

## Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel

22 November 2013

### Police and Crime Plan 2013 - 17

#### 1.0 Background and Context

In the Police and Crime Plan I published following consultation and with the agreement of the Police and Crime Panel I set out the following priorities to:-

#### 1.1 Reduce Crime and Disorder by:

- Focusing on 'high harm causers' and priority policing areas
- Supporting Community Safety Partnerships and agencies tackling drug and alcohol misuse which contribute to crime and anti-social behaviour
- Looking at innovative ways to tackle disorder in town centres, building on the success of initiatives like Street Pastors in Rugby and Stratford
- Tackling cross-border crime, business crime and cyber crime
- Supporting agencies involved in reducing re-offending
- Strengthening the work of Safer Neighbourhood Teams
- Engaging proactively with young people

#### 1.2 Protect the Public from Harm by:

- Focussing on high harm causers and four key areas of policing:-
  - Hate Crime
  - Domestic Abuse
  - Sexual violence and abuse
  - Safeguarding vulnerable children and adults
- Supporting the work of the Road Safety Partnership to reduce the number of road traffic collisions

### **1.3 Empower Local Communities to Prevent Crime and Disorder by:**

- Working closely with existing voluntary organisations such as Neighbourhood Watch
- Having a clear commissioning strategy for allocation of grants, for example to Community Safety Partnerships
- Maintaining the number of police officers and police community support officers and significantly increasing the number of special constables
- Listening to the views of the community groups and establishing a network of 'Community Safety Ambassadors' linked to locality forums to be the 'eyes and ears' of the Commissioner.
- Supporting the work of Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

### **1.4 Deliver an Effective and Efficient Police Service by:**

- Reviewing and updating the 'blueprint' for the Strategic Alliance
- Monitoring carefully the delivery of planned savings.
- Encouraging the use of 'police service volunteers'

### **1.5 Respond to the Strategic Policing Requirement by:**

- Ensuring that the Strategic Alliance has the capacity and capability to meet national threats outlined by the Home Secretary.

The delivery of these priorities will be underpinned by six key principles:

- Stronger local policing and effective and resilient protective services
- Valuing people and increasing police visibility
- Effective early intervention and prevention
- Good communication and more engagement with the public
- Financial responsibility
- Promotion of equality and promoting and celebrating diversity

## **2.0 Review of Plan**

2.1 I am of the view that these priorities are broadly the right ones but I am minded to revise them slightly.

2.2 Firstly I intend, in 2014 – 2015 to focus particularly on the very significant contribution which alcohol misuse makes to anti-social and criminal behaviour, in particular domestic violence and abuse.

2.3 Secondly, while I have already said that sexual violence and abuse is a priority, I welcome the work the County Council has done to develop a

strategy to counter violence against girls and women and I intend to make this area a particular priority in 2014 – 2015.

- 2.4 Thirdly, while recorded crime is continuing to fall, cyber crime is rising significantly and we need to rethink our response to it locally, regionally and nationally. Perhaps even more than in other areas of crime, prevention is key and informing the public of how to protect themselves from cyber crime will be a key priority for the coming year and the life of the Plan.
- 2.5 I refer in these priorities to reviewing and updating the 'blueprint' for the Strategic Alliance. The new modelling of policing and the people plan which goes with it has been implemented as of 1 October 2013. I will be monitoring carefully how the new model is working.
- 2.6 As importantly we need to strengthen and deepen the Alliance and to map out its future direction over the next two to three years. A key priority will be to work with the two Chief Constables and my counterpart in West Mercia to develop that future vision.

### **3.0 Financial Strategy**

- 3.1 These priorities must be seen alongside the priorities I have already set out in the budget plan for 2013 – 2014 and the revised Medium Term Financial Plan.

I have made provision to fund from reserves three key priorities:-

- To safeguard community safety grants
- To fund the appointment of Community Safety Ambassadors
- To recruit a further 100 Special Constables

I am also seeking to fulfil my commitment to maintain at current levels the numbers of warranted police officers and Police Community Support Officers.

In addition I suggested the strategy of the Chief Constable to focus on 'high harm causers' and the focus on particular areas of high crime, the three police priority areas in Warwickshire. I am committed to funding the proactivity represented by Operation X in targeting high harm causers until the end of the financial year 2014 – 2015 and am seeking to extend that commitment until April 2016 and the end of my term of office.

### **4.0 Consultation**

I will be beginning a full consultation on these proposed new priorities in the coming two months but would welcome any initial comments from the Police and Crime Panel.

**Ron Ball**  
**Police and Crime Commissioner**