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Police and Crime Panel

22 September 2022

Report of the

Police and Crime Commissioner

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Foreword

This is the first Police and Crime Panel taking place since the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. I therefore want to place on record my condolences to the Royal Family at this sad time and pay tribute to our nation's longest-serving monarch.

During her remarkable reign, Queen Elizabeth showed an unstinting and steadfast dedication to public service. Her example will continue to inspire everyone in public life for many years to come. With great wisdom and kindness, Her Majesty touched countless lives and I know people from right across Warwickshire share my deep sadness at her passing.

I was privileged to be able to speak alongside the Chief Constable and Force Chaplain at special Service of Thanksgiving held at Leek Wootton on September 9, attended by officers and staff from Warwickshire Police. I spoke of the need to celebrate Her Majesty's life as well as the importance of the continuity of the monarchy.

On taking the office of constable, all police officers in the county will have sworn their allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, her heirs, and successors. It is in this spirit that we must grieve the loss of the Queen while also welcoming our new monarch, King Charles III. God save the King.

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide the members of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel with an update on my key activities as the county's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) since the Panel's last meeting on Thursday 23 June 2022.

Following the meeting, on the 20 July 2022 the Chair of the Panel provided a letter to my office in which he set out a number of issues where further information was requested. In summary, these were: -

- i. Clarification on the financial position as set out in my Annual Report 2020/21.
- ii. The proportion and deployment of inexperienced officers and their development.
- iii. Burglary detection rates.

A letter of response to these issues has been provided, including clarification on the financial position in my Annual Report 2020/21. I also gave an undertaking to provide in a future report to the Panel a summary of the proportion and deployment of inexperienced officers. In addition, that a summary of burglary detection rates would also be included for the information of the Panel members.

1.1 Proportion and deployment of inexperienced officers

As a pragmatic interpretation of the term 'inexperienced' I have considered that this refers to all student officers. To provide a more comprehensive answer to the

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question posed, it should be noted that there are currently three entry routes to join Warwickshire Police as a police officer through the Police Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF), with different training requirements and duration:

- i. **Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA)** A three-year programme for non-degree holders. On successfully completing the programme, the officer will achieve a graduate diploma in Professional Policing Practice.
- ii. **Degree Holder Entry Programme (PCDHEP)** A two-year programme for degree holders, rotated through various police specialisms, experiencing 24/7 frontline policing in Response, Investigations, Intelligence and Patrol. On successful completion of the programme, the officer will achieve a graduate diploma in Professional Policing Practice.
- iii. **Detective Constable Degree Holder Entry Programme (DCDHEP)** A two-year programme for degree holders who want to become Detective Constable. On successfully completing the programme, the officer will achieve a graduate diploma in Professional Policing Practice (Detective).

Given the requirement for the student officers to undertake academic work and be rotated through various specialisms to gain a more holistic experience of policing, the proportions of student officers within the various departments in Warwickshire Police is in a state of constant flux. The following figures are therefore broad and should be considered as approximations, and are with reference to the force headcount in the two main operational directorates of Local Policing and Protective Services in Warwickshire Police:

Workforce Establishment

- Number of officers currently in Local Policing Directorate = 532
- Number of officers currently in Protective Services Directorate = 317

Student Officers

- Total number of PCDA students = 112
- Total number of PCDHEP students = 15
- Total number of DCDHEP students = 15
- Grand total number of student officers = 142

Proportions

- Given that there are 809 officers in Warwickshire Police at the rank of Police Constable, the proportion of these who are student officers = 17%.
- PCDA + PCDHEP student officers at a % of Local Policing = 24%
- DCDHEP student officers as a % of Protective Services = 5%

It should be noted that the within the Local Policing Directorate there are 336 police officers in the Incident Response (Patrol) department, and this is where the majority of the PCDA + PCDHEP students will be predominately deployed during their training, therefore:

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- PCDA + PCDHEP student officers as a % of Incident Response = 38%

In terms of the supplementary question posed by the Chair, ‘what are the longer-term plans to support the development of recently recruited officers?’

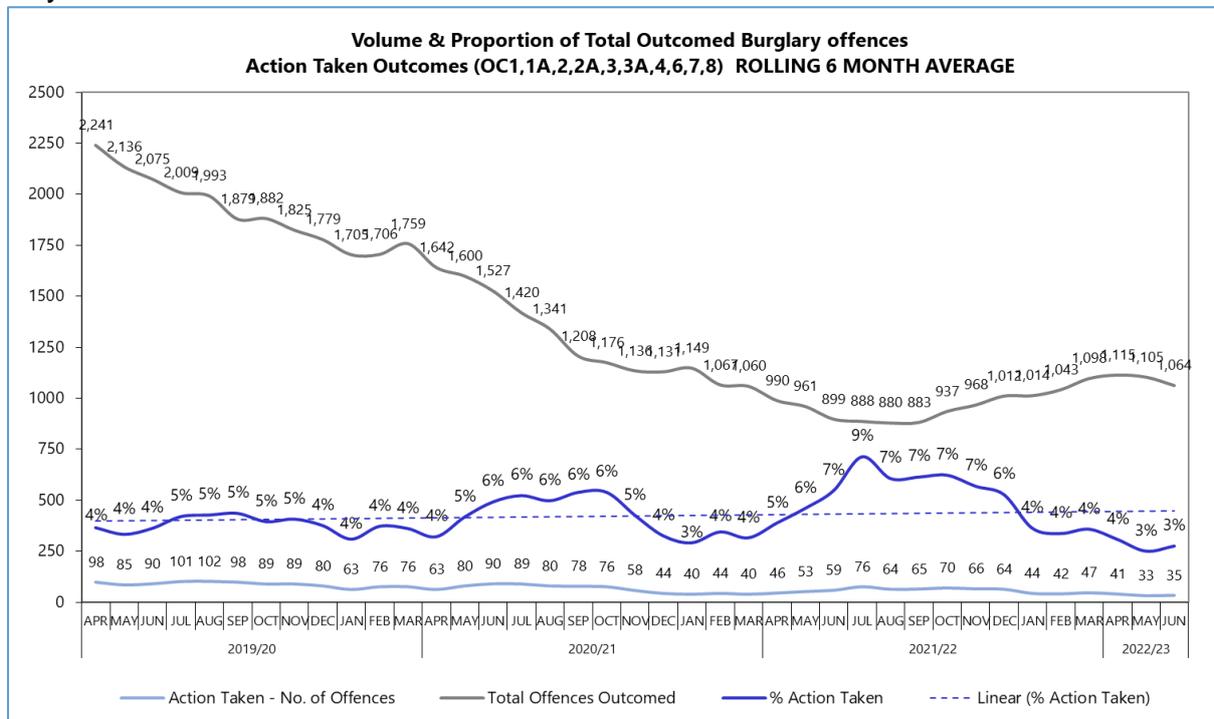
The Head of the force’s Learning and Development (P&D) department has provided the following summation of the force’s position: ‘Once officers have completed their PEQF programme, they can remain in post or as part of their development conversation with their line manager can seek out shadowing opportunities to learn more about different areas of the business and where they may wish to specialise in the future. To support their ongoing career development, they can access a coach or mentor from the coaching and mentoring portal, they can self-refer and can access internal or external coach / mentors.

If recently recruited officers have an ambition to continue with their academic qualification post degree, they can apply for funding through two different routes.

To support their ongoing learning, L&D are currently working with change management programmes to understand the Continual Professional Development (CDP) requirements and consideration will then be given to implementing a CPD model, which will include addressing the development needs of recently recruited officers’.

1.2 Burglary detection rates

The following data is taken from Warwickshire Police’s Performance Summary for July 2022.



Graph 2 - Burglary Offences and Action Taken

Action Taken rates are reported one month in arrears. As can be seen, the rolling six-month average for ‘Action Taken’ (detection) rate in June 2022 was at 3%.

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This rate should however be considered in light of the significant reductions in burglary offences that has been achieved over the past three years. As I stated in my letter of response to the Panel's query on this issue, over the last 10 years burglary offences have dropped nationally by 51% and during the last 3 years there has been a reduction of 35%. The pandemic has of course impacted this figure with more people working from home acting as deterrent. In addition, policing prioritises its approach to what is termed as 'home invasions' (i.e. Dwelling breaks) as these have the most impact on victims and this is where the public would expect policing to prioritise its finite resources.

In respect of positive outcomes, the rates have been steadily falling over the last decade for an entire range of reasons; however policing needs to improve and I take some reassurance from the fact that Deputy Chief Constable Alex Franklin-Smith is the national policing lead for burglary.

2. Progress against police and crime plan objectives

A 'plan on a page' of the priorities of my Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 are shown on the below infographic for ease of reference:



The infographic is titled 'Warwickshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-25' and features the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner's logo (Philip Secombe) in the top right corner. It is structured as follows:

- Vision:** Communities across Warwickshire feel safe and supported, with crime investigated effectively, better outcomes achieved and re-offending reduced, leading to increased confidence in the criminal justice system.
- To achieve this, my priorities are to:** Five main objectives are listed in blue boxes:
 - 1. Fight crime and reduce reoffending:** Shared outcome: Co-ordinated action disrupts and deters the most serious and harmful crimes and those which cause most concern to communities, with offenders brought to justice and less likely to reoffend.
 - 2. Deliver visible and effective policing:** Shared outcome: A visible police presence with strong welfare support deals effectively with local issues through innovative use of resources, delivering value for money for the taxpayer.
 - 3. Keep people safe and reduce harm:** Shared outcome: Women and girls are protected from violence, vulnerable people are safeguarded and there is a sustained reduction in the numbers of people killed and seriously injured on our roads.
 - 4. Strengthen communities:** Shared outcome: Communities are empowered to shape how policing and community services are developed and delivered, with strengthened partnership working - building public confidence and resilience to crime.
 - 5. Deliver better justice for all:** Shared outcome: Victims and witnesses have a better experience from the point of reporting crime to receiving an outcome, with clear pathways to tailored support services and improved confidence in the process.
- Areas of focus:** A grid of light blue boxes lists specific focus areas for each objective:
 - Objective 1:** Violent crime (County Lines and knife crime), Organised crime (Drugs, exploitation, fraud and cyber crime), Re-offending (Substance misuse, managing offenders).
 - Objective 2:** Extra officers (Including staff welfare and tackling officer assaults), Neighbourhood policing (Rural crime, burglary, vehicle crime and theft), Transforming the force (Better IT, buildings and fleet, including for the environment).
 - Objective 3:** Violence against women and girls (Including domestic abuse, sexual violence, stalking), Vulnerability (Mental health, hate crime and homelessness), Road safety (Reducing death and injury).
 - Objective 4:** Involving communities (Listening to people and using volunteers), Crime prevention (Supporting communities to deter criminal activity), Partnership working (Community safety and collaboration).
 - Objective 5:** Victims and witnesses (Victim and witness rights and securing specialist support), Improved communication (Across policing and the criminal justice system), Justice outcomes (Better investigations and timelier results).
- Delivering value for money for the taxpayer through a good and balanced budget and efficient and effective services.** (Green bar at the bottom)

2.1 Assurance / Performance Framework

The OPCC have introduced a Quarterly Assurance Meeting to assess progress against the objectives and the success measures of the Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025.

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From September 2022, the Performance Framework has been introduced and designed to ensure that there is clear evidence of the progression of the Police and Crime Plan objectives (as above), and an effective and functioning police force.

There are five overarching principles that governed the development of the Performance Framework to ensure that it is:

- **Transparent** clear and pre-determined performance measures and interventions
- **Consistent** a uniform approach across all five priority areas, at different levels of the system, and across different types of providers
- **Proactive** thresholds for intervention that identify underperformance at an early stage, so that it can be swiftly addressed
- **Proportionate** intervention is related to risk and appropriate to the local circumstances
- **Focused** on recovery initial interventions will focus on improvement and will include action to address the root causes of issues, including 'system-level' risk.

The Performance Framework has been developed to demonstrate principles for change. The consistency and transparency afforded by the Performance Framework will better enable all parts of the system to work together to tackle underperformance, in line with the principle of subsidiarity, Force performance will be managed by the OPCC via Red, Amber, Green status rating.

2.2 Police and Crime Panel Performance and Planning Working Group.

A meeting of the Police and Crime Panel Performance and Planning Working Group was scheduled to be held on Thursday 15 September 2022, however due to the period of national mourning the meeting will now not take place.

2.3 Fight crime and reduce offending

A key priority of my Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 is to '**fight crime and reduce reoffending**'.

- **Violent Crime**

My office working alongside with Warwickshire County Council has helped draft a Delivery Plan for the aims and objectives set out in the county's new Serious Violence Reduction Strategy. In September 2022, the draft is to be presented to the multi-agency Serious Organised Crime Joint Action Group (SOCJAG) for discussion.

- **Serious Organised Crime**

In respect of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) as an often-unseen component of Serious Organised Crime (SOC), my office is now a member of the West Midlands Anti-Slavery Network thereby enabling a better understanding of the

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regional picture and the challenges that this SOC activity presents. My office is also a member of the Warwickshire Modern Slavery Steering Group and is actively supporting the Safer Warwickshire Initiative of improved training and education for MSHT 'first responders', so that the issues are better understood, and more victims are rescued from this pernicious criminality.

In addition, as part of my commissioning of new victim support services to commence in April 2023, a specification has been drawn up to fund a new Independent Modern Slavery Advocacy (MSA) service. This initiative will significantly improve the support offered to victims and survivors of MSHT in the county.

Cybercrime is another significant activity of SOC that is international in its origin and scope. Supporting victims of cyber-enabled and / or cyber-dependent crime is a priority for Victim Support, who I commission to support victims of crime in Warwickshire. Improving the links between Victim Support, Action Fraud, and the Warwickshire Police Economic Crime Unit are currently being reviewed to ensure that the most vulnerable victims are being properly supported. Victim Support currently receive from Action Fraud approximately 250 victim referrals per quarter.

A comprehensive paper on SOC was submitted by the OPCC to the meeting of the Panel in September 2021. This subject is to be revisited at the next meeting of the Governance and Performance Board on the 27 September 2022, where the topic of SOC has been selected as the Focus Subject to be explored in greater depth thereby providing me with an opportunity to 'hold to account' the Chief Constable in this important arena of performance.

- **Reoffending**

Specifically in relation to Substance Misuse, my office has been working on delivering the local requirements arising from the Government's '10 Year Drug Strategy: From Harm to Hope'. Under this strategy there is a requirement upon every police force area to establish a Combatting Drugs Partnership (CDP) to help deliver against its aims and to jointly commission appropriate services and projects.

Warwickshire has been a step ahead of this requirement and had already created a Drug and Alcohol Strategic Partnership (DASP), which has now subsumed the requirements of a CDP. Emma Daniell as my Deputy PCC has been appointed as Chair of the DASP and my office is working closely with Warwickshire County Council to develop the partnership.

The DASP is in its infancy but over the coming weeks and months it will produce a new Terms of Reference, a local Drug Profile and Needs Assessment, a local Strategy, and an associated Delivery Plan. This initiative represents an excellent opportunity to help combat organised crime, county lines and the harm that drugs and alcohol inflict on our communities.

Related to this issue of re-offending and substance misuse is that some unexpected additional funding has been allocated to police force areas for the introduction, or expansion, of the existing 'Drug Test on Arrest' (DTOA) programmes. The DTOA programme already exists in Warwickshire and occurs in police custody when a person is detained for certain 'trigger' offence, or on a senior officer's authority. The

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DTOA checks for the presence of opiates or cocaine. If a detainee tests positive, they can be referred to Change Grow Live (CGL), whose services I commission, to receive treatment rather than go to court. However, if the person fails to engage with the programme, then they can be arrested. My office is working closely with Warwickshire Police and CGL to establish appropriate pathways through which to channel the additional funding.

2.4 Deliver visible and effective policing

A key priority of my Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 is to ‘**deliver visible and effective policing**’.

- **Extra Policing**

A key ambition of my Police and Crime Plan is to have more police officers in Warwickshire. The present numbers as shown in the below graph and table will increase through the Governments ‘Uplift’ programme of recruitment to achieve a force establishment of 1,100 officers during 2022/23:



Graph 1 - Police Officer Establishment

- **Transforming Warwickshire Police**

Following the success of the Evolve 2 change programme in disaggregating the remaining services shared with West Mercia Police as a consequence of the termination of the strategic alliance, the force has now embarked on the Empower change programme. This programme comprises of a holistic review of the force’s operating model to ensure that the force strives for continuous improvement, to deliver an effective and efficient service, and to better satisfy the public’s priorities and expectations. Under this change programme there are three workstreams of activity: -

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- i. **Empower: People.** An extensive review of the force's operating model, ensuring it can meet current and future demands.
- ii. **Empower: Place.** An extensive review of the force's police estate and fleet, ensuring that it is fit for the future.
- iii. **Empower: Technology.** Ensuring the ICT investments thousand maximised and that the modern technologies introduced under the Evolve programme and fully embraced.

The 'Empower: People' programme has now reported its recommendations to the chief officers and the majority have been accepted. The force is now embarking on implementing the agreed recommendation, which deliver a fundamental change in the way Local Policing Services are delivered. This includes the introduction of three Local Policing Areas in the North, South and East of the county. Local commanders will now have greater autonomy for the deployment of local resources, and greater accountability for performance.

In addition, under the new model there will be newly created Patrol Investigations Units to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of volume crime investigations, and a new Prevention Hub is to be created demonstrating Warwickshire Police's commitment to preventing crime.

In respect of vulnerability and sexual violence, a dedicated Rape, Serious Sexual Offence and High-Risk Domestic Abuse Team (DART) is to be established to improve service delivery to those effected and increase positive outcomes to the investigations conducted.

The progress of both 'Empower: Place' and 'Empower: Technology' are to be discussed as emerging topics at future Governance and Performance Boards during Q3 of 2022/23

2.5 Keep people safe and reduce harm

Another key priority of my Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 is to '**keep people safe and reduce harm**',

- **Violence Against Women and Girls**

Under the focus areas of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), my office continues to be represented at the county's VAWG Board and have been a key contributor to the VAWG 'call for evidence' (needs assessment) that has recently been completed. The assessment is assisting in developing a new VAWG Strategy and Delivery Plan for the county. In addition, my office has volunteered to chair a Task & Finish Group to work through the recommendations of the VAWG Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Review, and this work is progressing.

- **Vulnerability**

Under the focus area of Vulnerability, my office has sought to help fulfil a commitment made in the Police and Crime Plan to address the links between vulnerability and offending with homelessness:

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“The link between homelessness and vulnerability through drug and alcohol use is also well known, as is the impact it has on driving people towards crime and increasing reoffending rates. I will work with partners to help identify the local drivers to homelessness and the links to offending, supporting the efforts to tackle these through the county’s Homelessness Strategy.”

Through our preparations for the next round of commissioning, my office has included a requirement in the specifications that is akin to the ‘Duty to Refer’ under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017. Whilst the Police and Crime Commissioner is not a ‘specified public authority’ under this Act, and therefore does not hold the duty, we have sought to encourage better awareness and support for people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless by requiring future commissioned service providers to understand the duty and make referrals, as necessary.

In a similar vein, the Police and Crime Plan makes a specific commitment to reducing problem-gambling and gambling addiction in Warwickshire, due to the links it has with vulnerability, offending and substance misuse. Consequently, we have also sought to ensure appropriate awareness and provision of these issues and future service providers will be expected to ensure staff undergo training in Gambling Related Harm. Where problem-gambling is identified, the service provider will be expected to refer the service user into appropriate gambling support services.

It is hoped that these new requirements placed upon future commissioned services will help to address service users’ vulnerabilities more holistically and contribute towards reducing their risk of exploitation, further victimisation, and offending.

- **Road Safety**

Under the focus area of Road Safety, Staffordshire University have recently completed the ‘Warwickshire Road Victims Needs Assessment’, which I commissioned. This is a comprehensive and ground-breaking piece of research that clearly evidences the needs of the bereaved and those suffering life-changing injuries on Warwickshire roads. It also shows beyond doubt that the pioneering work of the commissioned Warwickshire ‘Independent Road Victims Advocate’ (IRVA) is needed and highly valued by those who use the IRVA services. The needs assessment strongly recommends developing this service into a longer-term commissioned service, and this is now being progressed by my office.

2.6 Strengthen communities

Another key priority of my Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 is to ‘**strengthen communities**’.

- **Crime Prevention and Partnership Working**

Under these two focus areas, my office continues to work closely with Warwickshire County Councils (WCC) Community Safety Team to finalise the details of a renewed collaboration agreement between both organisations on shared community safety priorities. This includes my funding of two Community Safety Coordinators and 1.4 posts for Community Safety Analysts, as well as contributing to the funding of the PREVENT Coordinator role. On Friday 2 September 2022, a strategic workshop took

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place involving senior staff from my office and WCC to provided continued engagement and momentum.

The ongoing collaboration between the OPCC and the Community Safety Teams of WCC and the county's District and Borough, has recently led to the securing of an additional £354,000 of funding from the Home Office's 'Safer Streets Round 4' grant fund. This, along with an additional £198,000 of local match funding, will result in a range of improvements and interventions at locations across the county.

A review, which my office is supporting, is currently being undertaken of the Warwickshire Unauthorised Encampments (UE) Protocol 2017, which was originally written by my office to help deal with a rise in UE activity at that time. Ownership and responsibility of the Protocol was subsequently passed to the WCC Community Safety Team and the review has been initiated due to the recent change in legislation on trespass as defined by the 'Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022'. UE continue to pose challenges across the county and Warwickshire Police have already embraced the new legislation, having used it to bring about a successful resolution to a small number of UEs in the county.

In respect of Community Safety Partnerships (CSP), Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires 'Responsible Authorities' (commonly referred to as a Community Safety Partnership) in a local government area to work together in formulating and implementing strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in the area. There is currently ongoing a national review of the role of CSPs and in addition Rugby Borough Council have independently commissioned a further review of the activities and operating model of the Rugby CSP to complement a review that was conducted by WCC two-years ago. The aim of the Rugby CSP review is to reconsider the earlier review's finding, monitor progress against them, and improve the CSP's operations. The OPCC has agreed to support the consultation process in the coming weeks.

2.7 Deliver better justice for all

Another key priority of my Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 is to '**deliver better justice for all**'.

- **Victims and Witnesses**

Victim Support continue to be the main support service for victims of crime in Warwickshire. Dealing with approximately 2000 referrals per quarter their standard of service delivery is consistently strong and victim satisfaction rates with the service received is consistently high. Victim Support ensure every single victim of crime receives a copy of the Code of Rights for Victims of Crime 2021 to ensure the 12 rights of victims as defined by the Code become well established and delivered by the criminal justice agencies in Warwickshire. PCCs still await further direction and clarity from the Ministry of Justice in respect full code compliance criteria. It is hoped the Government's Victim's Bill will provide that clarity.

I am concerned about the impact the current court situation will have on victims in Warwickshire, and on the delivery of effective justice in a sensible timeframe for

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perpetrators. I continue to seek updates and answers at criminal justice meetings about these issues.

- **Justice Outcomes**

I continue to Chair the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB), which meets quarterly and receives exceptionally good attendance and engagement from key partner agencies. At present, of key concern to the LCJB and to my office is the lack of Magistrates Courts in Warwickshire, although we have now thankfully heard after many months of asking that HMCTS plan to start returning these courts to Warwickshire's Justice Centre from October 2022.

The court backlogs that are principally due the Covid 19 pandemic remain a challenge and it will take a significant period to return to any form of normality. However, the industrial action taken by members of the Criminal Bar has now brought an additional complexity to this situation. The harsh reality is that victims and witnesses will have to wait further extended lengths of time for their cases to progress through the criminal justice system and without doubt some will lose confidence and disengage from the process.

In more positive news, my office has recently recruited a new LCJB Manager which will help to strengthen the workings of LCJB. This post is jointly funded by criminal justice partners but will be employed by my office, I envisage will be confirmed in post by November.

My Policy and Partnership Team within the OPCC is working hard on other matters relating to delivering justice, including sitting on the force's steering group to help develop the new Two Tier Out of Court Disposal Framework. This is due to take effect from April 2023 and is nationally mandated and seeks to both simplify and enhance the Out of Court Disposal offer. A full update on this will follow once arrangements are in place, but it is essential that these disposals are implemented appropriately to achieve the aims of ensuring effective and proportion justice, reduce reoffending, and divert people from the criminal justice system at an early point of entry. It is pleasing that my office can be involved in ensuring it is successfully implemented.

The Independent Custody Visitor (ICV) Scheme that I am mandated to host and govern by the Home Office continues to operate well in Warwickshire. We have recently recruited four new ICVs, with interviews scheduled for a further two applicants. This will significantly assist in bolstering the scheme's resilience and diversity of views and experience amongst the volunteers. The North and South ICV Panels recently came together, jointly participating in productive conversations about ways to improve and strengthen the scheme and the ICVs' activities in Custody.

The Appropriate Adult Volunteer Scheme that I initiated has been operational since November 2021 and is going from strength to strength. At the time of writing there have been more than 100 instances of the volunteers supporting vulnerable adults held in police detention, totalling nearly 300 hours of voluntary service.

The benefits of this for the detainees, Warwickshire Police, and my office are significant, whereby vulnerable detainees have the benefit of being supported by a

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local resident who is a fellow member of their community, has knowledge of local matters, and can attend quickly with little notice. The force has the benefit that they can call on a local person who can present to Custody within a short space of time and at little cost. And my office has the benefit of additional first-hand insights into the treatment and welfare of detainees in the care of Warwickshire Police, with which to 'hold to account' the Chief Constable. At present, we have five Appropriate Adult volunteers (all who have remained with the scheme since its inception), and this month we have offered the role to three new volunteers pending their vetting and training. The scheme has also been named as one of two finalist teams in this year's Lord Ferrers Award, in the OPCC team category. I am incredibly pleased that their exemplary work has been recognised and wish them all the best of luck at the celebratory ceremony in London this October, where the Home Office will announce the winners.

3. Communications and engagement activity

3.1 Engagement

Over the past four months, along with my Deputy PCC, I have participated in a diverse range of meeting with elected officers, partner agencies, third sector organisation and members of the public, including: -

June 2022

- 04/06/2022 - Kenilworth Show, with Rural Crime Team
- 06/06/2022 - Beaudesert & Henley in Arden Parish Council Meeting
- 07/06/2022 - Visit to the Leamington Justice Centre (Deputy PCC)
- 13/06/2022 - Galley Common Residents Association, Nuneaton
- 23/06/2022 - Brady Club, Rugby

July 2022

- 05/07/2022 - Youth Councillors Meeting, Shirehall, Warwick (Deputy PCC)
- 21/07/2022 - Change, Grow, Live (commissioned service), Leamington
- 27/07/2022 - Camp Hill Community Surgery, Nuneaton
- 27/07/2022 - Long Itchington Parish Council
- 28/07/2022 - Crime prevention event, Stratford-upon-Avon (Deputy PCC)
- 28/07/2022 - Meeting with Craig Tracey MP, Atherstone
- 28/07/2022 - Visit to the Blue-Sky Centre, Nuneaton
- 30/07/2022 - Game Fair, Ragley Hall, with Rural Crime Team

August 2022

- 02/08/2022 - Visit to BVS Gurdwara, Exhall
- 20/08/2022 - Warwickshire Pride, Leamington Spa
- 24/08/2022 - Visit to Victim Support (commissioned service), Bedworth

September 2022

- 12/09/2022 - Visit to RoSA (commissioned service), Rugby
- 12/09/2022 - Lapworth Parish Council
- 13/09/2022 - Visit to Refuge (commissioned service), Leamington Spa
- 15/09/2022 - Coleshill Community Hub (Deputy PCC)

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I would like to highlight the attendance of my office at the Warwickshire Pride in August, where we held the first of our expanded programme of community engagement. For the first time, the OPCC had a stand at the event for the entire day giving me and the team the opportunity to talk to members of the public, explain the role of the PCC and OPCC and seek their feedback on a wide range of subjects. The event was extremely well-attended, and we engaged with more than 240 people during the day.



A programme of similar events is planned across the remainder of the year, with attendance by invitation to a diverse range of existing community meetings and the organisation of our own events.

3.2 Budget Consultation

I have launched the 'Your Police, Your Views' survey to gather the public's views on policing, community safety matters and gain a wider understanding of the attitudes towards paying for policing services.

The survey, which is available online with paper copies of the question set also available on request, will run over the next three months until 16th December.

The earlier launch date will allow for a widespread publicity campaign and associated community engagement events to take place. The intention is to increase participation and to broaden as far as possible the range of viewpoints that can be gathered.



The draft question set was presented to a working group of Panel members on 24th August 2022. In response to their feedback, the question set was revised with additional supporting information provided to explain the current financial circumstances of the force and provide context to assist respondents. A paper outlining the various promotion methods was also circulated to Panel members prior to the working group.

Data from the survey will be monitored as it comes in and snapshot reports provided at regular intervals to help inform the series of budget discussions that will take place during the development of the draft budget. The feedback received will also help to inform the precept setting process.

The last section of the survey provides optional questions to establish the demographics of the respondents, and this will be used to direct targeted communications later in the campaign to boost responses from sections of the community which appear to be under-represented.

A summary report of the findings from the survey will be published in January 2023.

The launch media release at: <https://www.warwickshire-pcc.gov.uk/major-survey-on-police-priorities-and-funding-launches/>.

I would urge Panel members to support the survey’s promotion amongst the county’s communities and encourage others to do likewise, so that we can ensure a strong response.

3.3 Communication and Engagement Strategy

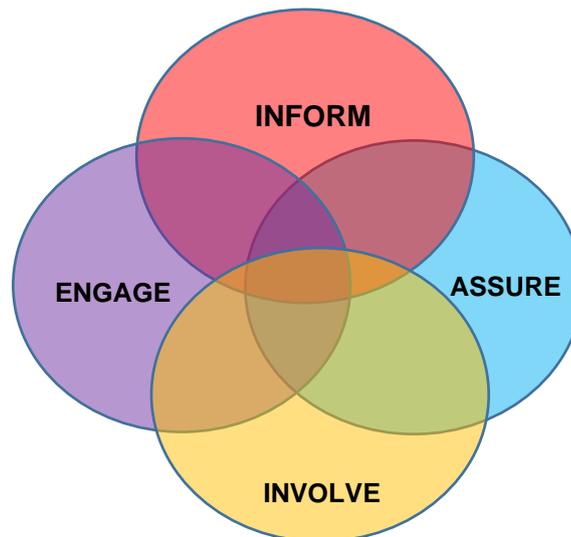
The budget consultation sits as part of my wider Communications and Engagement Strategy, which has recently been refreshed to broaden the engagement activities I and my office conduct. This has been supported by the appointment of an Engagement Officer to help deliver this important work in the community.

The strategy seeks to set in place an extensive and expanded programme of engagement and consultation, in support of the priority of my Police and Crime Plan: to Strengthen Communities.

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In doing so, it outlines several strategic objectives with the intention that all communications or consultation activity would derive from one or more of the strands. These are:

- **Inform.** Communities and service users have a clear understanding of the role, priorities, services, activities and achievements of the Commissioner and his office (OPCC).
- **Engage.** Communities have opportunities to engage with the Commissioner and his office to raise issues, highlight the priorities that are important to them and gain feedback on the actions taken by the OPCC to address them.
- **Assure.** Communities have trust in the OPCC and are confident that public money is used wisely and in accordance with the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan. They are also assured that the OPCC meets its statutory obligations and is effective in holding the force to account and delivering an efficient and effective policing service.
- **Involve.** Residents, service users, partners and businesses are involved in decision making, helping to shape and scrutinise service delivery and allowing them to take action to make communities safer.



An outline workplan of activity in support of these objectives is contained within the strategy, with identified internal, external and stakeholder audiences.

A copy of the strategy is provided as an appendix to this report, and I will give an overview presentation of the planned activity during the Panel meeting.

4. Grants and commissioning

Work on the recommissioning of some key services from April 2023 has continued. I have approved that five service lots will be tendered as follows:

- Lot 1 - General victim cope and recovery services,
- Lot 2 - Sexual abuse and violence recovery services,
- Lot 3 - Child Exploitation Recovery Services

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- Lot 4 - Modern Slavery and human trafficking
- Lot 5 - Restorative justice services.

The contracts will run for a period of three-years, with potential to be extended for a further two-years. The baseline annual cost of all the services is anticipated to be circa £1m per annum and will be funded partly through the annual Ministry of Justice victim services core grant, which we receive each year, and partly from local funding.

A market engagement session has been held with potential partners, and work is currently ongoing to develop service specifications based on the evidence gathered and recommendations made in the independent needs assessment, which was commissioned and presented to me and OPCC staff earlier in the year. The invitations to tender will be despatched following the period of national mourning. Following receipt of the applications, a period of evaluation and clarification will follow with the contract award announcements in late December 2022.

Work is also underway on separately commissioning road safety victim services, following the more recent receipt of a separate independent road victims support service needs assessment. The intention is that a separate round of commissioning will be undertaken for commissioning some new services to address the recommendations in the report. The intention is that these services will be commissioned and put into effect during 2023/24.

I am pleased to be able to report that my office has successfully bid for additional funding from the Ministry of Justice, totalling £418,520 per annum for each of the next 3 years. This funding will enable us to work with our partners to improve services for the victims of domestic abuse and sexual violence, and staff are in the process of allocating funding to partners to deliver projects and enhanced services across the county.

My office has also worked with key Local Authority partners to bid for over £350,000 of Safer Streets 4 funding, spanning this year and next. The OPCC is the lead partner for receipt and allocation of the funding, working with partners who will deliver projects in various localities across Warwickshire to address the VAWG agenda.

Finally, a further £200,000 of funding has been allocated to the office to continue the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme (DAPP) that was successfully developed and implemented by the office in conjunction with a key partner in 2021/22. The scheme funding was due to end in August 2022, but the additional funding secured by the office will now enable the scheme to run to the end of the financial year.

5. Holding to account activity

5.1 Governance and Performance Board

To facilitate my statutory duty under the Police Reform and Responsibility Act 2011 to 'hold to account' the Chief Constable of Warwickshire Police for policing services, I hold a Governance and Performance Board (GPB) each month with Chief Constable Debbie Tedds, and senior officers from the force and the OPCC. At each

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meeting of the GPB a Focus Subject of specific interest or concern is selected for additional scrutiny, these are scheduled for 2022/23 as:

- April - National Crime and Policing Measures
- May – Road Safety
- June - Health and Wellbeing of Warwickshire Police
- July - Public Engagement and Contact
- August – Neighbourhood Crime
- September - Serious Organised Crime
- October - Domestic Abuse, and Rape and Serious Sexual Assault
- November - Victims and Witnesses
- December - Offender Management
- January - Safeguarding children
- February - Crime Prevention, and Problem Solving
- March – Organised Crime

Minutes of these meetings, together with quarterly scrutiny of the force's performance data, are published on the OPCC website at:

[Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire \(warwickshire-pcc.gov.uk\)](https://www.pcc.gov.uk)

5.2 National Policing Measures

As part of the Government's strategic priority for there to be a relentless focus on cutting crime and to improve police performance, the National Policing Measures have been introduced. The measures therefore set out the Government's key national priorities on crime: -

1. Reduce murder and other homicides
2. Reduce serious violence
3. Disrupt drugs supply and county lines
4. Reduce neighbourhood crime
5. Tackle cyber-crime
6. Improve satisfaction among victims – with a particular focus on victims of domestic abuse

These National Policing Measures are monitored on a quarterly basis against a national baseline of June 2019, as selected by the Home Office and were discussed in August 2022 as, this subject was discussed as the Focus Subject at the Governance and Performance Board.

6. Finance

A meeting of the Police and Crime Panel Budget Working Group was scheduled to be held on Wednesday 14 September 2022, however due to the period of national mourning the meeting will now be re-scheduled to a future date.

7. Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner

As the Panel are already aware, in May 2022 Emma Daniell was appointed as my Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and since then has spent some time getting to better know the County and understanding the workings of Warwickshire Police. Her recent operational policing background has been invaluable in providing a distinct perspective to my office, assisting me in 'holding to account' the Chief Constable and in identifying areas of performance where improvements can be made by the force.

Emma has visited the services that I commission and has liaised with the force in relation to these. She has also engaged with several the grant recipients and through her contact within the force has found other areas that could benefit from future grant funding to directly support the objectives of my Police and Crime Plan.

In terms of governance arrangements, Emma will now be chairing the Drugs and Alcohol Strategic Partnership, and vice-chairing the multi-agency SOCJAG meeting those deals with serious crime. She will also be working alongside our partners within the Community Safety Partnerships to ensure that we are as effective as possible within the crime prevention space.

Emma is passionate about supporting and engaging with the various communities of young people in Warwickshire. Consequently, she now sits on the Youth Justice Board and is also actively seeking regular engagement opportunities with this section of our society to ensure that we hear and fully understand their views on the police and crime plan.

8. Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Since the last meeting of the Panel, Jemima Busby has joined the OPCC as an Assurance and Scrutiny Officer, and Esther Ion as a Personal Assistant.

9. Regional and National matters for consideration

Since the last meeting I have continued to engage on regional and national matters. As the Panel will be aware my interest in road safety matters has led me to lead the regional work in this area; we are working on some projects with partner OPCCs. I also continue to sit as a Director on Blue Light Commercial.

On 8 September 2022, I spoke on behalf of PCCs at the Emergency Services at the Excellence in Blue Light national conference.