

AGENDA ITEM 5

Essex Police and Crime Panel	EPCP/02/13
Date: 21 February 2013	

The Draft Police and Crime Plan

Report by Secretary to the Panel

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

Purpose of report

To set out the arrangements for the Panel to review the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.

Background

Part of the Panel's Terms of Reference is:

"to review the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, and produce and publish a report or make recommendations on the Plan".

The Commissioner must issue a police and crime plan in accordance with Section 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Section 7 of the Act states that a police and crime plan is a plan which sets out:

- the police and crime objectives;
- the policing of the police area which the chief officer of police is to provide;
- the financial and other resources which is to be provided to the chief officer of police for the chief officer to exercise the functions of chief officer;
- the means by which the chief officer of police will report on the chief officer's provision of policing;
- the means by which the chief officer of police's performance in providing policing will be measured; and
- the crime and disorder reduction grants which are to be made and the conditions (if any) to which such grants are to be made.

The police and crime objectives referred to in the first bullet point above are defined as the body's objectives for:

- the policing of the area;
- crime and disorder reduction in the area; and

- the discharge by the police force of its national or international functions.

Information providing an insight into the Plan was provided as part of the report on the Precept presented to the last meeting.

The Police and Crime Plan

The Commissioner has commented as follows on the Draft Plan a copy of which is attached to this report.

The Draft Police and Crime Plan (The Plan) was published on the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) website, and consultation with the people of Essex was opened on 25 January 2013. The Plan was sent separately to all partners, stakeholders and wider groups, including the voluntary sector, with a request that The Plan was shared with the broader community groups wherever possible.

Hard copies of The Plan were made available to all Police Stations with operational front counters, with guidance on how feedback could be provided.

A public meeting with the PCC was held in Basildon on the 8 February 2013, where one of the topics of discussion was The Plan. The meeting attendees were encouraged to provide feedback to the Office of the PCC (OPCC).

Direct liaison with Essex Police was fundamental in shaping specific areas of The Plan, but it was recognised by the Force that The Plan is ultimately owned by the PCC.

The quality of responses was high, with many valid points raised. Predominantly feedback was provided by partners and the wider community groups; however comments were also received by members of the public expressing their views and concerns, some of whom had attended the meeting in Basildon.

The consultation ran until 12 February 2013 when members of the PCC's staff met with the PCC to discuss the content. Each response received individual attention and was given careful consideration prior to its inclusion if appropriate. Where separate matters were raised, not specific to The Plan, these will be addressed in the near future.

There were emerging themes taken from feedback, such as direct referencing to Restorative Justice, further detail required in the area of mental health issues, and highlighting the need to not limit Integrated Offender Management only to youth crime.

The Panel is invited to review the Plan and consider what if any recommendations it wishes to make.