



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

6th February 2018

Commissioners Update

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Cleveland Police and Crime Panel (PCP) with an update in relation to key matters including;

- COPACC Transparency Award
- Community Safety Awards
- Foodbank Collections
- Local Criminal Justice Partnership Plan Launch
- Human Trafficking Network and Modern Day Slavery
- Sexual Assault Referral Centre and Restorative Justice contracts
- Domestic Violence Whole System Approach progress update
- Building a Stronger Britain Together
- Public Health and partners approach to violence reduction
- North East Region Serious and Organised Crime Unit

2. COPACC Transparency Award

- 2.1 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland has been recognised for its outstanding commitment to transparency for the third year running.
- 2.2 The Transparency Quality Mark was awarded to 25 PCCs from around the country at a ceremony in London on Tuesday 9 January 2018.

- 2.3 The award, developed by independent police monitoring organisation CoPaCC, measures the ability of OPCCs to meet their transparency responsibilities by making information accessible on their websites.
- 2.4 CoPaCC Chief Executive, Bernard Rix said: "These OPCCs have all demonstrated that they are transparent in what they do, meeting relevant legal requirements. They present key information in an accessible format on their websites and I congratulate them all on their good work."
- 2.5 As PCC, I want my work to be as open and transparent as possible, to ensure the residents of Cleveland are informed about the decisions I make on their behalf.
- 2.6 It's a testament to my team that the office has been recognised for its commitment to transparency for a third year. They work extremely hard to ensure my website, Facebook and Twitter pages are regularly updated with decisions, information about services and up-to-date contact information.

3. Community Safety Awards

- 3.1 I hosted the Cleveland Community Safety Awards which took place on Wednesday 22nd November 2017 at Middlesbrough College STEM Centre.
- 3.2 The awards are an annual celebration of the community safety achievements of those in the police, housing organisations, community safety partnerships, and the private and voluntary sectors.
- 3.3 Sue Smith, Manager of Teesside Sexual Assault Referral Centre, was winner of the Outstanding Commitment to Supporting Victims of Sexual Abuse award for dedicating 25 years of her life to supporting vulnerable victims of sexual abuse.
- 3.4 Another winner on the night was Shahda Khan from Middlesbrough Council, who took home the award for Outstanding Services to Community Safety for her commitment to community cohesion and service on Cleveland Police's Strategic Independent Advisory Group.
- 3.5 The Community Safety Awards were particularly special for me this year, as it fell on the day I reached five years as Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 3.6 During my time as PCC, I've heard many incredible stories about people going the extra mile to help keep communities safe and this year was no different. We heard many moving and inspirational stories of people doing their utmost to protect communities and prevent crime.

4. Food Bank Collections

- 4.1 Christmas can be a financially difficult time of year for many, but for some low-income households an unexpected bill or a delay in benefit payments could leave them in crisis. I asked staff to bring in food donation in the run up to Christmas and the response was overwhelming. I visited food banks in the four local authority areas Guisborough, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and Billingham to drop off the large amounts of food donated.
- 4.2 I've been so impressed with the generosity of Cleveland Police and OPCC staff in donating food and essentials to the Christmas collection ensuring local people in need won't go hungry at Christmas. The food banks play a vitally important part in servicing the needs of our vulnerable communities and I will continue to promote the locations of the food banks through my website <http://www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk/Information/Foodbank-Locations-in-Cleveland.aspx>

5. Local Criminal Justice Partnership Plan

- 5.1 On 16th January I, together with the PCC for Durham Ron Hogg launched the Local Criminal Justice Partnership Plan 2018-2021. This marks several months of hard work by members of the groups and other people within partner organisations.
- 5.2 The plan sets out an ambitious programme of partnership working in order to deliver:
- An end-to-end service for supporting victims and witnesses;
 - An end-to-end system for rehabilitating offenders and reducing reoffending;
 - The most efficient and integrated local criminal justice system in the country.
- 5.3 The Plan sets out the "Commitment to working in partnership," including working together to solve problems, sharing information, and jointly commissioning services when we can. Furthermore, some agencies have made financial contributions to help fund the small team which we have put in place to support the work.
- 5.4 We know that there is already a huge amount of work happening in partnership in support of the key objectives. The Plan shows how we are working to bring this all together in a coherent way, and provides an outline of key changes to be delivered by 2021.

6. Human Trafficking Network and Modern Day Slavery

- 6.1 At the end of October I announced my intention to establish a ground breaking new Anti-Slavery Network, to launch later this year, to help

Cleveland Police and partner agencies work collaboratively to eradicate modern slavery in all its forms.

- 6.2 Nationally there is evidence that multi-agency Anti-Slavery Networks have a positive impact on combatting and preventing modern slavery and human trafficking and having such a network in place is recognised as good practice.
- 6.3 Aligning with my Police and Crime Plan, the establishment of an Anti-Slavery Network will help the Force and stakeholders work collectively and collaboratively to prevent, identify, disrupt and eradicate modern slavery in all its forms and will result in Cleveland being a safer and happier place to live. A procurement exercise is currently been undertaken to appoint an independent Chair.
- 6.4 A major operation known as Operation Cotton was launched by Cleveland Police on 9th January 2018 following reports of human trafficking.
- 6.5 On Tuesday 9th January police officers attended a number of addresses across Cleveland and South Yorkshire as part of a major on-going investigation into allegations of sexual abuse, exploitation and human trafficking. They were supported by officers from Immigration Enforcement who were checking for immigration offences. Six arrests have currently been made from a small number of properties across Stockton.

7. Sexual Assault Referral Centre and Restorative Justice contracts

- 7.1 Members will recall that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in collaboration with NHS England were in the process of competitively tendering the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) Service, this new service(s) will be delivered from 1 April 2018.
- 7.2 The procurement exercise is now complete and Safe in Tees Valley has been appointed the successful bidder. The new service will include the Teesside SARC, Teesside ISVA Service and regional crisis worker service covering Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria.
- 7.3 This contract will commence on 1st April 2018 for two years with the option to extend for a further two. Work is currently on-going between commissioners and both the incoming and outgoing providers to ensure a smooth transfer of service.
- 7.4 Restorative Justice Service (Restorative Cleveland) – Following a commissioning exercise for the provision of Restorative Justice in the Cleveland area, Safe in Tees Valley were appointed as the successful bidder. The new service will commence on 1 April 2018 for a two year period with the option to extend for a further two. The new service model will enhance the

current provision available through close working with the Community Rehabilitation Company through a dedicated secondment to the team.

8. Domestic Violence Whole System Approach progress update

- 8.1 Members will recall from my November update that we announced receipt of a home office grant funded programme on a six force (Cleveland, Durham, Northumbria, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Humberside), collaboration for a whole system approach to domestic abuse.
- 8.2 The Police Transformation programme is framed around a delivery plan with a number of activities, centred on ensuring better criminal justice outcomes for victims, developing pathways and relationships with the Family and Civil Courts to help victims experiencing controlling coercive behaviour issues through contact proceedings for children, and improving multi-agency links and working arrangements to ensure timelier information sharing, as well as enhanced processes directly tackling perpetrators of domestic abuse.
- 8.3 To date, a Project Manager and Inspector have been appointed, and recruitment is presently underway for a number of other roles. The project has already commenced delivery of the second responder partnership cars, which are operational at peak demand times for domestic abuse incidents and which feature joint working between the police and independent domestic abuse support workers, who offer outreach advice and support to victims, based on their wishes and feelings.
- 8.4 Cleveland has established itself as the lead force for development of a partnership with Family Courts, and publication of a service user led advice and information leaflet, with consultation being conducted with HMCTS, CAFCASS, family law solicitors and local authorities, who have all welcomed the project work. A Cleveland wide Police Transformation Domestic Abuse Partnership is being established to oversee the project progress and to provide a force wide strategic governance group for domestic abuse.

9. Building a Stronger Britain Together

- 9.1 The Building a Stronger Britain Together (BSBT) programme is a Home Office initiative which supports civil society and community organisations who work to create more resilient communities, stand up to extremism in all its forms and offer vulnerable individuals a positive alternative, regardless of race, faith, sexuality, age and gender. The programme allows organisations that share these aims to bid for in-kind support and grant funding for specific programmes that deliver the following goals, as set out in the Counter Extremism Strategy:
 - Fewer people holding attitudes, beliefs and feelings that oppose shared values

- An increased sense of belonging and civic participation at the local level
 - More resilient communities.
- 9.2 Within Cleveland Middlesbrough Local Authority have a dedicated BSBT Project Worker, Hugh McShane, whose role is to support the VCSE sector in developing bids. Across the other local Authority areas although there is no dedicated worker support is available through Local Authority Community Safety departments and through the local Voluntary Development Agencies (VDAs).
- 9.3 Bids can take two forms:
- 9.4 Grant funding - up to a maximum of 25% of the organisations income. Grants are offered in two ranges: £1,000 - £14,999 and £15,000 - £50,000. Consortium bids are also welcomed.
- 9.5 In kind support - Communications support from renowned global firm Saatchi and Saatchi to help organisations build their capability to reach larger audiences and expand their reach, for example through the design and delivery of specific campaigns, professionally built websites, or social media training.
- 9.6 I attended a Middlesbrough focused event on 7th December where a representative from the Home Office outlined the support available and the criteria for applying. The event was well attended by VCSE and partnership organisations from across the Middlesbrough area. Following on from this event, on 18th January I hosted a Cleveland wide event, in conjunction with Safer Future Communities, to promote the opportunities available across the whole area and to encourage joint activity. The event was well attended with 52 attendees from the Police, Local Authority, Housing, VDAs and VCSE organisations. Following the event 8 VCSEs have expressed an interest in submitting a single agency bid and 18 have expressed an interest in a collaborative bid. Safer Futures Communities are working with LAs, VDAs and VCSE to progress the development of bids in a very time schedule with applications for funding closing on 16th February. I have pledged to give my support to all suitable local bids.

10. Public Health and partners approach to violence reduction

- 10.1 In early January I met with the Directors of Public Health across Cleveland to consider a public health approach to violence reduction. The advantages of such an approach would include: The production of a clear long term Reduction Strategy, promoting a more joined up approach across partner agencies, and improving the overall outcome of reductions in violence offending and reduction in hospital admissions.
- 10.2 It was agreed for a paper to be completed and presented to the Health and Wellbeing boards to gain support. Further updated can be shared with the Police and Crime Panel as things progress.

11. North East Region Serious and Organised Crime (NERSOU) Unit

- 11.1 I recently attended the NERSOU joint committee, a governance group of Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables who oversee, scrutinise and regulate the NERSOU collaboration. The meeting took place at the newly acquired premises. The new building is to jointly house NERSOU and other organisations involved in delivery of aspects of the Strategic Policing Requirement. The building will operate as a hub to meet major aspects of regional and national Strategic Policing Requirement priorities and will have accommodation for the National Crime Agency, Home Office and Immigration, Regional Asset Recovery Team and HMRC amongst other organisations.

Barry Coppinger
Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland