

**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER FOR
LEICESTERSHIRE**

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Report of	POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
Date	WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER 2018 – 1:00 p.m.
Subject	OPCC YOUTH COMMISSION
Author	MRS DHARMISTA DAVE – VOLUNTEER MANAGER

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 on policing priorities, suggestions for the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the means by which these policing priorities might be addressed. The Youth Commission aims are as follows: -

- 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 and carry out research.
- 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.

Current Youth Commission function and structure

4. There are currently 15 members of the Youth Commission, including 4 volunteer Youth Commission Co-ordinators recruited in December 2017, all of whom reside, work or study in the Leicestershire policing area. The co-ordinators have a leading role in supporting new youth commission members and assist the Volunteer Manager with engagement on campaigns. The members have received training on Data Protection and Safeguarding and an overview on the Police and Crime Plan.

Demographics of Youth Commission Members**Gender**

Female – 10

Male – 5

Sexual Orientation

Bisexual - 1

Heterosexual - 12

Prefer Not To Say - 2

Disability

No - 15

Religion

Christian - 1

Muslim - 3

Sikh - 3

No religion - 6

Prefer Not To Say - 2

Ethnicity

Asian Bangladeshi - 1

Asian Indian - 3

Asian Other - 2

White and Black Caribbean - 1

White Asian - 1

White British - 6

White Other - 1

Geographical area

Central Leicester and East Leicester (City) – 10

Eastern Counties - 1

North West Leicestershire - 1

South Leicestershire – 2

West Leicestershire – 1

Recruitment due to take place in November 2018 will target members from under represented geographical areas.

5. The Youth Commission broadly reflects the make-up of the local population. Whilst they have varying degrees of experience of the police and Criminal Justice System, working with partner agencies and wider engagement assists in gaining feedback from young people who have the most direct experience.

To support, challenge and inform the work of Leicestershire Police.

6. The Youth Commission are represented on the Police Advisory Group Equalities (PAGE) which provides a valuable youth perspective to strands under the Equality Act 2010 and a link with local Independent Advisory Groups (IAGs).

Ongoing and future aims

7. Youth Commission members identified priority areas on their own experiences and those of their immediate friends/peers. These are:

- Child sexual exploitation
- Communication and engagement with young people
- Cyber Crime & hacking
- Drugs & alcohol abuse
- Hate crime
- Knife crime
- Stop and Search

8. The members received an input from Leicestershire Police on the identified priority areas to find out what Leicestershire Police are currently doing to:

- Prevent/raise awareness
- How the crime is investigated

- Victim support/offender management

Future work of the Youth Commission

9. The future work programme for the Youth Commission under the 4 aims include:-

To provide a platform for young people to talk about crime issues and solutions with their peers and carry out research

- As follow-up from their identified priorities Youth Commission members will be launching a survey in October and conducting further public consultation to establish areas of concerns for young people in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Findings from the consultation will be presented at the Youth Summit to be held later in the year and will influence Youth Commission priorities over the next 12 months.

10. To support young people in being part of the solution to crime issues that matter to them.

- The OPCC is hosting a Youth Summit on Tuesday 6 November 2018. Student and teacher representatives from all Schools/Colleges across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, and youth groups have been invited to participate in workshops on different crime types. This will help capture views from a wide range of young people on what it feels like as a young person in LLR and what concerns them. Findings from the Youth Summit will help shape the focus of the Police and Crime Plan.
- Youth representatives will sit on key boards, working on relevant issues such as Stop and Search, Hate Crime and ASB. They will also be working closely with People Zones to identify gaps in youth services and identify opportunities.

11. To improve the relationship between young people and the Police.

- Youth Commission are an able group of young people but we would also like to receive wider views from people with direct experience of the Criminal Justice System. Therefore a two way conduit has been established with 'The Y' and they have offered to organise relevant groups to consult with, as well as provide us with details of issues and concerns that come to their attention. This will provide valuable feedback from hard to reach groups such as those with direct experience of the criminal justice system.
- Youth Commission members were involved as part of the multi-agency consultation for the updated Children and Families Partnership Plan. Youth Commission will continue to build on work with partner agencies and will work with OPCC Partnership Officer and Engagement Officer. Youth Commission members accompany the PCC and Chief Constable at 'What Matters to You' events, as well as other community events to provide further opportunities for youth engagement, with local residents of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Conclusion

12. 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 in November 2018, with particular consideration to maintaining a good range of age, gender, ethnic diversity, and geographical area.
13. Social media accounts will be maintained to provide an update on the Youth Commission and its work, along with providing an additional channel for youth engagement.

14. The work of the Youth Commission 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 and to help influence the delivery of local policing.

Implications

Financial:	Expenses are paid. This cost is covered within OPCC budget
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

Mrs Dharmista Dave – Volunteer Manager

Tel: 0116 249 8703, Email: Dharmista.dave@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk