

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

3 February 2025

DRAFT POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2025 - 2028

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report introduces the draft Police and Crime Plan 2025-2028 for comment from the Police and Crime Panel.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Police and Crime Panel is asked to review and comment on the Draft Plan.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The PCC is required to consult the Panel on the draft Police and Crime Plan.

4. PURPOSE OF THE POLICE & CRIME PLAN

- 4.1 Police and Crime Plans are a statutory requirement for all police force areas introduced as part of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Whilst every plan is localised in nature, they share a common aim in communicating a Commissioner's vision and objectives during his or her term of office.
- 4.2 The Police and Crime Plan is intended to set out a range of activities that will tackle crime and improve community safety in an efficient and effective way. The Plan impacts on a wide variety of stakeholders and has a number of different intended audiences including the public, victims of crime, police officers and staff, the Secretary of State, local politicians, private and voluntary sectors and partner agencies such as criminal justice and local authorities.
- 4.3 A Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is required to issue a new Police & Crime Plan "as soon as practicable" after taking office. This also applies to PCCs that are re-elected, as is the case in Surrey.
- 4.4 Until a new plan is issued, the previous plan remains in place.

4.5 Consultation Requirements

- 4.6 The PCC is obliged to prepare a draft plan in consultation with the Chief Constable and should also consult to obtain the views of local people, victims of crime and partner agencies to inform the development of appropriate priorities.
- 4.7 The Police and Crime Panel must then review the draft plan and the Commissioner must have regard to, and provide a response to, any report or recommendations made by the Panel. The PCC must also publish that response and the plan itself and send a copy of the final plan to the Chief Constable.

4.8 Developing a new Police and Crime Plan

- 4.9 As the first Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner to be re-elected, the Commissioner has had the opportunity to build on the original Police and Crime Plan, drawing on the experiences and feedback of residents over the past four years. To ensure the updated plan reflects the current needs and priorities of Surrey's communities, a robust and inclusive consultation process was deemed essential.
- 4.10 Between August and December 2024, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) conducted a comprehensive consultation, engaging a wide range of stakeholders and members of the public. This process aimed to refine and expand the existing plan's priorities, addressing both long-standing and emerging local concerns.
- 4.11 The consultation employed a combination of methods to gather local perspectives, including:

a) **Stakeholder Focus Groups**

A targeted approach was adopted to ensure meaningful input from individuals and organisations with direct or indirect involvement in policing, community safety, safeguarding, and criminal justice.

Stakeholders participated in focus groups organised around their professional experience, capturing insights from teachers, police officers, businesses, community organisations, safeguarding leads, rural communities, victim groups, and many others. These discussions provided valuable perspectives and highlighted the interconnected challenges faced by communities in Surrey.

Feedback from these stakeholder sessions was made available to Surrey Police, ensuring that even when specific concerns did not translate into actions in the Plan, they could still be flagged for operational consideration.

b) **Public Survey**

To complement the focus groups, a Surrey-wide public survey was conducted to gather the broader perspectives of residents. This survey offered an opportunity for anyone living or working in Surrey to share their experiences of policing and highlight areas they believed required greater focus.

The feedback collected through the survey was instrumental in ensuring that the new Police and Crime Plan accurately reflects the concerns and priorities of local communities, capturing diverse viewpoints from those with varying levels of interaction with the police.

A copy of the quantitative data obtained from the survey has been provided to the Panel.

c) **Engagement Events**

In parallel with the formal consultation exercise, a series of community engagement events were held in collaboration with Surrey Police during the latter part of 2024. These events provided an additional platform for gathering feedback from a wide range of communities, ensuring voices from across Surrey were heard and considered in the plan's development.

Held in every borough and district across the county, these events enabled residents to engage directly with representatives from Surrey Police and the OPCC. Attendees were encouraged to share their experiences, raise concerns, and offer suggestions on how policing could better meet the needs of their local areas.

The events proved particularly valuable in reaching individuals and groups who might not have participated in focus groups or online surveys, such as older residents and those less familiar with digital platforms. Local councillors also attended, raising specific concerns and issues observed within their communities.

By fostering open dialogue in an informal setting, these sessions uncovered unique insights and priorities that might otherwise have been overlooked.

- 4.12 The Commissioner has also consulted with the Surrey Police throughout the development of the Plan. In addition, consideration was given to the intelligence and strategic analysis of crime problems in Surrey; partnership strategies; views of professionals in policing and the OPCC; national priorities; current performance; finances and financial outlook.

4.13 The plan has also been developed alongside the budget and consideration given to what is achievable with the police precept set and funding available for wider community safety work.

4.14 The priorities set in the plan are:

- ***Back to Basics Policing***
- ***Protecting Vulnerable People in Surrey***
- ***Preventing Violence Against Women and Girls***
- ***Strengthening Safe and Resilient Communities***
- ***Fostering Integrity, Accountability, and Wellbeing in Policing***

4.15 The Plan details the key actions to be taken by Surrey Police and the PCC's own office to achieve those aims, as well as wider statutory functions that the PCC will undertake during her term of office.

4.16 Following the panel meeting and any comments made, the Plan will be published on the PCCs website and make a limited number available in paper copy.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

5.1 Appendix A sets out the quantitative data from the public survey and is included for the Panel's reference.

6 CONTACT INFORMATION

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