

## SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

### FEEDBACK ON MANAGEMENT MEETINGS BETWEEN THE PCC AND CHIEF CONSTABLE

29<sup>th</sup> April 2014

8

#### SUMMARY

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey, Kevin Hurley, holds bi-monthly management meetings with the Chief Constable, Lynne Owens and appropriate members of her senior team. These meetings are webcast for all to view. Their main purpose is to ensure the PCC is discharging his statutory responsibility to hold the Chief Constable to account for delivery against the six People's Priorities as set out in the Police & Crime Plan and to provide oversight and scrutiny of Force business.

At the Panel's request, the attached paper summarises the issues raised at the Management Meetings held since the Police & Crime Panel last met.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of the Police and Crime Panel note the report.

#### EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

No implications.

**LEAD OFFICER:** Sarah Thomas, Support Officer, OPCC

**TELEPHONE  
NUMBER:** 01483 630 200

**E-MAIL:** Sarah.thomas@surrey.pnn.police.uk

[Surrey Police and Crime Panel](#)

**Bi-Monthly Management Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

Agenda items for this meeting were:

- Surrey Police Progress Against the Six People's Priorities
- Partnership Working
- Meeting the Strategic Policing Requirement
- Treasury Management
- Provision of Custody Facilities

The main points of note from the meeting were as follows:

- There had been an overall reduction in crime in most areas – burglary had reduced significantly following a recent Force initiative, Operation Candlelight.
- There had been an increase in the number of reports of serious sexual offences however this was seen as a positive sign as it suggested that victims were more confident about reporting incidents.
- The detection rate was still an area that the Force needed to improve upon - the Crime and Performance Board was addressing the issues.
- The Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) had asked colleagues from the Children and Young People Partnership Board to provide him with information about drugs in schools as there appeared to be a gap in what the PCC was being told and what was being reported to the Force.
- The Special Constabulary had recently been reviewed – there were now 191 fully operational constables available for deployment with three intakes planned for the coming year.
- The Chief Constable (CC) raised concerns about the way victims and witnesses were treated through the criminal justice system. The PCC echoed these concerns and would be addressing them with colleagues in the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and Courts Service.
- Unplanned officer turnover rates had increased which could be due to the number of officers transferring to the Metropolitan Police Service as they offered additional financial rewards that Surrey could not.
- The IPCC (Independent Police and Crime Commissioner) was investigating the recent death in police custody – it was hoped that their report would be concluded as soon as possible.
- The Force was working with the PCC's office to progress the next steps of the Enforcement Project.
- Police/Fire and Ambulance Chiefs had recently met to discuss emergency services collaboration – their vision now had to be signed off by politicians before any future plans could be made.
- The CC had been due to give an update on the recent closures of custody suites – she hadn't been provided with sufficient information and would be discussing the matter with colleagues in due course. She would then be able to update the PCC.

The webcast of the meeting and agenda are available on the PCC's website [www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk)

## Bi-Monthly Management Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Agenda items for this meeting were:

- Surrey Police Progress Against the Six People's Priorities
- Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable People
- Victims' Code

The main points of note from the meeting were as follows:

- Reports of robbery and domestic burglary were seeing a reduction compared to the same period last year.
- The arrest rate for serious sexual offences had increased – the Force was being more robust in this area
- Recent media reports had shown that some forces were manipulating crime figures – the CC made it clear that Surrey did not do this. Surrey used community resolutions as per guidance and offenders no longer received multiple cautions.
- The DCC had recently set up the 'Strategic Crime, Incident and Risk Recording Group' to scrutinise crime recording and detection practices.
- The Enforcement Project pilot was due to launch in April 2014.
- The Force was on track and likely to exceed its previous years target in relation to the seizure of assets.
- Niche, the Crime Information System (CIS) replacement system, had successfully gone live on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013 – Surrey and Sussex would roll out the next stage of the system, Case and Custody, jointly.
- The PCC formally recognised that a number of police officers and police staff were deployed with other rescue services during the floods and missed Christmas with their families and thanked them for their efforts.
- A big challenge for the Force was the issue of mental health – custody was not the correct place for those with mental health issues and there was a need for a place of safety 24/7.
- The Force was implementing the new Victims' Code of Practice which had come into effect in December 2013 – all officers and staff would be made of aware of their obligations under the new code.

The webcast of the meeting and agenda are available on the PCC's website [www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk)

## Bi-Monthly Management Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014

Agenda items for this meeting were:

- Surrey Police Progress Against the Six People's Priorities
- Financial Monitoring
- Health and Safety

The main points of note from the meeting were as follows:

- Surrey Police had recently undertaken a joint campaign with Your Sanctuary to raise the awareness of domestic abuse. During the campaign reporting increased by 18.7%.
- Burglary has reduced and the Deputy Chief Constable is tackling the issue of detection rates through his Crime and Performance Board.
- The performance of forensic officers was monitored at the Crime and Performance Board and disparities around processes and individual performance was being addressed by the head of the department.
- The Deputy Chief Constable gave details about the issues relating to Asian Gold burglaries and explained the processes in place to deal with such incidents.
- The Force had seized £1.2m of criminal assets which exceeded its target of £1m.
- The Force still had a problem of dealing with people in custody with mental health issues – custody was not an ideal place for them. The CC was grateful for the PCC's support via the Community Safety Board but more needed to be done by other agencies.
- The CC reported on the earlier flooding across the county. 110 officers had been deployed daily during the crisis to keep communities safe.
- The PCC highlighted the high officer turnover rate. Contributing factors were the high house prices in the Surrey area and the close proximity to London where the Metropolitan Police were able to pay their officers more.
- The Force had recently set up a Professional Reference Group made up of professional volunteers who would come together to help the Force make some of its decision making e.g. misconduct cases and change programmes.
- Two significant projects had been delivered in the past financial year, Niche (new computer system) and Salfords Custody Suite but the Force had still managed to find savings of £3.6m.
- Changes were proposed for the Health and Safety Team. Due to recent retirements and resignations the Force was now looking to collaborate in this area with Sussex Police. Plans were still being progressed.

The webcast of the meeting and agenda are available on the PCC's website [www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk)