

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

FEEDBACK ON PERFORMANCE MEETINGS

24 NOVEMBER 2020

INTRODUCTION

One of the main responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is to hold the Chief Constable to account for delivery of the Police and Crime Plan. David Munro has set up a governance framework to discharge this duty. The main part of this framework is to hold six-weekly Performance Meetings where the Chief Constable reports on progress against the Police & Crime Plan and other strategic issues. This is supplemented by workshops and one to one discussions between the PCC and Chief Constable, and other senior officers, when required.

Every other performance meeting is webcast for the public and partners to view. The PCC chairs the meeting which is also attended by the Chief Executive and Treasurer from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). Other members of staff from the OPCC attend as required, depending on the agenda. The Chief Constable attends along with the Deputy Chief Constable and other force staff as required.

This report provides an update on the meetings that have been held and what has been discussed in order to demonstrate that arrangements for good governance and scrutiny are in place.

PERFORMANCE MEETINGS

Since the last report on performance meetings to the panel, one Performance Meeting has been held – 8 September 2020.

8 September 2020 – Webcast Meeting

Agenda items were:

- Performance Report
- Finance Report
- Body Worn Video
- Disproportionality
- EU Transition Briefing
- Roads Policing
- Strategic Policing Requirement

The Chief Constable (CC) went through the public facing **Performance Report** in detail. During lockdown, reported crime decreased significantly, with an uplift seen in recent weeks. Surrey still has the 6th lowest crime rate overall in England and Wales which is a positive picture in terms of victimisation. Despite this the CC still has ambitions of Surrey being the safest county to live in in England and Wales.

The CC outlined that there is more work to do on improving performance in positive outcomes of crimes reported. This entails getting the offender charged and summoned to court. Surrey Police have seen a 7% decline in this area. Volume crime shows a reduction of positive outcomes, a decline of nearly 800 offences. There were 11,100 positive outcomes at this time last year compared to 10,348 this year. The CC is particularly concerned where those crimes are high harm offences; Domestic Abuse for example. The CC assured that the force had not eased off in this area during lockdown and have been revising their investigation structure, looking at restructuring the team to get more positive outcomes.

Work has been developed to tackle local crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) issues. New analysts/tactical advisors have increased the amount of problem solving work taking place and are showing real promise. This has shown a real benefit in the area of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). Confidence levels in policing have gone up to 92%, up 4% during the pandemic. Surrey are currently standing 7th nationally in the country for public confidence levels in the police. The CC commented that the force did a great deal during lockdown to support all communities and it shows in the figures.

Updates were also provided on victim satisfaction, which showed a slight decrease, the missing people unit, with reductions in repeat missing individuals, work to tackle repeat domestic abuse perpetrators, and increased incidents involving people with mental health needs.

The Surrey Police Chief Finance Officer (CF) provided an update on the **Finance Report** to the PCC. The revenue budget at quarter one was reporting a small forecast underspend for the year, although it is early in the year to make firm forecasts. Force expenditure has been incurred for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), with expectations of reimbursement from central Government. The Capital Fund was underspent, due to delays following the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown activity impacting on construction work.

An update was provided on the roll-out of **Body Worn Video (BWV)** to Surrey Police officers. BWV is in place for all areas and is providing efficiencies. A new cloud storage system is in place with excellent feedback from colleagues with 11 physical docking locations across Surrey and Sussex. All officers who need BWV now have access to the kit.

The Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) presented a report on **disproportionality**, particularly focussing on the BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) community. In the 12 months up to 30th June – 6,771 incidents of stop and

search were recorded in Surrey. This increased during the restricted part of the pandemic. It was easier to stop criminal activity during this time as offenders were not always abiding by the lockdown rules. Individuals stopped and searched from Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups increased by over 3%. The average age of BAME individuals was younger than the white individuals stopped when looking at a median age. From the County Lines offenders identified, half of these individuals were black and coming in to Surrey from other areas. The DCC assured the PCC that there is a robust scrutiny process around the use of stop and search looking at conscious and unconscious bias. Dip testing analysis is conducted on those stopped, 46 BAME individuals and 46 white individuals. Reviews of body worn video are also conducted. The force use people from outside policing to assist with scrutiny from different backgrounds.

The Crime Satisfaction Survey showed that 92% of white people compared with 86.8% of black people were confident in Surrey Police at the start of the year. There has been a reduction in confidence levels over the year from the BAME community which is concerning but is in correlation with events/campaigns that have occurred internationally and nationally with the murder of George Floyd and Black Lives Matter movements.

BAME recruits were 46% up on last year's figures. Although this is still not where Surrey Police want to be, it is a marked improvement on previous years. The force are doing a great deal to bring in a more diverse workforce; ways to join up are more varied. The DCC is optimistic and working to improve on this figure. The DCC said that he would like to see more reporting on other areas of minority categories in line with the 9 protected characteristics named under the Equality and Diversity Act 2010.

An update was provided on Operation Merrywood - the response to the police elements of the **EU transition**. The CC assured the PCC that Surrey Police have a fairly robust command strategy in place for this. Plans are well rehearsed and exercised including a scenario plan with partners. The CC has met the Chair of the Local Resilience Forum ensuing that the Police are involved in all conversations about this. Challenges foreseen with the exit from the EU are protests, affected transport links, port issues, and Surrey's locality in being adjacent to Hampshire and Kent with their own port-related issues. The CC is confident that Surrey is as prepared as they can be.

The Surrey Police response to the national inspection report into **Roads Policing** was discussed. The focus across Surrey is in denying criminals the use of the road network and reducing the number of individuals killed/seriously injured (KSI). The figure for KSIs remains low in Surrey and is significantly lower than last year. The CC explained Operation Crackdown where members of the public can share footage of anti-social driving with the Police. The force are keen to share the learning across Surrey. The process is user friendly and has seen investigations launched where necessary for occurrences of dangerous driving. The PCC confirmed his intention to invest in Roads Policing in line with the

recommendations outlined in the report and publically thanked the Police for all their good work and efforts in this area.

The Chief Constable gave an update on how Surrey Police is meeting the **Strategic Policing Requirement**, SPR. The SPR is a national requirement of all forces and PCCs to provide resources to combat national threats of terrorism, organised crime, organised child abuse, public order, civil emergencies and the cyber threat. The PCC needs to ensure that the Chief Constable can provide adequate resources to the national effort if and when required. A report is requested by the PCC annually to seek that assurance. The detailed information is operationally sensitive, but the PCC was content to note the report and that arrangements had been put in place.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Police and Crime Panel note the update on the PCC's Performance Meetings.

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