

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITING SCHEME

18th September 2019

INTRODUCTION

The attached report presents the Annual Report for the OPCC for Surrey's Custody Visiting Scheme.

DETAILED REPORT

Independent Custody Visiting is a national requirement, detailed in a Home Office Code of Practice and supported by the Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA), whereby specially trained members of the public make random and unannounced visits to custody suites to check on the welfare of detainees and the conditions they are being held in. Locally, Independent Custody Visiting is under the remit of the Police and Crime Commissioner for the area who has authority for running and maintaining the scheme in their force area. Therefore, within Surrey this falls to David Munro.

Independent Custody Visiting provides protection to detainees and the police, and reassurance to the wider community. Volunteers from Independent Custody Visiting (ICV) Schemes across the UK independently check on the welfare of detainees who may be feeling vulnerable or confused, providing independent scrutiny of their treatment and the conditions in which they are being held. Independent Custody Visiting Schemes exist to provide reassurance to local communities that they can have confidence in the way in which the police treat people who are held in their custody.

Each year, the scheme manager provides a report to the PCC detailing the management of the scheme, visits carried out and results. The report is also published on the PCC's website. The report is attached for the panel's information.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Police and Crime Panel note this report.

LEAD/ CONTACT OFFICER:	Erika Dallinger
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	01483 630200
E-MAIL:	SurreyPCC@surrey.pnn.police.uk

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