

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Report of	POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
Date	WEDNESDAY 29TH MARCH 2017 – 1:00 p.m.
Subject	OPCC YOUTH COMMISSION
Author	MR CLIVE ELLIS - OPCC

Purpose of Report

1. This report updates the panel on the progress of the Youth Commission.

Recommendations

2. The Panel are recommended to note the contents of the report.

Background

3. The Youth Commission was set up in 2013 and consists of young people in the age range 14-25, from a diverse range of backgrounds, who provide advice to the PCC in regards to young people's opinions as regards policing, policing priorities and the means by which these policing priorities might be addressed and to:
 - To support, challenge and inform the work of Leicestershire Police.
 - To provide a platform for young people to talk about crime issues and solutions with their peers
 - To support young people in being part of the solution to crime issues that matter to them.
 - To improve the relationship between young people and the Police.
4. Previously the Youth Commission has identified priority areas, specifically affecting young people and conducted peer to peer engagement with other young people, specifically focussing on these areas. This was conducted through events such as workshops and presentations at schools, colleges and universities. There has also been a specific focus on trying to reach the sections of society which have been traditionally difficult to engage with, by engagement with specialist education projects, young offenders' institutes and bespoke councils, such as the Children in Care council. These events came under the collective banner of the "Big Conversation".
5. In addition to the "Big Conversation" events, engagement has also taken place at large scale events, including Leicester Caribbean Carnival and Leicester PRIDE. A Youth Survey was also undertaken, with the results being analysed and findings presented to the Leicestershire Police partnerships and project team.

Current Youth Commission function and structure

6. There are currently 29 members of the Youth Commission, consisting of 18 new members recruited in December 2016, 2 co-ordinators and 9 previously appointed Youth Commission members, all of which either reside or study in the Leicestershire policing area.
7. The Youth Commission, has a good representation with regards to age range, ethnic diversity and geographical area, to ensure they broadly reflect the make-up of the local population. Whilst they have varying degrees of experience of the police and justice system, partnership working and engagement aims to gain feedback from those young people with the most direct experience.
8. The Youth Commission currently meet on a monthly basis in order to discuss and review both previous and future events. This also contains an element of training and coaching for members, to gain skills in areas such as presentation and discussion, as well as ensuring appropriate safe guarding measures are adhered with.
9. The Youth Commission have a representation on the Stop Search Reassurance Group, which provides a valuable youth perspective to stop search practices of which young people are more likely to encounter.

Ongoing and future aims

10. To ensure that the Youth Commission continues to provide a good representation of young people across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, a further recruitment programme is planned, with particular consideration to maintaining a good range of ethnic diversity, age and geographical area.
11. Maintaining and increased partnership working, with particular emphasis on hard to reach groups and those with direct experience of the police and criminal justice system. These currently include organisations such as The Y (incorporating the Shadow Board), Twenty Twenty and Youth Offending service. The Shadow Board, consists of young people who have been dealt with by the courts and through discussion and feedback, help with reshaping the Criminal Justice System.
12. To continue to provide youth representation on key bodies boards, working on relevant issues (e.g. Stop Search Reassurance Group, Hate crime incident reporting group, ASB delivery group etc.)
13. In partnership with neighbourhood Officers and in agreement with the Children and Young Persons Officer, Youth Commission members will assist in the delivery of workshops and presentations to young people on relevant and important topic areas, providing a youth and peer to peer perspective with an aim to identify and undertake further engagement opportunities.
14. Youth Commission members will accompany the PCC and Chief Constable at What Matters to You events to provide further opportunities for youth engagement, with local residents of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.
15. Social media accounts have been established and will be updated and maintained to provide an update on the Youth Commission and its work, along with providing an additional channel for youth engagement. Web forums are also to be developed to give an additional consultation platform.

16. The Youth Commission's work will continue to provide both a voice and a coherent link for the young people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan's priorities.

Implications

Financial:	The costs of the Youth Commission are met by the OPCC and in 2016/17 are anticipated to be in the region of £3.7k which covers administration and other costs.
Legal:	None.
Equality Impact Assessment:	None.
Risks and Impact:	None identified.
Link to Police and Crime Plan:	The Youth Commission will provide the opportunity to continue to maintain and develop close partnership working with organisations dedicated to identifying the needs of young people affected by crime and policing, focussing on both victims and offenders.

List of Appendices

None.

Background Papers

None.

Persons to Contact

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