

# Police and Crime Commissioner

for Hertfordshire

<b>MEETING</b>	<b>POLICE AND CRIME PANEL</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> March 2015</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Update from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire</b>
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b>	<b>The Police and Crime Commissioner</b>

## 1. Purpose of the Report

Please find below an overview of activities since the last Police and Crime Panel meeting.

## 2. Update

### Mental Health Concordat:

The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat is a national joint statement published by the Government and signed by senior representatives from organisations committed to improving mental health care. Each region has committed to the national agreement by signing a local declaration and developing a county-wide action plan.

My office continues to work with a range of partners to implement the principles of the National Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat. In Hertfordshire around 25 practitioners from statutory and voluntary organisations signed the declaration at the end of November 2014.

In February 2015 a meeting with the concordat partners was held to develop the action plan around the key areas relating to:

- Governance
- Ensuring a consistent response to people in mental health crisis

- Support before crisis
- Urgent and emergency access to crisis services
- Quality of treatment in crisis and Recovery.

This plan will bring us a step closer in identifying gaps in service delivery and putting in place a mechanism for addressing service provision in Hertfordshire from early prevention right through to recovery and staying well.

The Action Plan is quite ambitious and the work is also subject to funding, prioritisation and development – so in many ways it is a living document. The action plan is due to receive signoff shortly and will be uploaded onto the concordat website by 31st March.

### **Serious and Organised Crime – The role of Community Safety Partnerships:**

My office has been working with local partners to develop a strategy which will ensure all areas of County criminality is being tackled and enable a variety of agencies to play their part in tackling serious and organised crime.

In Hertfordshire I have utilised the Community Safety Partnerships to cover the need for local profiles which will outline how partners are going to disrupt and hinder serious and organised crime. This very much sits with my commitment to local policing and ensuring that in Hertfordshire the national strategy becomes business as usual.

The profiles are on course to be developed by 31st March 2015. The expectation is that each local profile will be updated and refreshed annually for the start of the financial year and the appendix of nominal data refreshed quarterly.

### **Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation**

The four government departments issued a letter on 3rd March to all Chief Executives of local authorities, Directors of Children's Services, PCCs, Local Safeguarding Children's Boards, Health and Wellbeing Boards and GPs to talk about having a joint commitment to share information effectively for the protection of children.

Cross-Government information sharing guidance is due to be published by the end of March 2015.

The HALO campaign continues and the Constabulary are capturing referrals that have been made as a direct result of the campaign. Good practice is in the process of being recorded and shared with the Community Safety Partnerships.

Provision is being made in the Victims Hub for victim support to have a Children's Case Worker located there to specifically support CSE victims, providing specialist advice and support.

### **Commissioning Services for Victims:**

See separate report.

### **Stop and Search – setting up a Community Scrutiny Panel**

In August 2014, Hertfordshire signed up to Best use of Stop and Search Scheme to show their commitment with partners to implement a range of measures outlined by the Home Secretary and HMIC.

A key part of this was to enable the public to provide an independent and critical eye over current Stop Search practices through the setting up of a community panel to undertaking dip sampling of Stop and Search forms to provide feedback and challenge around the extent to which they are compliant with PACE Code A.

I have through my office, formed a countywide community scrutiny panel consisting of nine people from a wide range of backgrounds, ethnicities and ages from across the county. The first panel meeting is being held in March.

Panel meetings will be held bi-monthly and will undertake sampling of stop and search cases. If necessary, a more intense scrutiny of Stop and Search forms will be undertaken. If this sampling highlights areas of concern in particular CSP areas then the Chief Inspectors will be held to account.

### **Other local Issues**

## **Blue Light Collaboration:**

I still chair the working group and the research is going well. A national summit to present the findings took place on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2015 to enable people from across the UK to learn from others. I am working with the Home office and others to see how the group can continue its work beyond the end of this financial year.

## **Launch of the new Police and Crime Commissioner's website**

I am pleased to report that the new website was launched on 9th March following the engagement of a Hertfordshire web development company who worked with us on a new format with improved navigation and easier access to information. The domain name remains the same but we now have more information about the work we are doing around victim's commissioning and have a section called 'Your area' which includes information about each of the 10 CSPs. We intend over the next few months to upload some more specific information relating to the priorities for your area.

## **Refresh of the Police and Crime Plan**

The Police and Crime plan is being refreshed to better reflect the current challenges and demands we face and the new responsibilities of the office, particularly in relation to Victim's Commissioning. The draft refreshed plan will go to the Police and Crime Panel June meeting before being published in July 2015.

We will be looking to consult with partners and the residents of Hertfordshire on what the priorities should be for the next five years (2020). We are imminently starting the consultation process with the public to ask them what they think about the current plan and what should be included in the refresh to take account of the policing *and crime* challenges for Hertfordshire.

We are also in the process of consulting with the constabulary and other statutory and voluntary organisations including businesses to determine what those priorities should be and how they can help us to deliver them.

Once the plan is starting to take shape we will issue a series of discussion documents/ briefing papers (Green papers) on our website asking the public for their thoughts and comments on the ideas.

The Police and Crime Panel will be presented with a draft at the meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> June alongside a copy of the Annual Report.

### **Community Safety Grants**

I intend to keep the Community Safety Grants at the same level as the last year. As in previous years there will be an expectation that as a condition of receiving the funding, all CSPs will demonstrate clearly in their mid-year and end of year reports how the work they intend to undertake supports the priorities outlined in the Police and Crime Plan.

### **Annual Lecture**

My annual lecture is being held on 16<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm at the University of Hertfordshire.

### **Commissioner's Community Fund**

We launched the 2015 Commissioner's Community Fund on the 18th February. This round will stay open until 25th March.

For the first time this year we will be held a workshop on 4th March at The Business Technology Centre in Stevenage to help organisations better understand how to make a successful application; complete the application form accurately; and test some of their ideas with peers. The event generated a large amount of interest and was heavily oversubscribed.

### **Strategic Alliance Collaboration**

Work is now progressing well within the police teams on the preparation of outline and full business cases on areas of business within operational and organisation support functions in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and

Hertfordshire. The six corporations sole (three Commissioners and three Chief Constables) meet regularly as the Strategic Alliance to oversee this work and discharge our statutory responsibilities.