

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE & CRIME PANEL

PAPER MARKED

Report of	POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
Date	FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2016 - 1.00PM
Subject	POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FIRST 100 DAYS IN OFFICE
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Purpose of Report

1. To update the Police and Crime Panel on some of the key achievements and activities undertaken by Lord Willy Bach in his role as Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) during his first 100 days in office.

Recommendation

2. That the Panel notes the report and takes assurance from the work undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner during his first 100 days.

Building Relationships

3. Lord Willy Bach (the Commissioner) was elected to the role of Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire on 5 May 2016. He took up the role formally a week later (on 12 May 2016) having resigned from his position on the opposition front bench upon his election to concentrate on his new responsibilities as PCC.
4. The Commissioner immediately undertook an in-depth programme of induction in every element of the PCC's diverse areas of responsibility, thereby enabling informed decisions to be made from the outset. This simultaneously helped to forge effective working relationships with his own team from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the Chief Constable (and officers and staff across the force).
5. Appreciating the importance of relationships with partners and stakeholders, on his second day in office the Commissioner arranged a meeting with the Leaders of Leicester City, Leicestershire County and Rutland Councils to discuss cohesive future working relationships, aims and objectives. Since then 12 meetings have been held with representatives from local authorities across the area.
6. One to one meetings have also been held with the Chair of the Police and Crime Panel to establish a genuine, open and transparent working relationship with the body responsible for scrutinising the work of the PCC.

7. In the short time since the May elections the Police and Crime Panel has welcomed the Commissioner to two meetings, one of which was specifically arranged in order to review police performance with the newly elected Commissioner.
8. The Commissioner has set in train a pattern of regular visits to each local authority area within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. These all-day events see the morning spent with the relevant local authority and other key partners to share local information, problems, solutions and initiatives. In the afternoon the Commissioner goes out on 'walkabout' with members of the local neighbourhood team to meet local people, discuss specific issues and see for himself the particular community safety trends on different beats.
9. The first such visit took place in Rutland when a highly positive meeting with partners was followed by a visit to Oakham Police Station to meet the officers and staff on duty that day. A walk around the town centre, taking in the recently refurbished Castle, engendered a positive meeting with young people on the skate park. The PC accompanying the Commissioner was clearly a popular individual across the area greeting local people and introducing them to their new PCC. He was able to point out areas where there have been reports of ASB (anti-social behaviour) and highlight the problems in policing a largely rural area which closely borders another county. A trip into more rural areas of Rutland demonstrated to the Commissioner the diversity of the area and enabled him to meet local people and discuss the problems faced by farmers and those in remote villages.
10. The second visit, to North-West Leicestershire, saw the Commissioner meeting local partners before going off to meet the individuals behind a new trampoline facility aimed at young people of all ages; going on walkabout in Ashby town centre and the Skate Park before meeting local people who have a problem with ASB in the area where they live.
11. Future dates for other districts are already diarised.
12. In addition, appreciating the importance of tackling alcohol related crime and violence, the Commissioner has been out and about on the streets of the City to see the resources required to police the thriving night time economy.
13. Appreciating the importance of internal relationships, the Commissioner has set up a regular meeting with key individuals from the representative groups and unions, including the Police Federation and Unison.
14. On the national landscape the Commissioner has attended 3 meetings of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners enabling him to meet peer colleagues from across England and Wales and establish links into the national representative group for PCCs.
15. Recognising the importance of effective regional working the Commissioner has met regularly with regional PCCs, Chief Constables and key members of the OPCC teams from across the East Midlands. These meetings include oversight of the variety of two, three, four and five force collaborative projects currently in operation. Consideration is also given to future prospects, exploring options for more effective working practices which reduce demand on resources.
16. Work is progressing on the ambitious Tri-force collaboration programme, in which the Commissioner plays an active role on the Board. Most recently, a successful bid for funds from the Home Office Transformation Fund saw the three forces involved (Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire) awarded £2.224 million in

2016 to 2017 and a further £3.536m in 2017/18 for a project to eliminate duplication between forces and ensure they have access to a larger pool of information to help officers make faster and more informed decisions.

17. The shared aims and ambitions of Leicestershire Police and partners have seen the Commissioner taking an active role in the Strategic Partnership Board. As a result of this meeting the SPB Executive will be reviewing the form and membership of the SPB in order to ensure the widest possible partnership input.
18. Criminal Justice is the thread connecting the relationship between the PCC, the Police and many local partners. The PCC is the Chair of the EMCJB, taking on this portfolio on behalf of the regional PCC's.
19. The needs of rural communities have not been overlooked. Aware that rural crime is an emotive issue the Commissioner has met with the NFU to discuss personally the specific problems faced by rural and remote communities.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

20. The Commissioner established early in his Term of Office that in his view actions speak louder than words when he very publicly vowed to help residents in Countesthorpe adversely affected by a spate of anti-social behaviour incidents. Taking a highly personal interest, the Commissioner visited Countesthorpe to meet local residents and talk to those affected, young people and indeed those who did not feel there was a problem. Meetings with local authorities, police and other partners were followed by a well-attended public meeting giving local people the opportunity to make their voice heard.
21. The Commissioner has maintained the focus on addressing the problems and at the last meeting with partners it was evident that the multi-agency approach was paying dividends with a clear fall in the number of incidents reported.
22. A keen Leicester City Football Fan himself, the Commissioner welcomed the opportunity to take part in the celebrations as the Police and Crime Commissioner, when he was able to witness first-hand the excellence of the police service delivery involved in policing both the Victory Parade and the Party in the Park.
23. Community Volunteers are an important member of the policing family and the Commissioner has clearly shown his support for the individuals giving of their time and skills to contribute to community safety in a myriad of ways. Attending the Volunteers in Policing Awards Ceremony he was delighted to present the awards for the Police Support Volunteers Community Engagement Award, and the Special Constable Community Award, providing him with the opportunity to thank all those present for their commitment.
24. The Commissioner has already stated his wish to both include and engage young people in policing and he has been working with the existing Youth Commission on plans to further develop the Commission's work.
25. A meeting has been held with the CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau) to discuss the new Witness Service.
26. Having publicly stated in his pre-election campaign and in subsequent public arenas that he wished to prioritise hidden and under-reported crimes such as hate crime the

Commissioner was proud to attend the vigil for the victims of the Orlando Massacre, standing beside representatives from the LGBT community and other minority groups.

27. Hate crime has been high on the agenda throughout the first 100 days, particularly post Brexit, a theme which looks set to continue. Events at which the Commissioner played an active role included the screening of 'Black Roses', a film about Sophie Lancaster who was murdered due to difference. The Commissioner has also met with representatives from Leicestershire's LGBT community, speaking out about the need for tolerance.
28. The Commissioner said at the outset that he would be a PCC for all communities, those who voted for him and those who didn't. That is why he has embarked upon the biggest consultation the OPCC has undertaken to date, to ensure that as he develops his Police and Crime Plan it is in line with, and shaped by, public opinion.

Raising Public Awareness

29. Since his election the Commissioner has proactively driven a programme of communication designed to raise awareness with the public in relation to the role and responsibilities of the PCC.
30. Interviews with broadcast and printed media have been given, regular columns agreed with key local press and features have been published in several policing and local newspaper publications.
31. An active 'Tweeter' personally (@FightBach), the Twitter account for @LeicsPCC has been busy keeping followers up to date with the Commissioner's work and a Facebook page has been set up to ensure that different channels of information are available to meet the needs of different audiences.
32. Possibly of most significance, the Commissioner became the first serving PCC to speak in either House when he made a speech in the House of Lords regarding the plans for closer working relationships between the Police and Fire Services.
33. Listeners to Radio Leicester's 'Hot Seat' heard the Commissioner taking questions on a range of subjects including ASB, budget, police officer visibility, drinking in public places and policing priorities.
34. Amongst several television interviews was a slot shortly after his election on the East Midlands Politics Show, discussing his pleasure at being elected, the wide range of responsibilities of the Commissioner and his future plans.

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

35. As previously noted, the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner is wide. Not only is he responsible for the commissioning of Victims' Services and Community Safety services, but he has management of the Independent Custody Visiting Scheme, all of which have required background research and, in some instances, training to inform future decisions.
36. Governance structures have been agreed in order to hold the Chief Constable to account in the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and to ensure an efficient and effective Police Service. This includes a scheduled weekly 1-2-1 meeting with the

Chief Constable, attendance at Chief Office Team meetings and a Strategic Assurance Board attended by the Chief Officer Team and the OPCC Senior Management Team.

37. The Commissioner also sits on the Safer Communities Strategy Board and has attended Safer Rutland Partnership and other Community Safety Partnership meetings.
38. To better understand the needs of those affected by domestic and sexual abuse, a visit was made to UAVA (United Against Violence and Abuse) in Leicester. UAVA is a consortium comprising Women's Aid Leicestershire Ltd, FreeVA and Living Without Abuse.
39. As the Commissioner has considered his initial thoughts for his Police and Crime Plan he has made it publicly clear that the priorities highlighted ahead of his election remain. In particular his commitment to Neighbourhood Policing and Police Visibility is undiminished and indeed, the recruitment of an additional 100 officers coincided with the first 100 days in office.
40. While clearly not every initiative can be inspected within 100 days, the Commissioner has visited the highly successful Braunstone Blues project, met with representatives from many commissioned services, including Victim First, and attended major incident team training.
41. On a day to day basis, the work of the Commissioner is firmly founded in communication and engagement. To that end in the first 100 days, the Commissioner:
 - Attended 28 meetings with partners
 - Attended 5 meetings with the public
 - Responded to 488 items of correspondence
 - Issued 22 press statements, responded to every request for comment from the press and prepared nine columns

Summary

42. This report is intended to provide members of the panel with an overview of the work of the Commissioner in the first 100 days. It is not intended to be an inclusive representation of every appointment in the Commissioner's diary.
43. It does however illustrate that key relationships have been established which will be critical to the Commissioner's work going forward.
44. The Commissioner will use the information and experience of the first 100 days as he prepares his first Police and Crime Plan, the draft of which will be submitted to the Panel before the end of the financial year.
45. It is hoped that the contents of the report provide assurance and useful insight to the panel regarding the breadth of the Commissioner's role and the efficacy with which he is fulfilling each area of his responsibility.

Implications

- Financial – This report is an update for the Police and Crime Panel to note and there are no financial implications identified.
- Legal - There are no legal implications identified.

Equality - Impact Assessment The Police and Crime Plan and the Commissioning Intentions document and supporting documents have been Equality impact assessed.

Risks and - Impact No risks have been identified.
Link to
Police and
Crime Plan

List of Appendices

None

Background Papers

None

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