

## **LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD**

**18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022**

### **LSCSB UPDATE: OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

#### **Background**

1. The purpose of this report is to:
  - (a) Update the Board on senior staffing arrangements within the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) for LLR.
  - (b) Update on the Police and Crime Plan 2021-25 for LLR.
  - (c) Provide an update on the Chief Constable recruitment process.

#### **Notable developments and challenges:**

#### **Past Year**

2. May 2021 saw the postponed PCC elections take place (they were postponed from May 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic). At the elections the Conservative candidate, Rupert Matthews, won and took over the role from the Labour PCC Lord Willy Bach.
3. Following a restructuring within the team supporting the PCC a new CEO was appointed and started in January 2022.
4. The new CEO, David Peet, comes to LLR having worked as CEO for the PCC in Derbyshire for almost 9 years. Prior to this he worked as the Deputy CEO to the Police Authority, and latterly the PCC, in Northamptonshire where he oversaw the transition from Police Authorities to PCCs.
5. Whilst working in Northamptonshire David was the lead officer for Community Safety and acted as the Police Authority representative on them until Police Authorities were removed as a statutory partner (in preparation for the governance change to PCCs). He has therefore significant experience of working around the Community Safety agenda, and with CSP partners both as a member and a senior representative of a CSP funder.

6. Following his election Mr. Matthews is required as PCC to produce a Police and Crime Plan for the local area (LLR) that covers the term of his office, plus a year i.e. 2021-2025.
7. The Plan is based on both his election manifesto pledges and extensive consultation with the Force, the public and partners.
8. There is also a requirement that the Plan is presented to the local Police and Crime Panel for their consideration and comment. This took place on 14<sup>th</sup> February this year. As there were no specific comments or recommendations made by the Panel the Plan has now been adopted.
9. The plan sets out a number of commitments that fall into 12 main headline areas:
  - Visible policing;
  - Urban policing;
  - Rural policing;
  - High-tech policing;
  - Local neighbourhood policing;
  - Community policing;
  - Protecting business;
  - Curbing violent crime;
  - Supporting victims of crime;
  - Partnerships, collaborations & joint ventures;
  - Protecting (our) personnel;
  - Getting the most out of partnerships.
10. Each of these main headings are supported by a number of sub-objectives that detail how the PCC intends to deliver against these commitments.
11. Whilst significant work will be undertaken to ensure that the Police are delivering against these strategic priorities, there will also be an expectation that partners remain cognisant of the Plan and how their work may contribute towards its delivery. Indeed, there is a statutory duty in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 that required the PCC and relevant partners to have *due regard* of each other's strategic plans.
12. The Plan will inform the PCC's commissioning and grant making activity, which will include any financial support from the PCC to CSPs.
13. There is currently work underway to review the funding arrangements for CSPs, and individual partners will be contacted over the coming months to discuss potential new arrangements. There are, however, no plans to change how funding is allocated in the financial year 2022-23.

14. The PCC's office is also currently working to develop a delivery plan and relevant Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to ensure activity and progress towards the delivery of the Plan is captured.
15. Once the plan has been through a design and print process a link to the plan will be shared with members of the LSCSB.
16. The PCC has a statutory duty to keep the Plan under review. This will normally be undertaken annually, usually around December, prior to the budget/precept setting processes.

### **Coming Year**

17. The coming year will see the delivery of the new Police and Crime Plan commencing.
18. As previously stated the OPCC is currently reviewing the funding arrangements for community safety work and will be working closely with CSP partners to develop a new approach to supporting the work of CSPs financially that sees a greater link to the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan.
19. As members of the Board will undoubtedly have heard/read, after almost 12 years as Chief Constable Mr. Simon Cole QPM is retiring. This will result in the process of recruiting a new Chief Constable.
20. It will not come as a surprise to Board members that the process for a Chief Constable's recruitment is highly regulated and the PCC is in the process of developing a robust recruitment process designed to ensure the right candidate is selected to take the Force forward into its next chapter. Board members will be kept informed of progress with the process.

### **Key issues for partnership working or affecting partners**

21. The key issue moving forward will be the embedding of the new Police and Crime Plan.
22. Partners are therefore asked to familiarise themselves with the contents of the new plan and identify synergies that will help contribute towards the ambitious commitments in the new plan.
23. Partners should also start considering how any work that is currently funded through the PCC/OPCC contributes towards the delivery of the Plan as this will be a significant focus of grant making/funding arrangements moving forward.

**Issues in local areas**

24. The Plan does not have any specific impacts in particular localities.
25. Partners should be aware of the greater focus in this plan on crime affecting rural communities and a greater focus on policing issues in Rutland.
26. This new approach should not be taken as a reduced commitment to policing in the City, or other urban areas, as this remains a named priority within the Plan.

**Recommendations for the Board**

27. It is recommended that:
  - (a) The Board notes this report.
  - (b) Board members read and understand where the synergies between the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan and their own (local) plans lie.

**Officer to contact**

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**Background papers:**

Police and Crime Plan report considered by Police and Crime Panel at meeting on 14 February 2022:

<https://cabinet.leicester.gov.uk/documents/s128819/Police%20and%20Crime%20Plan%20report%20FV%20-%20PCP%20version.pdf>