



Report to the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel

Third Report on the Work of the Police and Crime Commissioner

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Panel with an update on some of the key meetings I have held and some of the major issues I have been dealing with since the last meeting of the Panel at the end of November.

2.0 Context and Overall Performance

- 2.1 The Panel will be aware that I meet the Chief Constable on a more or less weekly basis to review performance figures and to raise any issues of concern which have come to my attention from data from local people or through national events or reports.
- 2.2 I am again pleased to report that overall the picture in relation to reported crime continues to be positive. A copy of the figures to the end of December 2013 are attached at **Appendix A** for information.
- 2.3 I have also held a meeting in public with the Chief Constable in the Council Chamber of North Warwickshire Borough Council. The agenda included a presentation on Local Resilience and a report on the Force Xmas presence programme.

3.0 Major Issues

- 3.1 In my last report in November 2013, I said that the focus in the next few months would be on the following areas:
- The recruitment of additional staff to my Office
 - The development of the Medium Term Financial Plan
 - Monitoring the impact of Community Safety Ambassadors
 - Reviewing the support for Independent Custody Visitors
 - The development of a strategy for allocating Community Safety Grants and for commissioning support for victims
 - Work on the 'refresh' of the Police and Crime Plan 2013-17

- 3.2 The recruitment of new staff to my Office has now been completed and I am hopeful that the Office will be fully staffed within the next few weeks giving me much needed capacity to help me fulfil my current responsibilities and new responsibilities for the commissioning of support services for victims and witnesses.

A report on the staffing of my office is included as Item 5 on the Police and Crime Panel Agenda for 3rd February 2014.

- 3.3 Similarly, a report on the Medium Term Financial Plan and my budget proposals appears at Item 4 on the Panel's agenda. The preparation of the budget and the development of a budget strategy have been difficult to complete because of the lateness of the budget announcement and the lack of some key information. The details of the budget are still to be finalised. However, my broad budget strategy and the proposals I am making for the next two financial years have been made available on the website and are included at Item 4. They have also been the subject of discussions I am beginning to have with key stakeholders.
- 3.4 We do not have currently the capacity to review the impact of Community Safety Ambassadors (CSAs). A further meeting has been arranged with CSAs after the next round of meetings before which we will seek the views of local officers, councillors and Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs). The views already expressed by members of the Panel have been noted and will be included in the review and feedback to CSAs.
- 3.5 I took over responsibility from the Police Authority for managing the Independent Custody Visitor(ICV) scheme. ICVs are lay volunteers who carry out unannounced visits to Custody Suites to ensure that the rights of people detained are upheld and due process is followed by custody suite staff. The scheme ensures that I and the public can have confidence in the way people detained in custody are dealt with. My responsibility is to respond to any areas of concern reported by ICVs and to provide co-ordination and training for their work. Support for ICVs from my office has not been as good as I would expect, but we now have arrangements for supporting ICVs in place with a training programme planned. I attended the Annual Joint Meeting of the two ICV panels in Warwickshire in December, together with senior officers from the Police with responsibility for custody. New arrangements for custody have been put in place as part of the Alliance programme and I will wish to monitor them to ensure the safety of detainees and the protection of staff working in custody suites.
- 3.6 ICVs are a further example of the vital work of volunteers in the Criminal Justice system. I have attended area and county meetings of Neighbourhood Watch to talk about budget and my priorities but also how the OPCC can continue to support their work. I have also chaired two meetings of the Alliance Governance Group – one of which I have asked for a report on the support we give across the Alliance to volunteering.

- 3.7 I will shortly be publishing arrangements for the allocation of grants for community safety work and I, or my officers, are having meetings with colleagues in the County Council, the District / Borough Councils and the voluntary sector to explain those arrangements. The Panel will be aware that last year I largely rolled forward grants from previous years and invited bids from statutory and voluntary agencies and organisations for new one year projects. In relation to 2014 – 2015 I am proposing the following:-
- To keep the aggregate level of funding for grants at broadly the same level as last year but to seek to ensure an equitable balance of funding across the county.
 - To bring together in one fund the resources for the Community Safety Grants to CSPs and for county-wide activity and the fund available for new projects.
 - To invite proposals for funding from CSPs and from voluntary agencies using the same application form and, where appropriate, a report on activity in 2013 – 2014. Bids from the voluntary sector would normally be endorsed by the CSPs.
 - To make an allocation where appropriate for a two-year period, subject to review after the first year, to give continuity of funding and reduce bureaucracy.
 - To maintain a contingency fund for new projects or to fill identified gaps in provision.
 - To allocate a member of my staff to work with each CSP area to monitor the progress of projects.
 - To work with CSPs on projects which could be funded through the additional allocations I am proposing to make to help tackle rural, business and cyber crime.
- 3.8 As part of a number of meetings I have been discussing the ‘refresh’ of the Police and Crime Plan. The Panel will be aware that there is no statutory requirement to do so and I believe that the priorities I identified in the Plan are broadly the right ones, but I wish to identify the particular areas I intend to focus on. A report on the ‘refresh’ of the Plan appears at Item 5 on the Police and Crime Panels’ Agenda.
- 3.9 Finally, a number of meetings have concerned the future direction of the Strategic Alliance, in particular with my counterpart in West Mercia. While I have expressed my full commitment to strengthening and deepening the Alliance, I think it important to be clear that I will not support any merger of the two Forces in my period of office before there has been a proper discussion with the people of Warwickshire.

4.0 National Meetings

4.1 My deputy and I have also attended a number of national meetings and conferences in relation to:

- Organised crime
- Cyber crime
- The National Police Air Service
- Transforming Rehabilitation
- Crime associated with alcohol
- The work of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

5.0 Decisions

5.1 Since the last meeting of the Panel I have taken and published one formal decision:-

To make a one-off grant to the Warwickshire Retail Crime Initiative of £5,000

Details are available on my website.

6.0 Next Steps

6.1 The focus of my work in the next few months will be:

- Finishing the budget and medium term financial plan
- The induction of new staff
- Completing the 'refresh' of the Police and Crime Plan
- Work on Restorative Justice and commissioning support for victims
- The review of CSAs
- The allocation of grants
- The development of the next phase of the Alliance and the future financial challenges

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Warwickshire Police

End of December 2013

Target No.	Current		Target No.	Current	
	%	No.		%	No.

To Reduce Death, Injury, Loss and Distress compared to last year

Reduce the number of RTCs that result in KSI by 2% compared with last year	21	14.3%	24	213	7.8%	234
Reduce the number of Total Recorded Crime compared with last year	2161	1.0%	2183	22582	-3.9%	21712
Reduce the number of Violence with Injury offences compared with last year	233	-11.5%	207	1995	-1.4%	1968
Solve 44% of Violence with Injury offences	91	39.6%	82	866	46.6%	917
Reduce the number of Robbery offences compared with last year	24	-24.0%	19	206	-14.5%	177
Solve 26% of Robbery offences	5	42.1%	8	46	24.9%	44
Reduce the number of Domestic Burglary offences compared with last year	152	7.2%	164	1487	-6.4%	1393
Solve 18% of Domestic Burglary offences	30	7.3%	12	251	16.8%	234

To Increase Public Trust and Confidence compared to last year

Reduce the number of Anti Social Behaviour Incidents compared with last year	1424	-7.4%	1319	15749	-0.5%	15664
To achieve an Overall Satisfaction Rate for victims of crime of 82%					86.0%	

KEY

RED	Target not being achieved by more than 5%
AMBER	Target not being achieved but within 5%
GREEN	Target being achieved
SUPER GREEN	Target being exceeded by more than 5%