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**Our reference: PC**

**Date 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

### **CUMBRIA POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER'S PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY CONFERENCE**

The Police and Crime Commissioner's Public Accountability Conference will take place on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July** in Conference Room **3**, Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith, at **10.00am**.

The purpose of the Conference is to enable the Police and Crime Commissioner to hold the Chief Constable to account for operational performance.

**G Shearer**  
**Chief Executive**

#### **Attendees:**

Police & Crime Commissioner	- Mr Peter McCall (Chair)
OPCC Chief Executive	- Mrs Gill Shearer
Joint Chief Finance Officer	- Mr Roger Marshall
Chief Constable	- Mrs Michelle Skeer

# **AGENDA**

## **PART 1 – ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

### **2. URGENT BUSINESS AND EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

To consider (i) any urgent items of business and (ii) whether the press and public should be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of any Agenda item where there is likely disclosure of information exempt under s.100A(4) and Part I Schedule A of the Local Government Act 1972 and the public interest in not disclosing outweighs any public interest in disclosure.

### **3. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

An opportunity (not exceeding 20 minutes) to deal with any questions which have been provided in writing within at least three clear working days before the meeting date to the Chief Executive.

### **4. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

Attendees are invited to disclose any personal/prejudicial interest, which they may have in any of the items on the Agenda. If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest, then the individual should not participate in a discussion of the matter and must withdraw from the room unless a dispensation has previously been obtained.

### **5. MINUTES OF MEETING**

To receive and approve the minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018, (copy attached)

### **6. CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING 2018/19 – QUARTER 1 TO JUNE 2018**

To receive, note and approve the quarter one capital budget monitoring report for 2018/19 (copy to follow).

### **7. CONSTABULARY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2018/19 – QUARTER 1 TO JUNE 2018**

To receive and note the quarter one monitoring report on the Constabulary revenue budget for 2018/19 (copy to follow).

**8. COMMISSIONER'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2018/19 – QUARTER 1 TO JUNE 2018**

To receive and note the quarter one monitoring report on the Commissioner's revenue budget for 2018/19 (copy to follow).

**9. TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES 2018/19 – QUARTER 1 TO JUNE 2018**

To receive and note the Treasury Management Activities Report April to June 2018 (copy to follow).

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

Minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018 in Conference Room 3, Police Headquarters,  
Carleton Hall, Penrith, at 10.00am

**PRESENT**

Police & Crime Commissioner - Mr Peter McCall (Chair)

**Also present:**

T/Deputy Chief Constable (Mark Webster);

T/Assistant Chief Constable (Andy Slattery)

T/Detective Chief Superintendent, Crime Command (Dean Holden)

Detective Chief Inspector, Crime Command (Dave Stalker)

Constabulary Head of Marketing & Communications (Helen Lacey)

OPCC Chief Executive (Gill Shearer)

OPCC Deputy Chief Executive (Vivian Stafford)

OPCC Executive Support Officer (Paula Coulter) – taking minutes

**Also in attendance:**

Councillor Neil Hughes

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

**001. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from the Chief Constable (Michelle Skeer) and the Joint Chief Finance Officer (Roger Marshall)

**002. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

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

**003. URGENT BUSINESS AND EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no items of urgent business to be considered.

#### **004. DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INTERESTS**

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

#### **005. MINUTES**

The Chair presented the minutes of the Public Accountability Conference held on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018 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 The 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair;

#### **005. PERFORMANCE PRESENTATION**

The T/Assistant Chief Constable presented the report. For the record, it was noted that there are some quite stark changes in some of the data, and it is useful to set the context in relation to new national crime recording standards.

There is a startling increase in 'all crime'. National crime recording standards have changed over the years, in the past the trend nationally was for crime to be under recorded but there has been a drive to find the true level of crime. The purpose of increasing the standards is to narrow the gap between what is reported to police compared against figures in the crime survey data statistics. Nationally we are now seeing recorded crime increase to come up to meet the designated national statistics.

Overall, crime has increased by 15.9% over the last 12 months to 31 May 2018 this is in line with the national figures. In Cumbria, this equates to 4,091 more crimes being reported and classified appropriately. There are two categories that have seen significant increases:

- Violence against the person rose by 33.7%, a proportion of this relates to domestic abuse and an increase in violence without injury
- Sexual Offences (rape and other sexual offences) reporting has increased by 43% a 128 offences

For the same period anti-social behaviour has dropped by 13%.

The two main contributory factors to the increase are, firstly, the continued increase in confidence from members of the public to report what has happened and, secondly, changes

to the way some offences are now classified and recorded. The Constabulary have undertaken significant training of officers and staff so that they understand recent crime recording changes and to ensure this is accurate – this has had an impact and has resulted in some of the increases.

One area where we have seen an increase is violence against the person. This crime type covers a wide range of offences, including Violence without injury – which has seen a 45% increase which shows people have the confidence to report early – before violence has taken place. Domestic abuse accounts for almost a third of all violence against the person offences. The statistics are certainly impacted by greater compliance by officers with crime recording practices, something which has been recognised nationally by the Office of National Statistics, which can give reassurance that Cumbria remains a safe place.

In Cumbria there has been a drive to increase crime recording in the Force. National crime recording standards (NCRS) change over time, HMIC are also carrying out a crime data integrity inspection in which other forces have come under criticism. Cumbria is learning from the experience of other forces and putting mechanisms in place to increase recording such as training; e-learning packages and a recovery process. Files are quality assured to ensure all crimes have been recorded correctly. To date, 1,800 logs have been quality assured with 700 additional crimes identified. Learning has been identified and fed back to Officers.

It is anticipated that next time the performance data is discussed at the PAC meeting the rate of growth of crime recording should slow down, but it was acknowledged that there is a considerable gap to close when comparing to the crime survey data. We will still see an increase in the figures, but the rate should slow down.

The Commissioner's concern is that we understand what is happening in Cumbria and that we are addressing it. The Commissioner was re-assured that cross checks across the UK bears out the same trend as in Cumbria, and that the changes in the figures come in around the time of the changes to the national crime recording standards. Cumbria is the safest part of the country in terms of violence. There is not a significant increase in violent crime in Cumbria and people are no less safe than they were.

It has been reported to the Commissioner by members of the public that people are discouraged from reporting via 101 due to the perceived length of time it takes to get through. The T/Deputy Chief Constable re-assured the Commissioner that work has been done to improve the 101 service, and people can also report via the 101 email which has no waiting time. It is important that every incident is reported to 101 in order to build up a picture of intelligence and to allow patrols to be planned etc.

Concern was raised over road collisions, particularly on A-roads and unclassified roads. It was noted that speed is often a factor, and the work of Speedwatch and other volunteers was recognised and acknowledged.

Following a discussion the report was noted.

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

## **006. THEMATIC PRESENTATION – ONLINE & SEXUAL CRIME**

Detective Chief Inspector Stalker presented the report, the purpose of which was to provide the current picture; the response and engagement; the quality; and the future demand in Cumbria.

Cumbria is very much following the national trend in terms of online and sexual crime, and we are starting to see a plateau around historical offences. There are a lot of initiatives to encourage reporting, and confidence has increased to approach the police. SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) referrals have also increased.

Although figures fluctuate, they are in line with the national trend. It was noted that female victims are more predominant than male, but it was acknowledged that there are still offences committed against males and work is on-going around that.

CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) reflects the national picture, and is under reported. CSE not only covers sexual offences, but also includes vulnerable female; missing from home; common assault. The Commissioner was re-assured that the constabulary are doing a lot of work around this. Most commonly this is linked to lone white males aged 18 – 25.

Links to OCGs (Organised Crime Gangs) were discussed, but it was felt that incidents involving OCGs had been opportunistic and was not the primary offence.

It was acknowledged that Chelsea's Choice is helping to raise awareness amongst young people. (Chelsea's Choice is an awareness raising play funded by the Commissioner and rolled out in schools across the county).

NFA (no further action) – there has been a significant audit around NFA, and work is ongoing around this. To clarify – NFA does not mean that no work is happening, safeguarding work & referrals into other agencies as well as support for the victim will still continue.

The Commissioner was re-assured that robust procedures are in place around dealing with incidents. Initially first responder Officers will attend, then SOITS who would then escalate quickly and as necessary through crime command.

It was acknowledged that there is a massive demand in this area with high workloads. Procedures are in place to manage this including psychological screening. Resource planning is being looked at as well as future demand.

Following a discussion the report was noted.

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

#### **007. AOB**

The Commissioner in exceptional circumstances added an additional agenda item – Appleby Horse Fair. The Commissioner formally requested the Chief Constable undertake a review into the policing operation focusing on the period in the lead up to the Fair. The review to highlight what went right and what went wrong. The Commissioner will be sharing with the Constabulary a document summarising the views of the public that have been provided to him to assist. The Constabulary will report on the outcome of their review at the Public Accountability Conference in the Autumn.

**Meeting concluded at 11.50am**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_