



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

3rd July 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 since the previous meeting in February including;
- Devolution of Ministry of Justice Funding – Expression of Interest
 - Child Sexual Exploitation – Perpetrator Research Event
 - Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery Network
 - Staff engagement sessions
 - Collaboration – NETIC/Evolve

2. Devolution of Ministry of Justice Funding – Expression of Interest

- 2.1 As Police and Crime Commissioner I am passionate about maintaining and developing services locally and ensuring that they effectively meet the needs of the people living and working in the Cleveland area.
- 2.2 I recently met with Dr Philip Lee, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice together with the Police Crime and Victims Commissioner for Durham, Ron Hogg. We discussed how early intervention and diversion from the criminal justice system can assist in turning around the lives of vulnerable individuals and ultimately reduce crime. He welcomed the approach taken to introduce a deferred prosecution model.

- 2.3 I set out the scale of my ambition to deliver improvement in the Criminal Justice System through further devolution of funding to PCCs. I have secured buy-in through the Cleveland and Durham Criminal Justice Board and will capitalise on the excellent partnership working we have in Cleveland to put forward exciting plans to create a more integrated end to end provision of services.
- 2.4 The Ministry of Justice are now seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from PCC offices interested in piloting either (or both) the pre-trial element of the court based Witness Service and/or services for victims of sexual violence.
- 2.5 Members will recall that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) in collaboration with NHS England competitively tendering the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) Service, this new service(s) being delivered from 1 April 2018. Therefore the Cleveland OPCC is in a strong position to express an interest in expanding the provision to include therapeutic support.
- 2.6 PCCs have also been invited to submit expression of interest which outlines their proposal for service delivery to witnesses pre-trial. This process will help the Ministry of Justice understand PCC priorities and appetite for testing such an approach in their area. Dependent on the level of interest received, it is expected a small number of PCC areas will be asked to develop more detailed proposals with a view to working toward a pilot.
- 2.7 Devolving pre-trial preparation to witnesses could deliver the following benefits:
- Better integration around the needs of the service user
 - Co-ordinating the service around current victim care service provision
 - Being able to align the service to meet local need rather than from a national perspective – currently it's a one size fits all approach
 - Being in a position to ensure that the service can be tailored to local needs
 - PCCs better able to influence delivery of the service
- 2.8 An expression of interest has been prepared and submitted jointly by Cleveland and Durham OPCCs for pre court witness care to enhance services provided to both victims and witnesses.

3. Local Child Sexual Exploitation – Perpetrator Research Event

- 3.1 On 28th March 2018, I hosted a multi-agency conference to share and discuss findings from pioneering research jointly funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland and the Big Lottery. The research puts Cleveland at forefront of tackling child sexual exploitation and will enable Criminal justice agencies across Cleveland to be better informed about how to prevent child sexual offences.

- 3.2 The research, called *Motivations of Child Sexual Exploitation Offenders: Disrupt, Treat, Manage?*, was completed by Barefoot Research and examines the backgrounds, motivations and approaches of offenders, as well identifying possible points of intervention.
- 3.3 The research has proved so ground breaking that over 200 delegates from across the country attended the conference.
- 3.4 During this initial study, Dr Christopher Hartworth and his team carried out a series of interviews with local male offenders who have been convicted of child sexual exploitation.
- 3.5 A number of themes emerged through the interviews and it is hoped this information can be used to shape future strategies to reduce offending and improve victim response.
- 3.6 Key findings highlight the need to introduce warnings on online portals such as dating sites to deter potential offenders and offer specialist support for those at risk of offending.
- 3.7 The research developed out of a realisation that little attempt had been made to consult with those who perpetrate exploitation, other than during police interviews, which may be a significant omission in efforts to address the crime and its effects.
- 3.8 It is hoped this can lead to an expansion of the research beyond Cleveland, widening the sample size and including work on different types of exploitation.

4. Human Trafficking Network and Modern Day Slavery

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 The overall aim of the Cleveland anti-slavery network is to bring together relevant agencies to collectively and collaboratively prevent, identify, disrupt and eradicate Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in all its forms. The main outcomes to be achieved through the network include:
 - 4.4 • Increased awareness amongst partners of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery including Local Authorities, Public Health, NHS
 - 4.5 • Greater intelligence picture locally

- Greater understanding of the scale locally.
 - Increased understanding in regards to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM)
 - Increased reporting amongst partner agencies
 - Improved victim support for those affected by Human Trafficking / Modern Slavery.
- 4.6 There have been two meetings since the network was established. The minutes of the meetings have been appended to this report for information.
- 4.7 In support of achieving the network aims, in mid-September an event is being proposed to progress the development of a Cleveland wide victim support pathway for those affected by Human Trafficking / Modern Slavery. The event will enable partners to come together and identify potential points for improvement / gaps should a victim be identified. As a result of this a consistent pathway will be created that can be used by all agencies ensuring a greater understanding and improved support should victims be identified / rescued.

5. Staff Engagement Sessions

- 5.1 Throughout May and June, Chief Constable Mike Veale and I have been engaging with staff from across the organisation through a series of briefing sessions. This has given Mike the opportunity to meet face to face with every member of staff. The sessions have given me the opportunity to talk to staff about the Police and Crime Plan and how both Mike and I will work together to deliver the plan. The events have been well received and demonstrate the scale of our joint ambitions to make Cleveland Police a world class organisation.
- 5.2 The sessions will form part of a wider consultation programme on the refresh of the Police and Crime Plan.

6. Collaboration – NETIC/EVOLVE

- 6.1 Members will be aware that a regional Board structure has been established to drive and govern collaboration across the 7-force North East region.
- 6.2 A NETIC programme team has been established and includes two posts whose remit is to ensure that the North East regional PCCs and Chief Constables are well positioned to engage with national change programmes, for example in relation to technology and workforce changes.
- 6.3 The North East Collaboration Board receives regular updates in relation to the PCC-driven, Home Office-funded programme to transform the multi-agency approach to domestic abuse across 7 the seven force areas in the regional. Recent progress in Cleveland includes specialist DV support workers and Police Officers responding to incidents together, expanding the existing

perpetrator programme, greater support to victims in family courts and a specially commissioned training package on coercive control for frontline staff being delivered from September 2018.

- 6.4 Members are familiar with the existing collaborations under the three-force Evolve banner, which will now be managed within the NETIC programme. Some operational changes are underway in relation to police dogs collaboration to ensure that the management of the teams operates smoothly – a further update will be provided to Members once those changes are embedded.
- 6.5 Further progress has been made in relation to the Evolve legal services collaboration, with staffing restructure work now underway to organise legal work thematically across the three Evolve force areas.

Barry Coppinger
Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland