



**Police & Crime Commissioner for Cleveland**  
**Cleveland Police Headquarters**  
**Ladgate Lane**  
**Middlesbrough**  
**TS8 9EH**

Email: [pcc@cleveland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:pcc@cleveland.pnn.police.uk)  
Website: [www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk](http://www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk)

Police and Crime Commissioner:  
Chief of Staff (Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer):  
Chief Constable:

Barry Coppinger  
Simon Dennis BA, Solicitor  
Jacqui Cheer QPM

Tel: 01642 301653  
Tel: 01642 301653  
Tel: 01642 301215

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## **Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner to the Chair and Members of the Police and Crime Panel**

**3 February 2015**

### **Programme of Engagement**

#### **1. 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 October to December 2014.
- 1.2 Future meetings of the PCC will also be summarised.

#### **2. 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. 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 A reduction in the number of messages being sent through the electronic Neighbourhood Watch system has been raised as an issue on several occasions. A new messaging system, Cleveland Connected, has now been launched to replace the previous Ringmaster system, and a Board is being established to focus on the future strategic direction of Cleveland Connected. The board will focus on operational guidance for officers sending out messages, governance measures and clearly defined objectives for the use of the messaging system.
- 3.3 Education on hate crime in schools was raised at several meetings as a gap in current service provision and as an effective means of raising awareness of the issues around hate crime and incidents. The PCC Office is working in conjunction with Show Racism the Red Card, Cleveland Police and the four Local Authorities to look at piloting hate crime awareness sessions in a selection of targeted schools across the Cleveland area.
- 3.4 The misuse of quad bikes and other off road vehicles in the Eston Nab area and the associated criminal damage and antisocial behaviour has been raised at several meetings with farmers and rural community members in Redcar and Cleveland. The PCC has brought together a multi agency group consisting of Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire Brigade and Redcar and Cleveland Local Authority to look at implementing measures to restrict unauthorised access to the area through key access points. The work is being undertaken in consultation and collaboration with the rural community within the affected area.
- 3.5 The changing nature of neighbourhood policing is frequently raised as an issue at community meetings, with residents feeling concerned that the visibility of local officers has reduced. The PCC is working in conjunction with the Force Executive to produce a communications strategy to communicate the changes that have been made to Integrated Neighbourhood Teams through the Orbis restructure and to provide reassurance to local communities.
- 3.6 All of the issues raised at community meetings are raised with the local Integrated Neighbourhood Teams for action where necessary.

### **4. 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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> October the PCC hosted a multi agency seminar focusing on the new antisocial behaviour legislation being implemented that month through the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The event was an opportunity for agencies to discuss the implications of the new legislation, and possible uses for the suite of measures being introduced. It was agreed to hold a subsequent event in six months time to monitor the developments of the legislation as it is being used operationally and to ensure that agencies continue to work together to maximise the effectiveness of the available sanctions.
- 4.5 On 3<sup>rd</sup> November the PCC hosted an event organised by the Safer Future Communities Network focusing on including the views of young people in the community safety planning process. Work is ongoing to extend the PCC programme of consultation with young people and to further develop the activities undertaken through the Cleveland Police Cadet programme.
- 4.6 On 4<sup>th</sup> November the PCC held the second annual Criminal Justice Volunteers Fair at Teesside University. Representatives from agencies from across the criminal justice sector were present, including My Sisters Place, EVA, Lifeline and Safe in Tees Valley. The event was also used to launch recruitment for new Special Constables within Cleveland Police. Over 1000 people expressed an interest in becoming a volunteer through the Fair.
- 4.7 On 6<sup>th</sup> November the PCC held the second annual Cleveland Community Safety Awards to celebrate those who have made an outstanding contribution to their local community. Nominations were put forward from members of the community for individuals and teams from within the public, private and voluntary sector. The awards were held at Hartlepool College of Further Education, with 16 categories of award ranging from Neighbourhood Police officer of the Year to Young Community Volunteer Champion.
- 4.8 On 21<sup>st</sup> November the PCC took part in 11 Million Takeover Day, which is a national initiative which aims to give young people from across the country the opportunity to come into work places and better understand how they can influence decision making and make a difference within their communities. The PCC was shadowed for the morning by three young people from Hartlepool, then spent the afternoon as part of a panel of professionals facing questions from young people from across Hartlepool.
- 4.9 Throughout November the PCC went out on evening patrols with Street Angels initiatives in each Local Policing Area - Boro Angels, Guisborough Nightlights, Hartlepool Town Pastors, Redcar Beacons and Stockton Town Pastors. Street Angels are volunteers who give up their time on weekend evenings to provide support to

vulnerable people on nights out who may need assistance. The PCC has funded projects across Cleveland through the PCC Property Act Fund and has championed the schemes through hosting a celebration event on 27<sup>th</sup> November and assisting in tabling an Early Day Motion in Parliament to commend the activities undertaken by projects across Cleveland.

- 4.10 On 8<sup>th</sup> December the PCC joined his regional counterparts Vera Baird and Ron Hogg in marking the one year anniversary of the region's first ever Regional Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy at an event held in Durham. Key initiatives being undertaken as part of the strategy are the introduction of body worn cameras to better record evidence at domestic abuse incidents, the introduction of Workplace Champions to provide safe and confidential access to support for victims and the development of a triage system to ensure that schools are informed when children have been involved in or witnessed domestic abuse.
- 4.11 Throughout December the PCC Office held a series of roadshows in shopping centres in each Local Policing Area to provide crime prevention advice and equipment to members of the public whilst also obtaining their views on the PCC's Police and Crime Plan to ensure that community opinions are included in the refreshed plan for 2015/17. This was done in conjunction with an online consultation available on the PCC website throughout December and January 2015 and will be followed by a consultation event with partnership agencies in January 2015 to ensure that the refreshed plan reflects the views and opinions of the local community and partnership agencies.

## **5. 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:

- Performance – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015
- Finance, Resource & Policy – 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015
- Audit Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015
- Partnerships & Commissioning – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015

### **5.1 Other meetings of note include:**

- Consultation on draft Police and Crime Plan and proposed budget for 2015/16 – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015
- Stalking and Harassment seminar – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015
- Sexual Assault Services Awareness Raising Event – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015
- Emergency Planning exercise with young people undertaking Duke of Cornwall Awards – 21<sup>st</sup> March 2015

**Barry Coppinger**  
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