

Assistant Police & Crime Commissioner (Victims) Jane Anderson - Objectives for 2014/15 and Progress as at June 2014**Background – New Responsibilities for PCCs in relation to Victims**

Care of victims and ensuring that they are at the centre of the Criminal Justice System is a key priority for the Police & Crime Commissioner. The Panel should note that, with effect from October 2014, all PCCs will be responsible for commissioning certain services for victims of crime. This is currently centrally funded and organised by the Ministry of Justice and most services are provided by Victims Support. In future, funding will come to PCCs and it will be their responsibility to ensure that victims of crime are provided with the services they need in their local areas.

This is an extremely significant responsibility and will entail careful research and planning. There are risks that, with the potential for 43 PCCs to adopt different arrangements, victims' services could become fragmented. Much of the Assistant PCC's work in recent months has been helping the Office of the PCC prepare to take on its new responsibilities and to ensure that the victims' needs are at the heart of any new services that will be provided.

Objective	Key actions	Progress as at May 2014	Outcomes
Support the Police and Crime Commissioner in delivering his promise to <i>'put victims at the centre of the criminal justice system'</i> and to ensure that <i>'victims will be given a quality service from reporting a crime to giving evidence'</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following victims' journeys through the criminal justice system and feeding this information back to the PCC and other key stakeholders Attendance at the Surrey Police Victims Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A/PCC has spent time with the Contact Centre, with response teams, with neighbourhood officers and with CID talking and listening to victims Report written and circulated to CJ partners following consultation with victims of domestic abuse Report written and circulated to CJ partners following consultation with young victims of domestic abuse Consultation currently underway with victims of sexual assault Programme of visits to domestic abuse refuges currently underway Extended visits to court, to CIAG and to Housing Association to track the handling of 2 ASB cases Specific issues and problems raised with relevant partners – e.g. delays to trials, failure to disclose documents on time, problems with transport for witnesses, layout of courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports used to inform the PCC's strategy for commissioning services for victims Specific cases raised with senior police officers Presentation on domestic abuse findings to Surrey Police leadership conference improved awareness and handling Information regularly fed into the Victims Care Board held by Surrey Police to inform their dealings with victims of crime. Both Safer Neighbourhood teams and Housing Association aware of PCC's emphasis on putting victims first

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Operate as a member of the Criminal Justice Group in order to ensure that the needs of victims and witnesses are represented in key decision making	Attend meetings of the Local Criminal Justice Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributed to the review of the Local Criminal Justice Board arrangements in Surrey and Sussex Ongoing comments and feedback to chairs and strand leaders for the structures currently being established to replace the local Criminal Justice Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A/PCC ensures the OPCC is sighted on the new Criminal Justice partnership structures and helps identify relevant issues for the D/PCC who attends A/PCC continues to build relationships with CJS partners so there is a forum for raising victim issues
Champion victims' interests with the judiciary	Forging links with the courts and judiciary in Surrey	Attendance at Surrey Local Criminal Justice Group where these groups are represented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from court visits have been fed back to the LCJG for action
Ensure that victims are able to benefit from Restorative Justice and contribute to the RJ strategy for Surrey	Help shape an appropriate Restorative Justice strategy for Surrey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane sits on the 'out of court disposals panel' which provides scrutiny of those cases which are dealt with by means such as 'community resolution' She also sits on the restorative Justice steering group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A/PCC's attendance at steering group ensures that we have proper oversight of this area of work Attendance at scrutiny panel ensures victims' perspective represented
Advise the PCC on future commissioning of victim services and advise on funding provisions required for supporting victims	Offer advice and experience from the victims perspective to inform the PCC's strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Office of the PCC has arranged workshops with victims of domestic abuse, attended by the Assistant PCC and DA outreach providers, as well as victims Surrey is leading for the region on commissioning of victims services. Jane scrutinises and comments on the relevant proposals underpinning the tendering process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrey strategy for commissioning will be soundly based and reflect the reality of victims' experiences A/PCC scrutiny of proposals supports the work of officers

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