



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

26 June 2014

Programme of Engagement

1.0 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 February 2014 – May 2014.
- 1.2 Future meetings of the PCC will also be summarised.

2.0 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.

3.0 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 in 2014 after an initial visit in 2013.

- 3.2 In the Commissioner's second year in office there is an increased focus on engaging with minority and specific groups, together with continued attendance at ward community meetings.
- 3.3 Feedback from engagement exercises continue to be positive with residents being supportive and appreciative of Neighbourhood Policing in their local area.
- 3.4 There has been a specific focus on hate crime, particularly disability related hate crime, with work ongoing on specific initiatives to provide support for vulnerable residents and to encourage reporting of incidents as they occur.

4.0 Meetings

- 4.1 Below is a summary of key meetings attended by the PCC. The full diary is published on the PCC website at 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 During the reporting period the PCC visited each of the four Local Policing Area cadet units to meet with the young people involved in the scheme and hear their community safety concerns. Workshops were held with each group to identify suitable community action projects, with all groups selecting intergenerational activities between the cadet units and elderly residents.
- 4.5 On 13th February the PCC visited the Methodist Asylum Project in Middlesbrough which uses volunteers from within the established refugee and asylum seeker population to provide support to new arrivals to help them settle into their new living environment.
- 4.6 On 13th February the PCC held a consultation session in Middlesbrough with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community to look at ways of improving LGB&T community confidence in reporting hate crime. This was followed by a multi agency seminar on 3rd March looking at how to improve agency response to homophobic and transphobic hate crime.
- 4.7 On 19th February the PCC visited Middlesbrough Local Policing Area where he went out on foot patrol in the town centre with the local Integrated Neighbourhood Team and attended management team meetings.

- 4.8 During the reporting period the PCC attended several rural crime operation briefings to hear details of specific work being undertaken to tackle rural issues such as the use of off road vehicles and criminal damage.
- 4.9 On 26th February the PCC met with regional town centre managers to discuss retail crime and share best practice on successful initiatives.
- 4.10 During the reporting period consultation roadshows were held in shopping centres in each of the four Local Policing Areas focusing on public views on restorative justice and consultation regarding the reparations to be included in the new Community Remedy document which is being introduced as part of the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.
- 4.11 On 20th March the PCC visited a scheme in Middlesbrough which involved offenders from Kirkclevington Prison undertaking unpaid work to restore a community centre, providing a valuable community resource whilst improving their skills and prospects of employment upon release.
- 4.12 On 31st March the PCC held a multi agency consultation on the Violence Against Women and Girls action plan, which sets out how the regional strategy will be delivered within Cleveland.
- 4.13 On 14th April the PCC visited Hartlepool Local Policing Area where he accompanied officers conducting a warrant, patrolled with the local Integrated Neighbourhood Team and launched the 2014/15 refresh of the Police and Crime Plan.
- 4.14 On 14th April the PCC attended the Strategic Independent Advisory Group to discuss the future development and direction of the group.
- 4.15 On 24th April the PCC met with neighbourhood watch coordinators from the Loftus area to discuss the future development and direction of neighbourhood watch schemes within the area.
- 4.16 On 28th April the PCC launched the GiveItAGo website and mobile phone application which allows organisations to register activities on a site which enables users to locate recreational activities. It is hoped that the site will promote diversionary activities and thereby reduce youth antisocial behaviour. A further launch with young people is planned once the site has been populated by organisations.
- 4.17 On 8th May the PCC launched a Disability Hate Crime awareness DVD which will be shown to all front line police officers and staff to raise awareness of the issue. The DVD will also be used for internal training across many partner organisations including housing associations, educational establishments and transport companies. There are plans to produce a second DVD aimed specifically at young people.
- 4.18 On 13th May the PCC attended Yarm Town Council to give an update on the closure of Yarm Police office as part of the Force's estates rationalisation programme.

4.19 On 17th May the PCC took part in a balloon release in Middlesbrough to commemorate International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO Day).

5.0 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:

- Audit Committee – 26th June 2014
- Finance, Resource & Policy – 31 July 2014
- Performance – 15 August 2014

5.1 Other meetings of note include:

- Tees Valley Business Summit
- PCC Strategic Planning Day

Barry Coppinger

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Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland