



**CUMBRIA POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCE**

Minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on
Wednesday 7th December 2016 in Conference Room 3, Police Headquarters,
Carleton Hall, Penrith, at 10.00am

PRESENT

Police & Crime Commissioner - Mr Peter McCall (Chair)

Also present:

Deputy Chief Constable (Michelle Skeer)
Assistant Chief Constable (Darren Martland)
Superintendent (Justin Bibby)
Inspector (Carl Patrick)
Sergeant (John Chambers)
Constabulary Marketing and Communications Manager (Helen Lacey)
OPCC Chief Executive (Stuart Edwards)
OPCC Head of Communications and Business Services (Gill Shearer)
OPCC Partnerships & Strategy Manager (Mike James)
OPCC Assistant Policy Officer (Jo Woof)
OPCC Executive Support Officer (Paula Coulter) – taking minutes

Also in attendance:

Neil Hughes (Member of the Police and Crime Panel)

PART 1 – ITEMS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

025. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the Chief Constable, Mr Jerry Graham; Mrs Ruth Hunter, OPCC Chief Finance Officer; and Mrs Michelle Bellis, Deputy Chief Finance Officer.

026. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of any personal interest relating to any item on the Agenda.



027. MINUTES

The Chair presented the minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on 2nd November 2016 which had previously been circulated with the agenda. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.

RESOLVED, that, the

- (i) Minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on 2nd November 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair;

028. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No questions had been received from members of the public prior to the meeting.

029. PERFORMANCE UPDATE QUARTER 2 – 2016/2017

ACC Martland gave a presentation on Quarter 2 Performance – 2016/2017, the purpose of which was to provide the Commissioner with a detailed overview of Constabulary's performance for the 12 months to September 2016 as agreed in the Police and Crime Plan Accountability Framework. In addition the presentation provided statistical estimates for crime levels at the end for this year (2016 – 17) where appropriate and information about user satisfaction performance.

Slide 3 'All Crime' showed that there had been a 0.7% decrease in All Crime (-171 offences). Although the picture is positive the Constabulary are not complacent. There were 366 new offences that previously were not recorded. Cumbria was bucking the trend as only four forces had shown a decrease.

It was noted that it is difficult to make direct comparisons with figures from previous years due to changes in National Crime Recording Standards, and although these are now beginning to stabilise further changes are due to be implemented in due course.

The category for 'violence against the person' had seen an increase of 5.6% (388 crimes). The Office of National Statistics (ONS) state improvements in crime recording processes and practices by the police are thought to be a key driver nationally for the increase. Domestic abuse (aspirational target to increase) accounted for 33.1% of Violence Against the Person. Assault with injury offences show it is the less serious violent crime of "assault occasioning ABH" which has increased the most.

Assault without injury saw the biggest increase. The main offence within this category is common assault and battery.



There is an aspiration to increase reporting of sex offences and in the 12 months rolling total to September 2016 there had been an increase of 279 crimes, well over half are historic cases. It was noted that there is support available for victims and the Bridgeway is key in providing support.

Hate Crime is looked at every day, and post Brexit there has been a decrease from 363 to 308 offences. A Hate Crime can be reported by an individual or by third party reporting. On-line reporting facilities are also available.

There is also an aspiration to increase reporting of Domestic Abuse incidents. It was noted that 25% of incidents are substance fuelled. In the 12 months rolling total to September 2016:-

- 2% increase in incidents
- 3% increase in the repeat victim rate
- 3% fall in the number of first time reports
- Repeat victim rate is 46%
- 45% incidents become crimes
- An arrest was made in 22% incidents
- 85% conviction rate for cases that reach court

Following a discussion, the presentation was noted.

RESOLVED, that,
(i) the report be noted;

030. THEMATIC PRESENTATION – PUTTING VICTIMS AT THE HEART OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Superintendent Justin Bibby gave a presentation on ‘Putting Victims at the Heart of the Criminal Justice System’, the purpose of which was to provide the Commissioner with a detailed look at ‘How Cumbria Constabulary is putting victims’ at the heart of the Criminal Justice System’. The presentation included:

- Definition of a ‘Victim’
- Overview of Code of Practice for Victims of Crime 2015
- The Victims’ Journey
- Examination of relevant:
 - Outcome Data
 - Quality of Service Data



The Victims Code is part of a wider Government Strategy and sets a series of minimum standards for agencies to adhere to. The Constabulary has worked in conjunction with the OPCC Victims Advocate to ensure that information is available to everybody in an accessible and easy to read format. A booklet has been produced which contains all of the information, and will give people an indication of the service they can expect.

Victims have the option to provide a Victim Personal Statement to indicate how they feel and have been affected by the process. The Victims right to review is also detailed within the code.

All safeguarding issues are considered within the multi-agency Safeguarding Hub where immediate safeguarding measures or longer term interventions are put in place.

THRIVE methodology is applied at the first point of contact:-

Threat

Harm

Risk

Investigative

Vulnerability

Engagement

Referrals to the Bridgeway (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) are made for sexual offences. ISVA & IDVA services are offered to victims.

Domestic Abuse perpetrators are signposted to Turning the Spotlight whilst in custody. The Police and Crime Commissioner has observed two sessions of the Turning the Spotlight programme, which he considered to be very positive.

All Domestic Abuse incidents for the previous 24 hours are discussed at daily management meetings.

Community Resolution and Restorative Justice holds the offender to account to the victim.

Children & Young People:-

- Mandatory CSE&A Training for all officers.
- THRIVE Model at 'first point of contact' (CMR).
- Dedicated Staff in the PPU & Safeguarding Hub.
- Significant increase in 'online crime'

Response times were discussed and it was noted that a further meeting was due to take place after the Public Accountability Conference to discuss the Dashboard for 101 calls in detail.

11:30 Neil Hughes left the meeting



The geography of Cumbria is very challenging, and the ability to be able to locate rural locations was also raised. Superintendent Bibby re-assured the Commissioner that technology is in place within the Command & Control room that allows the location of an emergency call to be located on a map to a grid reference. The location of the attending police vehicle can be identified & it can be guided in easily by the Control Room if the officer does not have detailed local knowledge. The system will also work even if there is no mobile phone signal or a very weak signal (technology similar to that used by Mountain Rescue).

The Police & Crime Commissioner was invited by Superintended Bibby to see the technology in action.

The Commissioner thanked Superintendent Bibby for the presentation, and following a discussion, the presentation was noted.

Meeting ended at 11:50am

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____