



HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

CONSIDERATION OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S DRAFT POLICING PLAN

Gavin Miles, Head of Legal Services,
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Item 5

14 February 2013

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 That the Panel provide the Police and Crime Commissioner with a set of recommendations to be taken into consideration when the final plan is published before 31 March 2013.**

Purpose of Report

For the Panel to provide a report and recommendations on the Police and Crime Commissioner's draft policing plan.

Background

The PCC has a duty under Section 5 of the Police and Social Reform Act 2011 to issue a police and crime plan in the financial year of an ordinary election and as soon as reasonably practicable after taking office. A police and crime plan is a plan which sets out:

- (a) the PCC's police and crime objectives;
- (b) the policing of Hertfordshire which the chief constable is to provide;
- (c) the financial and other resources which the PCC is to provide to the chief constable to exercise his functions of chief constable;
- (d) the means by which the chief constable will report to the PCC on the provision of policing;

- (e) the means by which the chief constable's performance in providing policing will be measured;
- (f) the crime and disorder reduction grants which the PCC is to make, and the conditions (if any) to which such grants are to be made.

The police and crime objectives are:

- (a) the policing of Hertfordshire,
- (b) crime and disorder reduction in that area, and
- (c) the discharge by the constabulary of its national or international functions.

A plan only has to be issued in the year following election of the PCC, but a further plan or variation can be issued at any time and the same consultation arrangements set out below apply. The PCC must report annually on progress with the plan and this report will be the subject of a presentation to the PCP.

Statutory Consultation and Publication Requirements

The Act requires the PCC before issuing the plan to prepare a draft of the plan and consult the chief constable in preparing the draft and to send a copy of the draft to the PCP. The PCP must consider the draft and make a report or recommendations to the PCC on the draft. The PCC must respond to the report or recommendations and publish the response. The PCC must have regard to the report or recommendations on the draft plan. The PCC must then publish the final plan. The timescales are less specific than most of the statutory duties of the PCC and PCP. The PCC is required to ensure the PCP has sufficient time to exercise its functions with regard to the plan.

Interaction of the Police and Crime Plan with the budget and precept of the PCC

Clearly the resources are a fundamental part of the plan and so it is necessary to consider both topics at the same time of year. The PCC shared his initial views with the PCP at its December meeting and gave further overview at the meeting in January which considered the precept. The protocol for working together states that the PCC will provide the draft plan at least one month before it is intended to publish to give the PCP sufficient time to consider it and report. The PCC's final plan is attached.

Officers will provide further oral or written notes to the Panel to assist the Panel in its consideration of the Plan.