

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE & CRIME PANEL

Report of	POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
Date	29 SEPTEMBER 2014
Subject	VICTIMS & WITNESSES UPDATE
Author	CHIEF EXECUTIVE (OPCC)

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to share with the Police and Crime Panel the first Partner Update report into the implementation of Victims and Witnesses integrated services.

Recommendation

2. The Panel is recommended to note the contents of the report.

Background

3. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner has been working very closely with senior officers and local authority and criminal justice partners over recent months to prepare a strategic plan which brings about the implementation of a new and integrated support service for victims and witnesses in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.
4. In July 2012, the Ministry of Justice set out proposals for improving support to victims and witnesses which focused on increasing support services to help them cope with the immediate impact of crime and to recover from the harm experienced. As part of the changes, responsibility for commissioning victim-specific support services will now be held locally under Police and Crime Commissioners, along with funding currently provided to the national Victim Support Service.
5. In Leicestershire, this transition will take place from April 2015 at which point the PCC will be responsible for a large part of the budget associated with services for victims, and will be commissioning services to improve their journey through the criminal justice system. Throughout the implementation of this new service regular updates will be provided to key partners and stakeholders. Attached to this report is the first edition of this update report.

Implications

Financial:	The total for 2014/15 is £731,363. The total for 2015/16 is £1.1m.
Legal:	Governance issues are highlighted in the report
Equality/Diversity Issues:	The actions within the Equality Impact Assessment for the Commissioning Framework have been completed and/or implemented.
Risks and Impact:	Included in the report
Link to Police and Crime Plan:	The Plan highlights the key strategic priority of “Supporting victims and witnesses” and this work supports the implementation of outcomes in this area.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Partner and Stakeholder Update

Background Papers

None

Person to Contact

Paul Stock, Chief Executive

Email: paul.stock@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk Tel: 0116 229 8981