

Annual Report

In an attempt to bring police forces closer to the communities they serve, the Government introduced the new role of Police and Crime Commissioner, or PCC, for every geographical force in England and Wales outside London.

Elections for this new role took place on 15 November, when the people of Leicestershire elected Sir Clive Loader to serve as Commissioner until May 2016.

The Commissioner is not here to run the police force; that remains the job of the Chief Constable. The Commissioner's role is to represent the public and to hold the police to account.

This annual report for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire relates to the period 15 November 2012 to 31 March 2013.

.....

The Commissioner's Responsibilities

After taking office, the Commissioner's first task was to appoint suitably qualified people to the posts of Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer (CFO) for the OPCC. These roles have been undertaken by Paul Stock (Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer) and Peter Lewis (CFO). The salaries for these posts are £90,000 and £80,000 respectively.

Sir Clive also verified that the Chief Constable, Simon Cole, has appointed a suitably qualified person to the post of Chief Finance Officer for the Office of the Chief Constable.

The primary role of the PCC is to hold the Chief Constable to account. There has not been a requirement to appoint a new Chief Constable or any new Senior Staff in the past year. He also has the power to suspend or dismiss the Chief Constable (in appropriate circumstances). This has not been necessary this year.

One of the ways in which the PCC has held the Chief Constable to account is by meeting with him privately on a regular basis. One to one meetings between them have been held frequently since the Commissioner's first day in office. There have also been monthly Executive Board meetings held at Police HQ which were open to the public.

Setting the Police Precept and Budget

Another of the Commissioner's initial tasks was to set the precept and budget for the OPCC. The precept is the amount of money which is collected via Council Tax and used for policing. Sir Clive has approved a budget for 2013/14 of £173.5 million. This is a reduction of £0.8m compared to the budget for 2012/13 and includes the ongoing effect of £23m of savings achieved over the last two years.

There has been no increase in council tax for police purposes this year. It will cost the average local taxpayer in Band D £173.87, which works out at just 48p per day. More information can be found here: <http://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Planning-and-Money/Council-Tax-2013-14.aspx>

Crime and Disorder Reduction Grants

The PCC can award Crime and Disorder Reduction Grants to suitable projects or organisations. None were awarded in 2012/13, but letters of intent were distributed in March 2013 to confirm transitional funding arrangements for 2013-2014 for all projects previously funded through Home Office Crime, Drugs and Community Safety Grants (which have now ceased). The Police and Crime Commissioner's new Community Safety Fund totals £1,649,000 for 2013-2014. He is required to use this fund to support the achievement of the Strategic Objectives within the Police and Crime Plan.

The PCC has agreed that it is in the best interests of the OPCC, partners, the tax payer, and the wider electorate to offer a period of transitional funding for all initiatives previously funded through the Home Office grants. The period of transitional funding will be for six months from April 1st 2013 until the 30th September 2013, and the amount of funding awarded will be 50% of the Home Office grant value awarded for 2012/2013, i.e. no cut in funding will be applied even though the sum of the total grants ceased exceeds the sum of the new Fund.

By June 2013 partners will be notified of the PCC's intentions with regard to awarding grants from October 2013 onwards, which will have been developed with cross-partner/stakeholder involvement. The process for applying for future funding will be communicated at this time, pending this stakeholder/partner work.

Value for money

The OPCC is developing a commissioning framework which will support the Police and Crime Plan. An aim of the framework is to ensure that the use of resources is optimised to enable effective delivery of outcomes to achieve the Strategic Objectives within the Plan.

The PCC requires the Chief Constable to formulate an approach to policing that will deliver the objectives set out in the plan within the resources that will be available to him in both 2013-14 and future financial years, through a planned programme of change.

The PCC will continue to strive to secure more efficiencies within the areas under his direct management, in order to keep the budget to the minimum required to support him in carrying out his duties.

The Police and Crime Plan

The Commissioner published his Police and Crime Plan for 2013-2017 on 31 March 2013. This sets out his policing and crime reduction priorities for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland over the next four years

Drafts of the Plan were presented to the Police and Crime Panel in January and March, and a final version was developed following consultation with public and partners.

The Plan is due to be reissued in September, taking into account changes to funding processes, the impact of savings strategies and new commissioning plans. A full copy of the Plan can be found on the website at www.leics.pcc.police.uk.

Responsible Authorities

In determining the strategic priorities within the Police and Crime Plan, the PCC has taken regard of the strategic priorities of the Community Safety Partnerships.

The strategic priorities set out in the Plan are based on comprehensive research and analysis commissioned on behalf of the PCC. This included a Partnership Needs Assessment which looked at the wider needs assessment based around the known causal and risk factors of crime and disorder.

The support and knowledge of the Community Safety Partnerships in this process has been invaluable. We have found, for example, that alcohol and drug misuse and dependency, mental ill health, employment and training all feature as strategic priorities across a number of partners within the community safety arena. These factors all impact on crime and disorder and confirm the links and interplay between the strategic objectives of the police and those of our partners. The relationships between partners and the police will be key in the commissioning process and will help ensure the monies are allocated against our shared priorities in a controlled, accountable and focussed way.

Publication of Information

The PCC publishes information in order that the public can assess how they are fulfilling their legal obligations. This information can be found on the OPCC's website within the Publication Scheme <http://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/About-Us/Publications-Scheme.aspx>

Consultation and Engagement

Under the Police Act 1996, the PCC has an obligation to ensure that the views of the public are being collected and taken account of in the Police and Crime Plan.

Leicestershire Police has over many years developed numerous ways to engage and consult with its diverse communities. There are many examples from operational/neighbourhood, to tactical and strategic level.

Leicestershire Police has a suite of surveys which, together with more traditional consultation and engagement methods, provides a comprehensive insight into performance, public confidence and satisfaction as well as helping determine policing priorities.

The surveys range from interrogating those that have had direct contact with the police as victims, witnesses or complainants to broader more subjective enquiries regarding service delivery. The survey regime by necessity has to reflect the diverse nature of the policing function and just like policing is evolving and dynamic.

In the development of the Police and Crime Plan, comprehensive research and analysis was commissioned on behalf of the PCC. This included:

Victim Survey data: This looks at the post-crime views of those who have need of our service as victims. The PCC has used this data to determine satisfaction and confidence targets for the coming year.

Business Survey: A business survey was commissioned to more fully understand the perceptions of business owners about the impact of crime on their business. This information has been collated and analysed and will improve our planning and response to crimes related to the business community.

Access to the PCC: The PCC was elected by the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and is committed to maintaining an open door for communication about issues that matter most to individuals and groups across the Force area. The quantity of communications received by the office has increased dramatically compared to that received by the previous Police Authority. The Commissioner is keen to listen hard to help him develop and sustain a more realistic picture of the issues that affect local people. The OPCC has developed a strategic consultation and engagement plan which will give people the opportunity to tell him their views and concerns.

The Police and Crime Panel

The Police and Crime Panel (PCP), which is totally independent of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, oversees the work of the PCC.

Its role includes:

- Reviewing the PCC's proposals for the amount of council tax local people pay towards policing. It has the power to veto these proposals if it considers the amount is inappropriate
- Considering the PCC's Police and Crime plan and Annual Report
- Considering the PCC's proposals for the appointment of a new Chief Constable, with the power to veto
- Investigating complaints about the PCC

The PCP will not scrutinise the performance of the Force as a whole or the Chief Constable as this is the responsibility of the PCC. It can request reports from the PCC and if it wishes, call the PCC to attend its meetings.

The Police and Crime Panel made some recommendations regarding the contents of the Police and Crime Plan and these recommendations were reflected in the final plan published by the PCC. When that plan was presented to the Panel, it was resolved that “the Panel accepts and supports in full the Police and Crime Plan, as amended in the light of the comments submitted (in the attached document)”.

In addition, the Police and Crime Panel considered the budget and precept proposals for 2013/14, and resolved that “the information in the report, including the 2013/14 budget requirement at £173.461m and council tax requirement for 2013/14 at £49.222m, be noted; and that the proposal to freeze the Band D council tax for police purposes at £173.8750, the same level as for 2012/13, be supported”.

Compliance

Financial Codes of Practice

The PCC has operated in compliance with the Financial Codes of Practice issued by Parliament. Further details of this can be found in the Corporate Governance Framework.

Policing Protocol

As the elected (PCC) for the Leicestershire Force area, the PCC’s responsibilities are set out in legislation. The Policing Protocol Order 2011 is issued in accordance with the requirements of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 through which his role as PCC was enacted. The PCC has operated in compliance with the Policing Protocol as follows.

He is responsible for the totality of policing within Leicestershire and he will hold the Chief Constable to account for the operational delivery of policing, including the Strategic Policing Requirement.

The Commissioner is responsible for setting the strategic direction and objectives through the Police and Crime Plan (“the Plan”) and to decide both the budget and the allocation of funds to support the Plan.

He expects the Chief Constable to demonstrate how he will deliver this vision and strategic priorities as set out in this Plan, within his own delivery plan.

Strategic Policing Requirement

The Home Secretary’s Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) recognises that police forces need to work cooperatively across force boundaries to plan for, and deliver, effective capabilities to tackle threats that stretch from local to national but which require a response that is rooted in local policing. These threats – such as terrorism, organised crime, public disorder and civil emergencies – can spread across the country quickly and dynamically, witness the disturbances of summer 2011. The Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan sets out how Leicestershire Police will deliver the SPR.

Delegations of functions made by the PCC

This Scheme of Corporate Governance (<http://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Document-Library/Corporate-Governance-Framework-May-2013.pdf>) sets out the delegations by the Police and Crime Commissioner to a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (Deputy PCC) (if appointed), the Chief Executive, the Police Force via senior officers such as the Chief Constable's Chief Finance Officer and the Force Solicitor (see note 4 above).

Collaboration

At a time when resources are shrinking in all sectors and across all agencies, it is essential that these issues are tackled in the most joined up way possible. Through the Strategic Partnership Board and associated delivery groups the OPCC will work with partners to identify tactical approaches that will result in measurable, positive changes that benefit our communities and which will help all agencies work effectively and efficiently together. The police will contribute both in time and resource to the shared agenda and the OPCC will do all that it can to support and encourage partners to do likewise based on their own responsibilities and priorities.

There is an extensive network of partnerships across the Force area and the wider East Midlands, including the Strategic Partnership Board which has been developed to drive and manage whole-system thinking.

The PCC plans to use the resources available to him to understand better the dynamic relationship between prevention, intervention and reduction of crime and non-crime incidents. Then we can commission (in collaboration with partners) for outcomes that will have a measureable impact at all three levels. In a time of reducing budgets, we need to maximise the resources we all have through increasing intelligence-led commissioning.

We are confident that the existing partnership landscape, with its current joint commissioning arrangements, will help facilitate this. It is our intention to work with existing and emerging joint/partnership commissioning bodies when commissioning outcomes.

Our vision involves looking creatively at the provider landscape too, and we are committed to ensuring that the most effective interventions and ideas, whether large or very small, have their value recognised and considered. We are particularly keen that the third sector, charities, social enterprises, voluntary organisations and also small business initiatives remain and grow as part of our provider landscape.

By working together to tackle these themes, using the existing and emerging partnership structures in place, we aim to prevent, intervene and reduce those behaviours and situations which have an impact across all communities and which require extensive police and partnership resourcing to manage. This will entail intervening early, as well as targeting those who cause the most harm or who are at the greatest risk of harm.

The Commissioner will seek to support existing effective partnerships such as the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), and the associated Multi-Agency Prolific and Priority Offender Management (MAPPOM) teams which all rely on collaboration to target those who cause most harm, or who are at greatest risk of harm. Likewise, he recognises the value of the existing Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) and will work with them so that our priorities are understood and aligned and the impact of our collective actions can be maximised.

There are a number of partnership structures currently in place, which the Commissioner intends to contribute to and support going forward.

These include:

- The Strategic Partnership Board
- City Partnership and Safer Leicester Partnership
- Leicestershire Together and Leicestershire Safer Communities Board
- Rutland Together and Safer Rutland Partnership
- District level Community Safety Partnerships
- Health and Well Being Boards for Leicester City, Leicestershire, and Rutland (and therefore embedded partnerships e.g. Leicestershire Substance Misuse Partnership Board (SMPB), the Leicester City Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Group and the Criminal Justice Strategic Commissioning Group (CJSCG))
- Youth Offenders Management Board (City)
- Youth Offending Service Management Board (County and Rutland)
- Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children's Board
- Leicester Safeguarding Children's Board
- Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board
- Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board
- Leicestershire Children's Commissioning Board
- Rutland Children and Young Peoples Partnership
- Leicester City Children's Trust
- Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Road Safety Partnership

Police forces in the East Midlands have worked together formally and informally for many years and recognise that joint working is a sustainable way of delivering a wide range of police services to the people of the East Midlands and at a national level. Considerable momentum and progress has been made in relation to East Midlands Collaboration with commitment from all Chief Officers in the five forces making up the region, (Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire and Lincolnshire).

The Commissioner fully supports this approach and sees it as being essential to the provision of an effective and efficient police service able to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. He will work with the other Police and Crime Commissioners in the region to maintain or increase this momentum and to seek innovative and effective solutions which will bring down the cost of policing our streets. He will also meet with his peers through the East Midlands PCC Board where they will seek a common

understanding and way forward in collaboration, thus ensuring that the interests of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland are balanced with the regional and national needs of the broader area.

HMIC Inspections

There have been no inspections commissioned by the PCC for HMIC to carry out of policing in the Force area this year.

Independent Custody Visiting Scheme

The Police and Crime Commissioner has a statutory duty to ensure that an Independent Custody Visiting Scheme is in operation within his Force area. The Scheme provides for members of the local community to visit police custody suites, unannounced at any time of the day or day of the week, to speak to people held in police custody to ensure their welfare. At present there are 35 custody visitors undertaking the role. During 2012/13 a total of 154 custody visits were made to the primary custody suites of Beaumont Leys, Euston Street and Keyham Lane. At the time of visits a total of 1265 people were in police custody. Of these, 619 detainees were offered a visit from custody visitors and 98% agreed to a visit and had the opportunity to discuss their welfare and treatment whilst in police custody.

Throughout the past year the main health and safety issues raised included reports of cool cell temperatures, food temperature probes not working and ligature points in an exercise yard. All issues were resolved promptly.

A separate annual report on the Scheme will be published on the Commissioner's website in July.

The Commissioner will receive update reports on the Scheme at meetings of the Strategic Assurance Board where issues raised will be discussed with the Force.

Complaints

The PCC is scrutinising and monitoring how complaints made by members of the public about policing are being handled. He will receive data on complaints received on a quarterly basis at business meetings held with the Force. Between meeting dates the PCC will undertake his own dip sampling of complaint files. The outcome of the dip sampling will be discussed at the business meeting.

There have been no complaints received by the Police and Crime Panel relating to the senior posts within the Office of the PCC (as defined earlier in this report) between 22/11/12 and 31/3/13.

Subsequent Transfer Scheme

Discussions are ongoing about the Subsequent Transfer Scheme, which is due to take place by the end of March 2014.

Register of Interests

A register of Sir Clive's disclosable interests can be found on the OPCC's website at <http://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Document-Library/Sir-Clive-Loader---Disclosable-Interests-Completed-Form.pdf>

This page is intentionally left blank