

Police and Crime Plan

The Panel will note that Appendix B to Paper B gives the PCC's direct response to the comments submitted by the Panel.

The revised Plan has addressed a number of the concerns that were raised by the Panel at its last meeting. This analysis has been undertaken by the officers supporting the Panel in discharging its scrutiny role. Comments have been sought from relevant partners and any comments received will be drawn to the attention of Panel members. This document has been prepared to assist PCP members in their further scrutiny of the Plan based on the key points of discussion noted in the minutes. No doubt members will have their own views and comments on the Plan. Specific comments for inclusion in the current plan are shown in **RED**.

Concerns previously raised by the Panel	Comments
<p>It was noted that partnership working had been key to the work of the Police Authority to identify and make efficiencies. The draft Plan did not appear to demonstrate a true commitment to continuing those previous levels of partnership working. It was suggested that this was a weakness and constituted a significant risk within the Plan; that the PCC needed to develop a vision about partnership working and what it could deliver; and that work could be undertaken on aligning priorities in different organisations. The PCC stated that he was committed to partnership working.</p>	<p><i>Section 4.3 on Partnership working has had a substantial rewrite and goes a long way towards addressing the concerns raised by the Panel and partners. It is not possible to advise on the targets contained in this section, that being a technical matter on which the views of partners has been sought. The OPCC has clearly carried out significant engagement since the last meeting and hopefully this will continue.</i></p> <p><i>In a further iteration of the Plan it may be helpful to link some of this activity back into the Policing elements of the Plan to demonstrate the interdependence and a more joined up approach.</i></p>
<p>It was highlighted that there were no agreed governance arrangements or terms of reference for the clusters nor any dates set for future meetings of the overarching Strategic Partnership Board (SPB). It was not felt this demonstrated a real commitment to on-going partnership work and that it would not be acceptable to some partners to have the clusters begin work before the SPB had had a chance to establish their terms of reference and lines of accountability.</p>	<p><i>The Plan makes a number of references to the key role of the SPB and this is to be welcomed.</i></p> <p><i>It is unclear from reading the Plan what progress has been made on the issue of governance of the SPB and clusters and the Panel may wish to seek reassurances from the PCC. The response from the PCC to the comments of the Panel states that the next SPB will be held in late March (scheduled for 27th March). Presumably governance issues will be picked up then.</i></p>
<p>It was not considered that the Plan adequately reflected the needs and concerns of vulnerable people or the requirements and processes of statutory bodies, such as Local Safeguarding Children Boards and Safeguarding Adults Boards, which were the key mechanisms in any locality for bringing together all relevant organisations to safeguard and promote the welfare of the local populations.</p>	<p><i>The report does deal with both domestic abuse in its own section and partnership working in a specific section and recognising the need for working together with partners. Vulnerable adults are mentioned in a few places.</i></p> <p><i>With regard to the Section on Domestic Abuse (page 23) a suggestion has been put forward that reference should be made to the role of the</i></p>

Domestic Safety Strategy Board.

'The Domestic Safety Strategy Board oversees and coordinates the implementation and delivery of domestic abuse priorities agreed in the Leicestershire Multi Agency Domestic Abuse Strategy.'

To achieve these aims and priorities the Board will encourage agencies and partnerships to work jointly and collaboratively, including the sharing of resources. The Police have a key role to play and I am committed to working together to ensure that we reduce the incidence of domestic abuse and its impact on communities and individuals in Leicestershire.'

The Plan does not go into the 'how' or what will be done, for example in relation to working with the Safeguarding Boards and it is hoped this could be addressed in the further iteration of the Plan.

It may be helpful to consider having a specific paragraph in the Plan which refers to the existence of the Children and Adults Safeguarding Boards and their key roles as the main multi agency boards for developing policies and strategies aimed at safeguarding vulnerable people. The following is put forward as a suggestion:-

4.3.4 (page 43)

'Safeguarding Children and Adults

To support all of the priorities in this section of the Plan along with several elements in the Policing element of the Plan will require engagement with local Safeguarding Boards.

Chaired by an Independent Person, Safeguarding Boards for Adults and Children have existed for some time now in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and the Police play a vital role on these bodies. These multi-agency Boards play a key role in co-ordinating the activities of statutory and voluntary agencies with the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults in the area and holding agencies to account for that work. The Boards

	<p><i>are responsible for developing policies and procedures in the area of safeguarding and also participate in and influence the planning and development of services. I recognise the valuable work undertaken by the Safeguarding Boards and am committed to maintaining and improving our engagement with these Boards and associated operational subgroups.'</i></p> <p><i>Specific comments received from partners suggest that it may be helpful to include the following:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Adding 'vulnerable adults' to the bullet point list on the bottom of page 35.</i> <i>• Adding 'mate crime' where vulnerable adults are 'befriended' and then subject to financial exploitation, abuse or neglect.</i> <i>• Mention of vulnerable adults in the section on reducing antisocial behaviour as a specific group that suffer from this and which can lead on to serious offences.</i> <p><i>The Independent Chair of the Adult and Children Safeguarding Board had raised a number of points but one in particular related to the issue of under reporting. Whilst he welcomed the proposals for improving reporting there was a concern that the Plan should not lose sight of the need for preventative work. The further iteration of the Plan would benefit from making this point.</i></p>
<p>There were only very limited references to the voluntary and community sector, which was a considerable oversight bearing in mind the amount of delivery work on community safety carried out through the third sector. There needed to be a more concerted effort to reach out and engage with these organisations, including during the consultation on the draft Plan.</p>	<p><i>The references to volunteers under Section 3 has been re written</i></p> <p><i>The section on linking to voluntary and community sector does refer to the need to utilise the goodwill and commitment of the voluntary sector to drive down crime and a commitment to build relationships.</i></p> <p><i>There is also an undertaking to develop a Volunteer Forum which, it is hoped, will be convened and consulted with over the summer to develop this Section more fully in future versions of the Plan.</i></p>
<p>The Plan did not contain sufficient focus on the Public Sector Equality Duty or the general equalities and diversity environment, with only brief references to a limited number of groups considered to have protected characteristics.</p>	<p><i>The Section on diversity and the commitment to Equality and Human Rights is to be welcomed. The Plan also usefully highlights work being undertaken with a number of leading equality</i></p>

<p>This was a glaring omission in a region containing the most culturally diverse city in the country and the Panel was clear this area of the Plan needed to be strengthened. It appeared that an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) had not been carried out on the Plan and the PCC undertook to rectify this as soon as possible. He agreed to take up an offer from the City Council to review the EIA, when available, through its Budget EIA Review Panel to test its robustness.</p>	<p><i>groups.</i></p> <p><i>The covering report, at paragraph 15, refers to the fact that an Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is available on request.</i></p>
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Commissioning

At the last Panel meeting considerable concerns were expressed by several members regarding the PCC's intentions to only provide funding to existing community safety projects and services for six months, while he considered their effectiveness.

The Panel may wish to explore the PCC's thinking on this matter given the work he has done in understanding the Partnership landscape.