



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

6 July 2021

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S SCRUTINY PROGRAMME

Purpose of Report

1. To provide members of the Police and Crime Panel with an update on the development of a new refreshed approach to the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) scrutiny programme.

Background Information

2. Holding the Chief Constable to account is the key duty of the Police & Crime Commissioner and must encompass all of the functions of the Chief Constable and functions of those who are under the Chief Constable's direction and control.
3. The PCC is establishing a range of scrutiny approaches to engage with the Chief Constable and hold Cleveland Police to account. These take place on a daily, weekly and monthly schedule – both formally and informally and include a range of meetings, data and feedback from partners and the public.
4. A scrutiny handbook is being produced which will clearly and transparently set out our approach to scrutiny and how the public and partners can support us with this.

The Scrutiny Programme

5. The PCC will be developing a scrutiny programme which will challenge Cleveland Police in a firm but fair way. There will be an expectation that the meetings will be open and honest. In order to hold the force to account the Scrutiny programme will involve the following
 - a. Monthly meetings with the Force, with the format of the meetings being to focus on a specific topic, raise questions and seek assurances. Minutes of

the meeting will be taken and the Force will be expected to provide updates on any questions raised at the meeting within 2 weeks. In the interests and openness and transparency these minutes will be published on the PCC website. To support these meetings the PCC may wish to call on subject matter experts to inform the key lines of questioning. For example Violence against Women and Girls Panel (VAWG) may be used to support questioning in relation to VAWG issues. In addition to this regular meetings will take place with various departments within Cleveland Police which will also inform questioning.

- b. A Forward Work Programme for the monthly scrutiny meetings is being developed – with issues being raised to include for example: the Force Control Room and Recruitment and Vacancies (this programme can be shared with the Panel once it is fully developed).
 - c. Quarterly Performance meetings will also be held – these meetings will be specifically to hold the Force to account for the implementation of the objectives within the Police and Crime Plan and to scrutinise police performance
6. In addition to the above the PCC will meet with the Chief Constable on a weekly basis and a headline note of the issues raised will be kept and published online?
 7. Consideration is also being given to the development of public scrutiny panels, including a peoples panel which will be specifically to hold the Police and Crime Commissioner to account.

Finance

3. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Risk

4. There are no risk implications arising from this report.

Diversity and Equal Opportunities

5. There are no diversity or equal opportunities implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

6. That this report is noted.

Steve Turner
Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland