



Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland
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Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Chair and Members of the Police and Crime Panel

21st October 2014

Programme of Engagement

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Cleveland Police and Crime Panel (PCP) with a brief update in relation to meetings attended by the PCC from July to September 2014.
- 1.2 Future meetings of the PCC will also be summarised.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The PCCs consultation and engagement activities focus on increasing understanding of the communities of Cleveland, ensuring clear and consistent communication with the public and ensuring effective consultation and community engagement.
- 2.2 The PCC attends a number of meetings on a regular basis with key partners, stakeholders and residents from across the Cleveland area.
- 2.3 In addition to this the PCC has attended many regional and national meetings representing Cleveland.

3.0 Your Force Your Voice

- 3.1 The '*Your Force Your Voice*' engagement initiative continues to take place with community meetings in all of Cleveland's 82 ward areas being revisited on an annual basis.

- 3.2 During this reporting period the PCC attended his 200th community meeting since he came into office in November 2012. This represents over 100 hours of speaking to communities in order to better understand their community safety concerns.
- 3.3 Inconsiderate parking is frequently raised as an issue, particularly around schools. This can be particularly impactful on disabled members of the community, especially the visually impaired and wheelchair users. A multi agency working group, chaired by the Police, has been established to look at the issue. As part of this work a competition was launched in schools to design a poster to raise awareness of the consequences of inconsiderate parking. The winning entry was presented with a prize by the PCC at a launch event on 3rd October. Advisory notices for the use of the Police and Council have also been designed and produced to highlight inconsiderate parking to drivers.
- 3.4 Prostitution in the Yarm Road area of Stockton has been raised as a concern at several community meetings. Operation Wickfield has been established as a long term operation to tackle the issue of prostitution by focusing on kerb crawlers whilst also providing engagement and support to sex workers.
- 3.5 Youth antisocial behaviour is frequently raised as a concern at community meetings, predominantly relating to groups of young people hanging around. The PCC has provided funding for the GiveItAGo project, which involves a website and mobile phone application which will provide details of diversionary activities available in a locality, with the aim of diverting young people to more positive use of their time and thereby reducing antisocial behaviour. Work is underway to advertise the site with local organisations and encourage them to register their activities before the site can be launched with young people.
- 3.6 All of the issues raised at community meetings are raised with the local Integrated Neighbourhood Teams for action where necessary.

4.0 Other Meetings

- 4.1 Below is a summary of key other meetings attended by the PCC. The full diary is published on the PCC website at www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk.
- 4.2 Scrutiny meetings continue to be held with the Chief Constable on a weekly basis. Discussions from these meetings are published on the PCC website under 'Force Accountability'. Any outstanding actions are followed up by the Office of the PCC.
- 4.3 A schedule of monthly targeted Scrutiny Meetings has been implemented covering Finance, Resources and Policing, Performance and Partners and Commissioning. Each theme is covered on a quarterly basis.
- 4.4 On 3rd July the PCC attended a drama performance by the IMPACT Drama Group, which involves disabled people from the Middlesbrough area. The drama group have assisted the PCC Office in producing a disability hate crime awareness training DVD

for frontline officers and staff, and plans are underway to produce a second DVD on this issue for use within schools across Cleveland.

- 4.5 On 7th July the PCC attended the Strategic Independent Advisory Group, which brings together representatives from Cleveland's diverse communities to act as a critical friend to the Police. The appointment of a new Chair was discussed, and work is ongoing to put together a job description for this role.
- 4.6 On 9th July the PCC attended the Middlesbrough Crucial Crew event, which involves 10 and 11 year olds from primary schools across Middlesbrough taking part in a range of workshops focusing on improving their safety and awareness as they move to secondary school. Officers from the PCC Office were present for the full event undertaking an interactive workshop focusing on contacting the police, crime and antisocial behaviour priorities and fear of crime.
- 4.7 On 12th July the PCC attended a community event organised by the Rifty Youth Project, in Hartlepool. The project offers a number of diversionary and recreational activities to young people in an environment which allows them to socialise safely, and has been supported through the PCC Property Act Fund. Awareness raising sessions are also held, particularly focusing on risk taking behaviour such as alcohol, drugs and sexual health.
- 4.8 On 25th July the PCC opened a crime solving day for Cleveland Police cadets, which was hosted by Teesside University. During the day the cadets participated in a variety of workshops which took place in the University's Crime Scene House and Law Court. Police Cadet schemes, which are part funded by the PCC, run in each of Cleveland's four Local Policing Areas, providing leadership and citizenship training for young people between the ages of 13 and 17.
- 4.9 On 28th July the PCC attended a community café in Redcar, which is run by Redcar and Cleveland MIND. The purpose of the visit was to see the unpaid work taking place through placements of offenders from Kirklevington prison. The PCC has established a section on his website where the community can make suggestions for unpaid work projects which are then forwarded to participating agencies for consideration.
- 4.10 On 7th August the PCC visited the Fairbridge Programme in Middlesbrough, which is run by Princes Trust. The programme offers individually tailored personal development activities for young people who are educational underachievers or unemployed. Discussions are now ongoing as to how the police could potentially use the Fairbridge programme through the introduction of Community Remedy for first time offenders.
- 4.11 On 2nd September the PCC met with his counterparts in Durham and Northumbria as part of quarterly information sharing and collaboration meetings held regionally. Topics discussed included victim's services commissioning, the changes to offender supervision through Transforming Rehabilitation and the Violence Against Women and Girls action plan.

- 4.12 On 5th September the PCC hosted a regional multi agency event raising awareness of the issues around Slavery and Human Trafficking. The event was supported by his counterparts in Durham and Northumbria and focused on the issues in within the region, nationally and internationally and the work being undertaken by enforcement and support agencies.
- 4.13 On 18th September the PCC attended a multi agency seminar focusing on the use of Restorative Justice across Cleveland. Restorative Justice has been championed by the PCC since April 2013 when it was first introduced by Cleveland Police.
- 4.14 On 27th September the PCC attended Middlesbrough Community Pride, an event which celebrates Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender culture across Teesside. The PCC supported the event through the PCC Property Act Fund, and consultation was undertaken on the day regarding community perceptions of hate crime and the multi agency response given to incidents when they are reported.

5.0 Future engagement / meetings

Every month, the PCC holds themed Scrutiny Meetings with the Force and/or partners. In the future a number of scrutiny meetings are scheduled to take place namely:

- Finance, Resource & Policy – 22nd October 2014
- Performance – 20th November 2014
- Partnerships & Commissioning – 4th December 2014
- Audit Committee – 18th December 2014

5.1 Other meetings of note include:

- Antisocial Behaviour Legislation Seminar – 1st October 2014
- PCC Planning Day – 14th October 2014
- Criminal Justice Volunteers Fayre – 4th November 2014
- Cleveland Community Safety Awards – 6th November 2014
- Violence Against Women and Girls Seminar – 8th December 2014

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Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland