

Report to Police & Crime Panel

Progress update on the Police & Crime Plan

Report of: Police & Crime Commissioner
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Summary

Police & Crime Commissioners are required by the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 to issue a Police & Crime Plan by the March after their election.

The Police & Crime Plan sets out the strategic objectives for policing, community safety and crime prevention, to which the Chief Constable is required by law to have due regard.

The Plan is one of the primary mechanisms by which the public can influence the style and priorities of policing in the county, through the directly elected PCC's mandate.

This paper is intended to provide a summary of progress made to date and the direction of travel for the new Hertfordshire Police & Crime Plan. A full presentation will be made to the Panel at the meeting.

Strategic direction

The Plan's starting point is the PCC's election priorities and mandate, which is being supplemented by public consultation and demographically representative market research.

The PCC has also identified a number of areas of focus since working with the Constabulary since his election, reviewing the Constabulary's performance data and the findings of the PEEL inspection.

The PCC has also held an away day with the Constabulary's Chief Officers to discuss, and receive operational feedback on, key priorities.

In addition, the Plan will also draw upon national best practice and a range of thematic reports and literature on different crime types, policing performance and culture.

The PCC's intention is for the Plan to have a clear strategic focus, with a smaller number of priorities and actions where there will be an aim to 'move the dial' to make a difference.

Consultation and market research

The PCC's office commissioned an independent market research company, SMSR Research, to carry out a demographically representative survey of approximately 2,500 individuals across Hertfordshire (for context a national opinion poll would usually have a sample size of 1,000).

This has provided a useful insight into public opinion around feelings of safety, confidence in policing and priorities for policing and crime.

In addition, the PCC's office carried out a resident and business survey in October which was promoted via Herts Connected email alerts in the PCC's newsletter, press release, social media and direct contact with business groups.

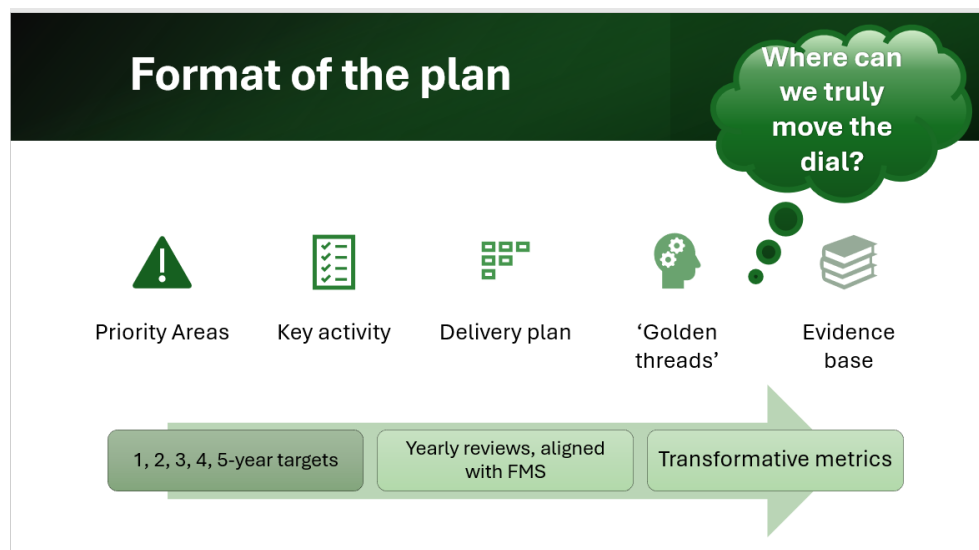
Further consultation has been undertaken with victims of crime and local partner organisations.

Structure of the Plan

The Plan will be structured around six broad priority areas:

- Preventing and deterring crime
- Strengthening local policing
- Getting tough on neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour
- Disrupting high harm offending and protecting vulnerable people
- Bringing offenders to justice and supporting victims
- Improving service to the public

There are areas of focus and activity in each priority area and the Plan will be accompanied by a delivery plan with SMART actions.



The Plan will also have sections on the Strategic Policing Requirement, sustainability and equality and diversity.

More detail will be presented at the Panel's meeting, including a deep dive into two of the priority areas to give the Panel some insight into how the delivery plan and actions are being developed.

Timeline and next steps

The Plan will continue to be developed by the PCC and his office over the coming weeks and the Panel's feedback is welcome. The final draft of the Plan will be produced for presentation to the Panel in February.

In addition, an opportunity will be created for the new Chief Constable to have input to the Plan once the recruitment process has concluded. All potential candidates have been briefed on the emerging priorities.

Timeline



Recommendation

The Police & Crime Panel is recommended to note the Commissioner's update and the presentation which will be given at the meeting and provide questions, comments and feedback.