Report by the Secretary to the Panel

Enquiries to: Colin Ismay: 01245 430396 colin.ismay@essex.gov.uk

Purpose of report and background

This report follows on from a briefing on part-night lighting presented to the Panel last December. The focus of any discussion on this item must be on the impact of part-night lighting on policing and crime and not on the original decision to implement part-night lighting as this is a matter for Essex County Council. Attached by way of background is a briefing paper prepared by the County Council.

Also attached is a briefing paper from Essex Police which provides information concerning progress in implementing the scheme, comparative police data pre and post implementation and an overview of the national LANTERNS Project.

Part Night Lighting

Briefing Paper for the Police Crime Panel

— Produced by: Ben Sutherland

Date: 13/05/14

Version: 1.2

Content

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Approval | 3 |
| 1 Background | 4 |
| 2 Evidence Base | |
| 2.1 The National Picture | 5 |
| 2.2 Road Safety | 5 |
| 2.3 Crime | 6 |
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| 3 Police Consultation and involvement | 9 |
| 4 A13 / A127 Trial and Evaluation | 10 |

Approval

| Name of Approver | Role | Date approved |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Paul Bird | Project Sponsor | 25/11/2013 |
| Keith Tovee | Business Lead | 22/11/2013 |

Version control

| Date | Version No. | Author | Summary of changes |
|------------|-------------|----------------|---|
| 13/05/2014 | 1.3 | Keith Tovee | Various amendments |
| 13/05/14 | 1.1 | Ben Sutherland | Updates made to content, new section (Police requests for All Night Lighting) |
| 26/11/13 | 1.0 | Ben Sutherland | Final Draft |

Background

Project Summary and Policy Context

A Vision for Essex 2013-17 sets out the Council's aims of spending taxpayers' money wisely and respecting the Essex environment. The proposal to introduce part night lighting will assist with the delivery of these aims.

It is anticipated that energy costs are going to rise over the coming years putting increased pressure on the Local Authority's revenue budget. Estimates provided by our previous supplier of energy show average predicted year on year increase of 6% between 2010 and 2015. There are pressures on Essex County Council to reduce costs and ensure good environmental management. One of the Council's major areas of energy expenditure is street lighting and therefore better management of this area will reduce cost as well as energy consumption.

In 2007 the Council implemented a trial by which street lights in the Maldon and Uttlesford districts were switched off between the hours of midnight and 5am. The pilot demonstrated that there was no significant change in crime statistics or road collisions as a result of changes. In June 2011 the Cabinet agreed to purchase a system for the central management of all streetlights in Essex based on 'invest to save' principles. The Business Case highlighted that the following benefits would result from the implementation of a Central Management System ('CMS') and part night Lighting:

Financial savings: revenue savings of around £1m / year as a result of reduced energy consumption.

Environmental Benefits: Significant carbon and light pollution or 'sky glow' reductions across Essex. If the target of switching 70% of street lights to part night lighting is achieved it will reduce CO2 emissions by 8,000 tonnes per year

Operational Benefits: The installation of CMS would provide notification of streetlight failure enabling a responsive maintenance service across Essex, and increased equipment lifespan. In addition the introduction of CMS will allow street lights to come on / off with greater accuracy in relation to natural light levels and lead to a more intelligent overall management of streetlights. These operational improvements will serve to improve the public perception of street lighting maintenance as a result.

The CMS is currently being installed on all lighting columns in Essex. Installation is complete on around 98% of columns across (as of 01/05/2014).

Essex County Council has made a commitment to maintain all night lighting for street lights that meet its exception criteria. These are detailed in Appendix 1.

1 Evidence Base

2.1 The National Picture

Part night lighting as a concept is not new, for example it has operated in West Sussex since the energy crisis of the 1970s.

More recently a number of other local authorities have adopted part night lighting. Examples include Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Nottinghamshire, Dorset, and Bath and North East Somerset. In addition a number of local authorities are planning the introduction of part night lighting including Kent and Warwickshire.

Some of the negative experiences relating to switching off lights / part night lighting are due to the way in which roll out has been planned, managed, and the extent of the proposals. For example Milton Keynes Borough Council introduced a policy of switching off a number of street lights entirely. They switched them back on following public pressure and concern as a result of two high profile accidents. Switching lights off entirely increases savings but it means that, in winter, areas are unlit during the evening rush hour. This would be more likely to lead to an increase in accidents than the proposal in Essex where all lights will remain on other than between midnight and 5am.

2.2 Road Safety

There are few accidents between midnight and 5am and the exception criteria require lights to be lit all night where this is a recommendation of road safety engineers or where lights were originally installed as an accident prevention measure. This will minimise the risk of the lack of lighting causing accidents.

The experience in Maldon and Uttlesford is that the overall number of accidents continues to reduce overall in line with trends across Essex. The table below compares accident numbers in three districts, using Braintree as a control. It will be seen that the long term reduction in accident numbers since 2005 (before part night lighting was introduced) is very similar between the three districts, notwithstanding that Braintree had retained all night lighting during the period described.

| District | Fall in accidents between 2005-7 | Fall in accidents between 2005-12 |
|------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Braintree | 13% | 37% |
| Maldon | 28% | 36% |
| Uttlesford | 13% | 38% |

Source- Essex County Council Road Accident Database.

Approximately 5% of all reported accidents occur between midnight and 5am which represents 21% of the day. There is no significant impact on overall number of accidents in Maldon and Uttlesford. The following table records all accidents reported in the district in any location. It should be noted that the overall number of accidents is low and the small sample size means that changes may not be statistically significant.

| | Percentage of road accidents occurring between midnight and 5am | |
|-------------|--|-------------------|
| Year | Maldon | Uttlesford |
| 2005 | 5% | 5% |
| 2006 | 7% | 5% |
| 2007 | 2% | 7% |
| 2008 | 7% | 7% |
| 2009 | 4% | 8% |
| 2010 | 4% | 7% |
| 2011 | 5% | 6% |
| 2012 | 4% | 4% |

Source- Essex County Council Road Accident Database.

Between 2005-12 only 5 accidents in Maldon and 1 in Uttlesford were recorded as having taken place between the hours of midnight and 5am in a location where streetlights were provided but were not lit at the time. None of these accidents were attributed to part night lighting.

2.3 Crime

An important consideration in the decision on implementation of part night lighting is the impact on crime. Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the Council is under a legal duty to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.

This is not a duty to reduce crime but a duty to take the need into account when making decisions.

The experience in Maldon and Uttlesford Districts is that the introduction of part night street lighting has not had any impact on crime. In fact crime in both areas has fallen significantly in both districts since 2005 (the year before part night lighting was introduced), in a similar way to falls in other districts. If part night lighting was responsible for an increase in crime then one would expect to see overall crime trends to be higher in districts which introduced part night lighting.

The table below shows that the largest fall in crime between 2005-6 and 2008-9 was recorded in Maldon district which experienced a slightly larger fall than Braintree, where the streetlights remained on all night. Both Braintree and Maldon experienced a higher fall in crime than the overall East of England region (17%) whereas in Uttlesford the fall in crime during this period was lower, at 5%. The lower reduction in Uttlesford seems to be a general picture where crime levels have not fallen as much as elsewhere. However, if the introduction of part night lighting was to be a contributory factor, it would be expected that crime levels in Maldon would have fallen by less than in the East of England. In fact crime

levels in Maldon fell more than in Braintree and more than in the East of England. This seems to suggest that part night lighting is not a factor which tends to increase the level of crime.

| Change in levels of notifiable offences between 2005-6 and 2008-9 (Source: Office of National Statistics) | |
|---|------|
| Maldon | -20% |
| Uttlesford | -5% |
| Braintree | -19% |
| East of England | -17% |

Since the Council's early pilot, Hertfordshire and Suffolk have also introduced part night street lighting. They have not experienced any increase in crime as a result. A report considered by the Scrutiny Committee of the Hertfordshire Police Authority in November 2011 concluded 'there is no discernible evidence that crime has increased by the strategy to reduce street lighting between midnight and 6am.' This study compared the number of offences experienced in areas where part night lighting had been introduced with the same period a year previously. The full report is provided as Appendix 2.

There is no study we have been able to find which shows any link between part night lighting and an increase in crime. Offending levels fluctuate for a large number of reasons, but no difference can be identified between crime trends in areas with part night lighting and areas with full night lighting, and there is no noticeable change in offending levels. If any change in crime levels in a particular area is identified then the County Council's adopted exception criteria make it clear that the Council will consider any requests made by Essex Police to switch particular lights back to all night lighting. It is clear that the fall in crime in Uttlesford is lower than in other districts but if that was solely as a result of the introduction of part night lighting then similar issues would be expected to have arisen in Maldon District and in other areas where part night lighting has been introduced. The fall in crime in Maldon exceeds that in Braintree District and in the East of England as a whole.

2.4 Fear of Crime

The proposals could impact on people's fear of crime. People may fear that they are at an increased risk of crime although, as illustrated above, there is no evidence that there is an increased risk. This is important because fear of crime can influence people's behaviour – for example by deterring them from going out after dark. People may also feel less safe at home.

Since 2006 the Council has undertaken regular surveys of public attitudes. The survey questions were originally prescribed by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Council was required to carry out a postal survey of a balanced sample of residents (although each resident is randomly selected). One of the questions asked in the survey asks people if they feel safe in their own area outside after dark. Although the survey is no longer mandatory, the Council has continued to undertake it in the same format.

| Area | Residents who feel safe outside after dark in their own district | % change |
|------|--|----------|
|------|--|----------|

| | % in 2006 | % in 2013 | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Braintree | 55.8% | 60% | +7.6% |
| Maldon | 49.7% | 67.7% | +36% |
| Uttlesford | 62.5% | 74.7% | +19.5% |
| Essex | 46.7% | 58.5% | +25% |

Source: Essex County Council – Annual Tracker Surveys for summer 2006 and spring 2013.

This shows that between 2006 and 2013 Uttlesford and Maldon districts both experienced a significant increase in people who say they feel safe after dark. Unfortunately this survey was not conducted before 2006. The survey undertaken in 2005 did ask about crime but did not ask about fear of crime so unfortunately no data on fear of crime is available.

The statistical information clearly shows that the introduction of part night lighting has had no long term impact on fear of crime. Indeed the increase in the percentage of people feeling safe outside after dark has increased in Maldon and Uttlesford more than in other areas. What the statistical information cannot show is whether or not the introduction of part night lighting had an initial short term impact on fear of crime.

If there was an impact on the fear of crime in 2006 we could expect fewer people to be affected by the introduction of part night lighting. This is because the changes in Maldon and Uttlesford in 2006 were a new policy idea at the time. There is now significantly more experience across the east of England which suggests that the introduction of part night lighting does not have any discernible impact on crime levels which can be communicated to residents in areas where part night lighting is to be introduced.

3 Police consultation and involvement

Maldon and Uttlesford 2007

As part of the Maldon and Uttlesford Part Night Lighting pilot a quarterly Joint Monitoring Group was set up. The group included representatives from the emergency services, District Councils and ECC to look at the effect part night lighting had on crime and road traffic accident statistics using base lined statistics before the start of the pilot.

These monitoring arrangements were seen as a strengthening of the mitigation measures proposed in the risk assessment of the part night lighting pilot executive decision, and used to inform the wider part night lighting roll out proposals.

A copy of the Scrutiny Committee Report produced by the Joint Monitoring Group is included as Appendix 3.

Chelmsford and Braintree 2012

An Essex County Council consultation letter was sent to and received by Chief Constable Jim Barker-McCardle on 24th July 2012. A response was sent on 26th July 2012 by Chief Inspector Tom Simons, on behalf of the Chief Constable, nominating Chief Superintendent Glenn Caton as the point of contact.

Following a telephone conversation with Chief Superintendent Caton on 7th August 2012, contact details were provided for the Borough Commanders in the Braintree District (Chief Inspector Nick Lee) and Chelmsford District (Chief Inspector Steve Ditchburn).

A meeting was held with Chief Inspector Lee on 10th August 2012 and with Chief Inspector Ditchburn on 8th November 2012, where part night lighting maps were provided on CD and issues were discussed.

No concerns were raised in the District of Braintree. In Chelmsford it was requested that the Bunny Walk and Central Park retained on All Night Lighting, both requests were accepted as meeting the exception criteria and have retained All Night Lighting.

Countywide consultation 2013

A letter inviting Essex Police take part in the countywide consultation was e-mailed on 2nd September 2013; this was responded to on 13th September 2013 by Chief Inspector Alan Cook, Staff Officer to Chief Constable, in which no objections were raised to the proposals.

Police requests for All Night Lighting

Since the introduction of part night lighting across all Districts in Essex, Essex County Council has continued to work closely with key partners in relation to part night lighting. A facility has been made available for the police to request a temporary switch over to all

night lighting as appropriate. In 2014 to date five requests have approved and all night lighting provided accordingly. These requests were for areas in Colchester (2), Epping Forest, Tendring and Brentwood.

4 A13 and A127 Trial

Evaluation

The Council has introduced part night lighting on parts of the A127 and is due to implement part night lighting on the A13 on 18/05/2014 (dual carriageways). Lights at major junctions have continued to be lit.

The introduction of part night lighting has not led to an increase in accidents elsewhere in Essex (see 2.2). However, the A127 and A13 are different in character from many other roads in Essex. We sought the advice of the Council's road safety team as to whether this different character gives rise to any concern. The statistics show that since 2008 the accident statistics for these road between midnight and 5am and other than at major junctions was follows:

| | Fatal | Serious | Slight |
|------|-------|---------|--------|
| A13 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| A127 | 2 | 2 | 17 |

The conclusion of the Road Safety team is that there is a low risk that the introduction of part night lighting on these roads (but away from major junctions) will lead to an increase in accidents.

The trial which is to be considered would run for a period of two years, from 9 December 2013 until 30 November 2015. After a period of one year the trial would be reviewed and one of the following options agreed upon:

- Agree to continue to the end of the trial period
- Abandon the trial and switch street lighting on the A13 and A127 back to all night lighting

At the end of the full two years, a further review will be conducted and one of the following options agreed upon:

- To switch street lights on the A13 and A127 to part night lighting on a permanent basis
- Abandon the trial and switch street lighting on the A13 and A127 back to all night lighting

At both review points numbers of collisions along the A13 and A127 will be reviewed against previous accident data for the same roads, views will also be sought from the emergency services.

As in the wider part night lighting roll out, Essex County Council will consider any request made by the Emergency Services to have lights switched back to all night lighting, both during and after the trial duration.

| |
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| |
|--|

Appendix 1:

Exception criteria

This document describes the exception criteria used to establish whether street lights remain as all night lighting. The exception criteria were shared with consultees as part of the consultation process.

It is proposed that lights in locations meeting the following exception criteria will continue to be lit through the night.

- Sites where there are a large number of conflicting traffic movements (eg roundabouts) which are on significant routes (generally those lit by columns greater than 6m high).
- Sites where street lights are installed as a result of accident remedial measures.
- Town Centre areas where there is one or more of the following features:
 - Publicly maintain CCTV
 - High proportion of high security premises (eg banks, jewellers); areas of high crime risk;
 - High concentration of people at night such as transport interchanges, nightclubs etc.
- Main approaches to town centre areas where there is a mix of development between residential and commercial/industrial i.e. not exclusively residential.
- Sites where the police can demonstrate that there is likely to be an increase in crime if the lights are switched off during part of the night (or that there will be a decrease in crime if the lights are switched back on).
- Remote footpaths and alleys linking residential streets.
- Where there is a statutory requirement to provide lighting.

Briefing Paper for the Police & Crime Panel - Part Night Lighting (Update)



**ESSEX
POLICE**

Protecting and serving Essex

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SCMD

Contact: Chief Inspector Tina Noble

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1. Introduction

In November/ December 2013, briefing papers were provided to the Police & Crime Panel by Ben Sutherland (ECC) and Chief Inspector Steve Ditchburn (Essex Police) in relation to the implementation of the Part Night Lighting (PNL) scheme across some of the Essex County Council districts. This briefing paper has been written to provide an update to these previous papers (the papers are shown in Appendix A).

This briefing paper provides information concerning progress in implementing the scheme, comparative police data pre and post implementation and an overview of the national LANTERNS Project.

2. Current Position

2.2 PNL Implementation Programme

PNL has now been implemented in all Essex County Council districts and along the A127. The implementation dates are shown in the table below:

| District | Implementation Date |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Maldon | 01/10/2007 |
| Uttlesford | 01/10/2007 |
| Braintree | 01/09/2013 |
| Chelmsford | 01/09/2013 |
| Colchester | 01/12/2013 |
| A127 | 16/12/2013 |
| Castle Point | 12/01/2014 |
| Epping | 12/01/2014 |
| Rochford | 26/01/2014 |
| Basildon | 23/02/2014 |
| Harlow | 02/03/2014 |
| Tendring | 02/03/2014 |
| Brentwood | 09/03/2014 |

The A13 has not yet moved to PNL.

Clearly, other than in the pilot areas (Maldon and Uttlesford), it should be noted that the scheme is still within its infancy, with the last three districts not having gone "live" until March 2014.

Southend and Thurrock councils are not adopting the PNL scheme.

2.2 Fear of Crime & Increase in Trends

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Essex Police Commanders have been consulted in relation to any operational impact associated with the PNL scheme, and whether they have noticed any associated trends in terms of an increase in crime, ASB or injury road collisions. The outcome was negative in relation to both. Additionally it was commented on that when there is an emergency operational reason to have the lighting switched back on that ECC are accommodating, the floods of 2013 were cited as an example of this co-operation.

It should be noted that the scheme allows for lighting to be switched back on if any of the "exception criteria" (below) are met:

Exception criteria:

Certain locations meeting the exception criteria will continue to be lit through the night, such as:

- Sites where there are a large number of conflicting traffic movements (eg roundabouts) which are on significant routes (generally those lit by columns greater than 6m high)
- Sites where street lights are installed as a result of accident remedial measures
- Town Centre areas where there is one or more of the following features:

Publicly maintained CCTV

High proportion of high security premises (e.g. banks, jewellers)

Areas of high crime risk

High concentration of people at night such as transport interchanges, nightclubs etc.

- Main approaches to town centre areas where there is a mix of development between residential and commercial/industrial (e.g. not exclusively residential)
- Sites where the police can demonstrate that there is likely to be an increase in crime if the lights are switched off during part of the night (or that there will be a decrease in crime if the lights are switched back on)
- Remote footpaths and alleys linking residential streets
- Where there is a statutory requirement to provide lighting.

3 Data

Essex Police data in relation to crime, ASB and injury collisions has been collected and compared pre and post the implementation of the PNL scheme. The data and analysis are shown below.

3.2 Crime Data

Crime data has been gathered in relation to incidents occurring between midnight and 5am for 60 days prior to and after the lights were switched off, and in the instances where the PNL has only recently been introduced and therefore two months' worth of data is not available, data has been gathered for 30 days prior to and after the switch off. A comparison has also been made with the number of crime incidents that were recorded during the same period in the previous 12 months. The data is shown in Appendix A.

The data shows that there has been a 7% reduction in the number of crime incidents recorded in the 30/60 day periods after the implementation of PND compared to the 30/60 day periods before, and

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1% less crime incidents were recorded compared to the same period during the previous year. However, these figures must be considered in the context of a number of other factors including the relatively brief timeframes that the PNL scheme has been operating, the fact that overall numbers of crime incidents being recorded is reducing year on year and other seasonal factors such as weather and school holidays.

A further constraint on the analysis of the data is the fact that we cannot determine whether the crime that occurred between these times was impacted on by the PNL. Essex has seen an increase in domestic abuse but much of this occurs within the home therefore the PNL will have no impact but in analysing crime data in a PNL area a rise could be wrongly attributed to PNL which has a completely different driver.

3.3 ASB Data

ASB data has been gathered in relation to incidents occurring between midnight and 5am for 60 days prior to and after the lights were switched off, and in the instances where the PNL has only recently been introduced and therefore two months' worth of data is not available, data has been gathered for 30 days prior to and after the switch off. A comparison has also been made with the number of ASB incidents that were recorded during the same period in the previous 12 months. The data is shown in Appendix B.

The data shows that there has been a 28% reduction in the number of ASB incidents recorded in the 30/60 day periods after the implementation of PNL compared to the 30/60 day periods before, and 21% less ASB incidents were recorded compared to the same period during the previous year.

However, these figures must be considered in the context of a number of other factors including the relatively brief timeframes that the PNL scheme has been operating, the fact that overall numbers of ASB incidents being recorded is reducing year on year and other seasonal factors such as weather and school holidays. Like crime ASB occurs within the home, i.e. noisy neighbours, and again PNL has no impact on this.

It should also be noted that if comparing ASB data with crime data (above), ASB data is more time specific than crime data; crimes are often be recorded as occurring between "x" and "y" whereas victims of ASB are more likely to know the time at which an incident occurred. It is therefore easier to associate ASB incidents with the periods of time between which street lights have been turned off.

3.4 Injury Collision Data

Injury collision data has been gathered for each of the ECC districts except for Brentwood, which has only recently moved to PNL. This data relates to 24hour periods, not to hours of darkness. The data is shown in Appendix C.

The data which relates to those districts in which the PNL scheme was implemented prior to the autumn of 2012 (Uttlesford, Maldon, Chelmsford and Braintree), shows in the main a decrease in the number of injury collisions when compared with the same period during the previous year.

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The data relating to the PNL schemes which were implemented later, from December 2013 (Colchester, Basildon, Castlepoint, Epping, Rochford, A127), does show an increase in the number of injury collisions when compared with the same period during the previous year. However is very important to note that the comparative data is not representative of what would be expected, as there was a large amount of snowfall in the county during the winter of 2012/13 (snowfall suppresses injury and fatal RTCs as there is a significant decrease in the number of vehicles on the road), and also because of the relatively short time period over which the 2013/14 data has been gathered (these figures are still changing on a daily basis).

Even with accidents that occur within a PNL area at night, data is not captured to understand whether the visibility is a causational factor. By way of example if a drink driver crashes it is more likely that his/her impairment through alcohol is the causational factor rather than the PNL.

4 LANTERNS Project

The Local Authority Collaborators' National Evaluation of Reduced Night-time Street Lighting Project (LANTERNS) launched in April 2013, is described as a "research collaboration" between local authorities in England and Wales and researchers at the University of London (UCL). It aims to quantify any effects of changes to street lighting on road traffic crashes and crimes. 69 local authorities are currently taking part (including Essex).

The aims and objectives are set out below:

Aims:

By working together in collaboration with all local authorities of England & Wales, the LANTERNS project aims to answer reliably the important question of whether reducing night-time streetlight for environmental and energy reasons, has any impact on road traffic crashes and crime.

Objectives:

- Collate information across the country on streetlight reduction schemes
- Statistically examine whether reduced streetlight at night has any effect on road traffic crashes and crime
- Explore public opinion on streetlight provision and the potential for reducing streetlight at night
- Investigate whether streetlight reduction schemes offer value for money
- Create a resource for all local authorities interested in implementing streetlight reduction schemes

A research associate from the UCL has confirmed that they will be using police.uk data for the LANTERNS project. They have had to restrict the analysis to crime types that can easily be mapped to the police.uk crime categories, which will include burglary (domestic and non-domestic), ASB (that has been crimed), criminal damage and arson, robbery and vehicle crime. As the police.uk data does not provide temporal information, they will be unable to split into night time and day time

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offences. They would prefer to use local police recorded data, but this is not available at a national level for academics.

5 Conclusions

There are many impact factors that influence crime, ASB , RTC and fear of crime. The difficulties of evaluation are well known to the LANTERN project and as a result, to establish continuity across the country. They have had to opt for very high level evaluation criteria. This may not give the degree of granularity required to establish the actual impact of PNL alone.

There could always be individual occasions whereby PNL will have an effect on operational policing but currently there is little evidence that PNL has had any significant impact. It is something that will be monitored and if seen to have a detrimental effect will be escalated with partners.

The Essex Police Performance Information Team will meet with ECC to establish whether locally we can add greater value and insight to the impact of PNL on the ECC evaluation criteria.

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7. Crime DATA

Appendix B

| District | Commencement | | Start | End | Start | End | | Days | Days | | Last Year | | |
|--------------|--------------|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|--|------|------|--|-----------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | Before | After | Diff |
| Basildon | | | 23/01/2013 | 22/02/2013 | 23/02/2013 | 25/03/2013 | | 30 | 30 | | 71 | 55 | -22.5 |
| Braintree | | | 02/07/2012 | 31/08/2012 | 01/09/2012 | 31/10/2012 | | 60 | 60 | | 91 | 71 | -22.0 |
| Brentwood | | | 06/02/2013 | 08/03/2013 | 09/03/2013 | 08/04/2013 | | 30 | 30 | | 26 | 36 | 38.5 |
| Castle Point | | | 12/11/2012 | 11/01/2013 | 12/01/2013 | 13/03/2013 | | 60 | 60 | | 34 | 36 | 5.9 |
| Chelmsford | | | 02/07/2012 | 31/08/2012 | 01/09/2012 | 31/10/2012 | | 60 | 60 | | 223 | 173 | -22.4 |
| Colchester | | | 01/10/2012 | 30/11/2012 | 01/12/2012 | 30/01/2013 | | 60 | 60 | | 194 | 263 | 35.6 |
| Epping | | | 12/11/2012 | 11/01/2013 | 12/01/2013 | 13/03/2013 | | 60 | 60 | | 108 | 94 | -13.0 |
| Harlow | | | 30/01/2013 | 01/03/2013 | 02/03/2013 | 01/04/2013 | | 30 | 30 | | 46 | 54 | 17.4 |
| Maldon | | | 01/08/2006 | 30/09/2006 | 01/10/2006 | 30/11/2006 | | 60 | 60 | | 40 | 39 | -2.5 |
| Rochford | | | 26/11/2012 | 25/01/2013 | 26/01/2013 | 27/03/2013 | | 60 | 60 | | 33 | 37 | 12.1 |
| Tendring | | | 30/01/2013 | 01/03/2013 | 02/03/2013 | 01/04/2013 | | 30 | 30 | | 35 | 44 | 25.7 |
| Uttlesford | | | 01/08/2006 | 30/09/2006 | 01/10/2006 | 30/11/2006 | | 60 | 60 | | 56 | 48 | -14.3 |
| A127 | | | 16/10/2012 | 15/12/2012 | 16/12/2012 | 14/02/2013 | | 60 | 60 | | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 957 | 950 | -0.7 |
| District | Commencement | | Start | End | Start | End | | Days | Days | | This Year | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Before | After | Diff |
| Basildon | 23/02/2014 | | 23/01/2014 | 22/02/2014 | 23/02/2014 | 25/03/2014 | | 30 | 30 | | 81 | 79 | -2.5 |
| Braintree | 01/09/2013 | | 02/07/2013 | 31/08/2013 | 01/09/2013 | 31/10/2013 | | 60 | 60 | | 87 | 76 | -12.6 |
| Brentwood | 09/03/2014 | | 06/02/2014 | 08/03/2014 | 09/03/2014 | 08/04/2014 | | 30 | 30 | | 28 | 29 | 3.6 |
| Castle Point | 12/01/2014 | | 12/11/2013 | 11/01/2014 | 12/01/2014 | 13/03/2014 | | 60 | 60 | | 41 | 29 | -29.3 |
| Chelmsford | 01/09/2013 | | 02/07/2013 | 31/08/2013 | 01/09/2013 | 31/10/2013 | | 60 | 60 | | 175 | 143 | -18.3 |
| Colchester | 01/12/2013 | | 01/10/2013 | 30/11/2013 | 01/12/2013 | 30/01/2014 | | 60 | 60 | | 163 | 191 | 17.2 |
| Epping | 12/01/2014 | | 12/11/2013 | 11/01/2014 | 12/01/2014 | 13/03/2014 | | 60 | 60 | | 107 | 95 | -11.2 |
| Harlow | 02/03/2014 | | 30/01/2014 | 01/03/2014 | 02/03/2014 | 01/04/2014 | | 30 | 30 | | 47 | 46 | -2.1 |
| Maldon | 01/10/2007 | | 01/08/2007 | 30/09/2007 | 01/10/2007 | 30/11/2007 | | 60 | 60 | | 29 | 28 | -3.4 |
| Rochford | 26/01/2014 | | 26/11/2013 | 25/01/2014 | 26/01/2014 | 27/03/2014 | | 60 | 60 | | 42 | 31 | -26.2 |
| Tendring | 02/03/2014 | | 30/01/2014 | 01/03/2014 | 02/03/2014 | 01/04/2014 | | 30 | 30 | | 58 | 34 | -41.4 |
| Uttlesford | 01/10/2007 | | 01/08/2007 | 30/09/2007 | 01/10/2007 | 30/11/2007 | | 60 | 60 | | 25 | 35 | 40.0 |
| A127 | 16/12/2013 | | 16/10/2013 | 15/12/2013 | 16/12/2013 | 14/02/2014 | | 60 | 60 | | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | 883 | 816 | -7.6 |

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8. ASB DATA

Appendix C

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Title of Paper: 02/05/2014

| District | Commencement | | | | | | | Days | Days | | | Last Year | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-------|-----------|--|--|
| | | Start | End | Start | End | Start | End | | | Before | After | Diff | | |
| Basildon | | 23/01/2013 | 22/02/2013 | 23/02/2013 | 25/03/2013 | | | 30 | 30 | 62 | 72 | 16.1 | | |
| Braintree | | 02/07/2012 | 31/08/2012 | 01/09/2012 | 31/10/2012 | | | 60 | 60 | 114 | 77 | -32.5 | | |
| Brentwood | | 06/02/2013 | 08/03/2013 | 09/03/2013 | 08/04/2013 | | | 30 | 30 | 16 | 32 | 100.0 | | |
| Castle Point | | 12/11/2012 | 11/01/2013 | 12/01/2013 | 13/03/2013 | | | 60 | 60 | 44 | 35 | -20.5 | | |
| Chelmsford | | 02/07/2012 | 31/08/2012 | 01/09/2012 | 31/10/2012 | | | 60 | 60 | 158 | 120 | -24.1 | | |
| Colchester | | 01/10/2012 | 30/11/2012 | 01/12/2012 | 30/01/2013 | | | 60 | 60 | 148 | 184 | 24.3 | | |
| Epping | | 12/11/2012 | 11/01/2013 | 12/01/2013 | 13/03/2013 | | | 60 | 60 | 82 | 69 | -15.9 | | |
| Harlow | | 30/01/2013 | 01/03/2013 | 02/03/2013 | 01/04/2013 | | | 30 | 30 | 39 | 57 | 46.2 | | |
| Maldon | | 01/08/2006 | 30/09/2006 | 01/10/2006 | 30/11/2006 | | | 60 | 60 | 69 | 41 | -40.6 | | |
| Rochford | | 26/11/2012 | 25/01/2013 | 26/01/2013 | 27/03/2013 | | | 60 | 60 | 31 | 31 | 0.0 | | |
| Tendring | | 30/01/2013 | 01/03/2013 | 02/03/2013 | 01/04/2013 | | | 30 | 30 | 35 | 41 | 17.1 | | |
| Uttlesford | | 01/08/2006 | 30/09/2006 | 01/10/2006 | 30/11/2006 | | | 60 | 60 | 67 | 44 | -34.3 | | |
| A127 | | 16/10/2012 | 15/12/2012 | 16/12/2012 | 14/02/2013 | | | 60 | 60 | 1 | 2 | 100.0 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 866 | 805 | -7.0 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| District | Commencement | | | | | | | Days | Days | | | This Year | | |
| | | Start | End | Start | End | Start | End | | | Before | After | Diff | | |
| Basildon | 23/02/2014 | 23/01/2014 | 22/02/2014 | 23/02/2014 | 25/03/2014 | | | 30 | 30 | 50 | 49 | -2.0 | | |
| Braintree | 01/09/2013 | 02/07/2013 | 31/08/2013 | 01/09/2013 | 31/10/2013 | | | 60 | 60 | 114 | 59 | -48.2 | | |
| Brentwood | 09/03/2014 | 06/02/2014 | 08/03/2014 | 09/03/2014 | 08/04/2014 | | | 30 | 30 | 14 | 17 | 21.4 | | |
| Castle Point | 12/01/2014 | 12/11/2013 | 11/01/2014 | 12/01/2014 | 13/03/2014 | | | 60 | 60 | 23 | 31 | 34.8 | | |
| Chelmsford | 01/09/2013 | 02/07/2013 | 31/08/2013 | 01/09/2013 | 31/10/2013 | | | 60 | 60 | 168 | 95 | -43.5 | | |
| Colchester | 01/12/2013 | 01/10/2013 | 30/11/2013 | 01/12/2013 | 30/01/2014 | | | 60 | 60 | 169 | 119 | -29.6 | | |
| Epping | 12/01/2014 | 12/11/2013 | 11/01/2014 | 12/01/2014 | 13/03/2014 | | | 60 | 60 | 59 | 40 | -32.2 | | |
| Harlow | 02/03/2014 | 30/01/2014 | 01/03/2014 | 02/03/2014 | 01/04/2014 | | | 30 | 30 | 30 | 36 | 20.0 | | |
| Maldon | 01/10/2007 | 01/08/2007 | 30/09/2007 | 01/10/2007 | 30/11/2007 | | | 60 | 60 | 73 | 38 | -47.9 | | |
| Rochford | 26/01/2014 | 26/11/2013 | 25/01/2014 | 26/01/2014 | 27/03/2014 | | | 60 | 60 | 25 | 15 | -40.0 | | |
| Tendring | 02/03/2014 | 30/01/2014 | 01/03/2014 | 02/03/2014 | 01/04/2014 | | | 30 | 30 | 31 | 36 | 16.1 | | |
| Uttlesford | 01/10/2007 | 01/08/2007 | 30/09/2007 | 01/10/2007 | 30/11/2007 | | | 60 | 60 | 56 | 51 | -8.9 | | |
| A127 | 16/12/2013 | 16/10/2013 | 15/12/2013 | 16/12/2013 | 14/02/2014 | | | 60 | 60 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | 812 | 586 | -27.8 | | |

Strategic Change Management Department: Briefing Paper Part Night Lighting (Update)

Title of Paper: 02/05/2014

9. Injury Collision Data

Appendix D

Strategic Change Management Department: Briefing Paper Part Night Lighting (Update)

Title of Paper: 02/05/2014

| | | | | |
|--|------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Uttlesford & Maldon Injury Collisions | | | | |
| Part Night Lighting Scheme commenced 1/10/2007 for 6.5 years compared against the previous 6.5 years | | | | |
| | | Maldon | Uttlesford | Countywide |
| 01/10/2000 | 31/03/2007 | 1401 | 2216 | 39471 |
| 01/10/2007 | 31/03/2014 | 908 | 1247 | 26661 |
| | % Decrease | 35.19 | 43.73 | 32.45 |
| Chelmsford & Braintree Injury Collisions | | | | |
| Part Night Lighting Scheme commenced 1/9/2013 for 7 months compared against the same 7 months in previous reporting year | | | | |
| | | Chelmsford | Braintree | Countywide |
| 01/09/2012 | 31/03/2013 | 220 | 151 | 2179 |
| 01/09/2013 | 31/03/2014 | 214 | 154 | 2336 |
| | % Decrease | 2.73 | -1.99 | -7.21 |
| Colchester Injury Collisions | | | | |
| Part Night Lighting Scheme commenced 1/12/2013 for 5 months compared against the same 5 months in previous reporting year | | | | |
| | | Colchester | | Countywide |
| 01/12/2012 | 31/03/2013 | 118 | | 1089 |
| 01/12/2013 | 31/03/2014 | 130 | | 1254 |
| | % Decrease | -10.17 | | -15.15 |
| Basildon Injury Collisions | | | | |
| Part Night Lighting Scheme commenced 23/02/2014 for 1 month compared against the same 1 month in previous reporting year | | | | |
| | | Basildon | | Countywide |
| 23/02/2013 | 23/03/2013 | 23 | | 262 |
| 23/02/2014 | 23/03/2014 | 34 | | 280 |
| | % Decrease | -47.83 | | -6.87 |
| Castle Point & Epping Injury Collisions | | | | |
| Part Night Lighting Scheme commenced 12/01/2014 for 2 months compared against the same 2 months in previous reporting year | | | | |
| | | Castle Point | Epping | Countywide |
| 12/01/2013 | 12/03/2013 | 15 | 65 | 562 |
| 12/01/2014 | 12/03/2014 | 26 | 73 | 638 |
| | % Decrease | -73.33 | -12.31 | -13.52 |
| Rochford Injury Collisions | | | | |
| Part Night Lighting Scheme commenced 1/12/2013 for 5 months compared against the same | | | | |
| | | Rochford | | Countywide |
| 01/12/2012 | 31/03/2013 | 35 | | 821 |
| 01/12/2013 | 31/03/2014 | 63 | | 947 |
| | % Decrease | -80.00 | | -15.35 |
| A127 (ECC) Injury Collisions | | | | |
| Part Night Lighting Scheme commenced 16/12/2013 for 3 months compared against the | | | | |
| | | A127 (ECC) | | Countywide |
| 16/12/2012 | 16/03/2013 | 17 | | 821 |
| 16/12/2013 | 16/03/2014 | 21 | | 947 |
| | % Decrease | -23.53 | | -15.35 |

AGENDA ITEM 11

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Essex Police and Crime Panel | EPCP/035/14 |
| Date: 19 June 2014 | |

Forward Look

Report by the Secretary to the Panel

Enquiries to: Colin Ismay: 01245 430396 colin.ismay@essex.gov.uk

Purpose of report and background

To plan the business of the Panel.

Meetings of the Panel are scheduled for 2.30pm on 19 June, 18 September and 27 November.

Following the previous pattern meetings need to be scheduled for 2015 for the end of January, 3rd week of February, June, September and November.

Business proposed to be taken to the meetings is as follows:

| Date | Performance for period up to | Other business |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Send out to Panel in April | Performance: End December 2013 (Q3) | |
| 18 September | End June (Q1) to include the revised capital programme to reflect the new capital strategies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner's Annual Report • Commissioner's Public Engagement Strategy • Hidden Harm and Safeguarding issues |
| 27 November | End September (Q2) | |

The Panel is asked to indicate any other business it would like to consider and approve the schedule of meetings.

Potential Future items:

Police Integrity and ethics; the impact of Transforming Rehabilitation and the changes to the Probation Service

