

AGENDA ITEM

**REPORT TO CLEVELAND
POLICE & CRIME PANEL**

21 SEPTEMBER 2015

**JOINT REPORT OF HEAD
OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES, AND
HEAD OF COMMUNITY PROTECTION**

POLICE & CRIME PANEL SCRUTINY PROGRAMME

PURPOSE

To consider items in relation to priorities contained in the Police and Crime Plan for inclusion on the Scrutiny Programme so that the Panel can set the 2015/16 scrutiny work programme and appropriate Task and Finish Groups.

DETAIL

1. On 30 July 2015 Members were asked to identify possible scrutiny topics whilst also being provided with information regarding topics that were agreed to be undertaken during 2014/15. The topics were:
 - Shared Services
 - Overall budget strategy
 - Victims' Services
 - Commissioner priorities
2. Task and Finish Groups were established for the reviews dealing with the overall budget strategy and commissioner priorities. The Panel was informed in July that the reviews of shared services and victims' services remained outstanding and that consideration should be given to them commencing during 2015-16.
3. The matter of the overall budget strategy has been reviewed annually and subject to amendment could continue to be scrutinised by a Task and Finish Group in order to facilitate sufficient time and analysis to the financial arrangements of the PCC and commissioned services. The number of agenda items for a full PCP meeting might preclude sufficient scrutiny of budget and its impact on the level of precept set.
4. No topics have been submitted so brief information about the scrutiny topics remaining from 2014/15 are provided below.

Victims' Services

5. For the first time in 2015/16 the PCC has received a full year's allocation of funding to commission victims and witnesses services and also contribute towards restorative justice initiatives.
6. Initiatives supported based on forecasts during 2015/16 are:

<u>PCC Initiatives</u>	<u>£000s</u>
Arrest Referral	200
Youth Offending	200
ASB Youth Activities	120
Domestic Violence	120

Integrated Offender Management Hub	117
Adult Protection Contribution	28
Local Safeguarding Children's Board Contribution	57
Cadets Contribution	36
Retail Crime Contribution	7
Crimestoppers Contribution	19
Criminal Justice Board Contribution	25
Domestic Violence	39
Contribution to Balance	20
Safer Future Communities	10
Unallocated	410
Total PCC Initiatives and Community Safety	1,410

7. In addition to the allocation of £1,410k to PCC Initiatives and Community Safety set out above the PCC will also be supporting Victims and Witnesses services with funding of £715k.
8. Rather than measure success against factors such as how many victims have been contacted or referred for assessment, success was to be based on how a service has supported a victim and the results of that support. The focus is on outcome based commissioning for achieving the overarching outcomes of supporting victims to cope with the immediate impacts of crime and recover from the harm experienced.
9. Locally commissioned services must be able to operate across geographical PCC boundaries and PCCs can join together to commission services. PCCs can collaborate with other agencies (for example Department of Health or Local Authorities) in the provision of support services for victims of crime.
10. A review would examine victims' services to determine that they meet victims' needs.

Shared Services

11. The main issues and overall aim of this review are
 - To understand progress to date on the shared services agenda, and the PCC's direction of travel.
 - To understand the full scope of potential collaboration, both with other police forces, and other external organisations.
 - An appreciation of what is needed to enable further joint working, the challenges, and how potential partners may be engaged.
12. The following key lines of enquiry are expected to include:
 - What shared service schemes are already in operation?
 - How have these schemes performed to date?
 - What is the progress of the Headquarters development and which partners will be involved?
 - What is the relationship between the development of shared services and financial planning/achievement of savings targets?
 - How will the Police Innovation Fund money already secured by Cleveland be utilised (relating to collaboration)?
 - What is the scope for further joint services and what form could these take?
 - Which police and/or external organisations may be involved?
 - What examples of shared services / joint working exist in other force areas? What learning from these can be used locally?

PANEL RESPONSIBILITIES 2015/16

13. The Police and Crime Panel is reminded of its role as scrutinising the actions and decisions of the Police and Crime Commissioner, thereby holding the PCC to account.
14. In addition, the Panel may wish to carry out one or more in-depth scrutiny reviews into a particular issue or concern. This may be a policy or performance issue in relation to priorities contained in the Police and Crime Plan.
15. Any additional work which the Panel may wish to undertake should be supportive and complementary to its statutory functions with the Panel acting as a critical friend; a supportive, but independent voice seeking to scrutinise the PCC in the interests of recommending appropriate changes and improvements. In addition, the work programme should avoid duplication and remain flexible and responsive.
16. It is, however, important that when agreeing topics for additional work, the Panel takes into account the capacity and resources needed to carry out the investigation, to ensure that the review programme is manageable. It is also important to prioritise the issues identified, so that the work of the Panel is adding value.
17. The Panel is therefore asked to agree suitable topics for scrutiny review during 2015/16. In selecting topics, the Panel may wish to consider whether:
 - there is public demand / a real need for the review
 - there is a genuine opportunity through the reviews to influence policy and practice
 - there is a clear focus for the review, recognising that going 'deep and narrow' can have more impact than 'broad but shallow'

RECOMMENDATIONS

18. The Panel to formulate task and finish groups to complete the scrutiny items outstanding from 2014/15 and continue to scrutinize the overall budget strategy annually.
19. The Panel to maintain a watching brief of possible future scrutiny topics which can be considered for review in relation to priorities contained in the Police and Crime Plan and amending the scrutiny work programme if issues are time sensitive.

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