



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
for Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland

Your Communities - Your Commissioner

Police and Crime Panel for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

2nd December 2024

Corporate Governance Board Update

Report Date	2 nd December 2024
Report Author	Clare Hornbuckle, Evaluation and Scrutiny Officer Lizzie Starr, Director of Governance and Performance
Security Classification	Official

Purpose of Report

1. In his role as the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) the Commissioner is required to secure efficient and effective policing for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, appoint a Chief Constable and hold them to account.
2. The PCC brings this report to outline for the Police and Crime Panel how he is fulfilling his duty by holding the Chief Constable to account for the performance of the force.

Request of the Panel

3. In their role to scrutinise the actions and decisions of the PCC, the Commissioner requests that the panel examines the contents of this report. He would specifically like to ask the panel their opinion on the following questions;
 - a. Is the Panel content in the way that the PCC has held the Chief Constable to account through the Corporate Governance Board?
 - b. Would the panel like to make any recommendations to the PCC in relation to this matter?

Summary

4. It is the opinion of the PCC that there is a robust system in place to challenge the Chief Constable on performance with the use of new standardised metrics and regular monitoring and discussion between the performance team.

Background

5. In advance of the Corporate Governance board meeting and in support of setting the agenda, the performance team reviewed the standard KPIs for Force performance and presented problem areas identified to the PCC.
6. In preparing the report the team consider the data available to them and review force dashboards and performance reports, performance across other boards for example the Local criminal justice boards is also considered. The team look at national performance and forces similar in size/make up to determine outliers and also take into consideration feedback from the PCC and the communications team to include community perceptions of crime and the impact they are having.
7. The full report of the board meeting in which these performance exceptions are discussed is attached as Appendix One.

Summary of scrutiny and impact from the September CGB

8. Trust and Confidence

Request from the Commissioner

The PCC requested a discussion be held between the OPCC and Force regarding a joined-up approach to surveying residents of LLR and agreement over the metrics that are used to track and measure trust and confidence.

Response from the Force

The Chief Constable presented information that showed the trust and confidence level in Leicestershire Police differed depending on the data. He recognised that there was always work to do in this area and assured the PCC that the Force wanted to do all they could to understand how trust and confidence could be improved. The board was updated on the delivery of the Pledge and communication routes to the public.

Outcome of Scrutiny

It was agreed that one method of measuring trust and confidence levels was needed and there was an agreement to work together to achieve that. The PCC was reassured that steps were being taken to improve trust and confidence levels but wanted to keep it under review to ensure improvement was continued.

9. Hate Crime Review

Request from the Commissioner

The PCC requested an update outlining the Force's work since moving the Hate Crime Team into the Prevention Directorate.

Discussion

A detailed discussion took place regarding all the steps that was currently being undertaken to provide a robust response to Hate Crime. The board had some questions regarding the performance information and underreporting of Hate Crime and were assured that the Force were proactive in encouraging reporting, particularly after the East Leicester Disorder. In relation to the performance stats, the Board were assured that the Force has in place a robust process for highlighting potential cases of Hate Crime not initially tagged and that often this is a system issue rather than an understanding problem. The Deputy Chief Constable receives a regular report on this to this effect.

Outcome

The Commissioner welcomed the report and was assured of the positive work being undertaken by the Force. The PCC was also pleased to see that the Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel was embedded in practice and providing a valuable contribution and public assurance and scrutiny. The

PCC continues to have oversight of this scrutiny group through regular briefings and from his Ethics panel.

10. Finance

Request from the Commissioner.

The Commissioner has become increasingly concerned that public finances are becoming increasingly pressurised. As such he requested that the Chief Constable provide information around the in-year savings efforts to ensure targets are being met and, work with him to develop a sustainable medium term financial plan.

In addition, as per the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the PCC is responsible for setting the Force Budget and determining the precept. The Corporate Governance Board meetings are fundamental in this process as they facilitate in depth discussions to be held regarding the budget and financial planning of the Force and OPCC.

Response from the Force.

The Force provided substantial evidence of in year savings and that there was a tight and effective grip on current spending and pressures.

In a joint paper, the OPCC and the Force presented multiple options for future modelling of finances as a first step in developing a sustainable Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Outcome of Scrutiny

The Commissioner was reassured that the in-year savings were on track to be met.

There was an agreement that an in-depth session on future need and assumptions about income/pressures was needed. The Commissioner agreed to carry on the conversation on the 14th October.

11. Firearms Licensing

Request from the Commissioner.

The PCC requested a paper from the Force on firearms licencing processes and current turnaround times due analysis of OPCC correspondence and feedback from PCC Community Days showing an increase in public concern on slow turnaround times for firearms licenses.

Response from the Force.

The Force described the current performance in this area and the reasons for the delays. The Board was updated on the mitigations put in

place by the force and assured that there were no individuals in possession of firearms with expired licenses.

Outcome of Scrutiny

The PCC was pleased with the positive performance in accurately granting licenses with only one being incorrectly issued when five-year worth was reviewed. The PCC was reassured that the Force were aware of the delays and were looking at innovative ways to improve efficiencies. The PCC offered to lobby the government on the cost of licensing fees and technology to support the Force further.

12. The actions captured and discussed within the Corporate Governance board are tracked by the OPCC for completion and the performance reviewed.

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