



**Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

To: Cambridgeshire Countywide Community Safety Strategic Board

From: Chief Executive

Date: 12 October 2016

**Developing a Police and Crime Plan (Community Safety and Criminal Justice) for
Cambridgeshire**

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Countywide Board (the “Board”) on the progress for the creation of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s (the “Commissioner”) Police and Crime Plan (the “Plan”) and the context within which this will be operating.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is recommended to note this report.

3. Background

3.1 A Police and Crime Commissioner is required to issue a Plan as soon as practicable after taking office - specifically before the end of the financial year which they are elected (31st March 2017). The Plan must determine and direct and communicate the Commissioner’s priorities during their period in office and set out for the period of issue:

- the Commissioner’s **police and crime objectives** for the area
- the policing of the area which the Chief Constable is to provide
- the financial and other resources which the Commissioner is to provide the Chief Constable
- the means by which the Chief Constable will report to the Commissioner on the provision of policing

- the means by which the Chief Constable’s performance in providing policing will be measured
- the services which the Commissioner is to provide or arrange to support crime and disorder reduction or help victims of witness of crime and anti-social behaviour (**crime and disorder reduction and victims’ service grants**).
- any grants which the Commissioner is to make and the conditions if any of those grants.

3.3 In preparing the Plan the Commissioner must ‘have regard to the relevant priorities of each responsible authority’ – the authorities have a duty to co-operate with the Commissioner for the purpose of formulating the Plan. The Commissioner must also make arrangements to obtain the views of the community (including victims of crime) on policing and ensure an efficient and effective criminal justice system.

3.4 The Plan must achieve value for money, ensure the Chief Constable fulfils their duties relating to equality and diversity and have regard: to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, the Strategic Policing Requirement and guidance or codes of practice issued by the Secretary of State.

4. Progress of the Cambridgeshire Plan

4.1 The Commissioner decided to build his plan around an overarching ‘Plan on a Page’ strategic summary. This single page sets out the priority Police and Crime Objective themes of: Victims, Offenders, Communities, and Transformation. Each theme has its own aim and suggests a framework through a series of shared outcomes to enable all agencies with a part to play in community safety and criminal justice to strategically direct the future delivery of services through these common goals.

4.2 The proposed priorities for each overarching Police and Crime Objective are set out in a series of second pages which have been shaped by the views of partners and the public.

4.3 The Commissioner has acknowledged that a strategic partnership approach is required to deliver the shared outcomes laid out in the Plan in both the short and long term. He has also recognised that all partners need to be clear of the collective responsibility for certain actions, yet also their responsibility for leading on direct action or dealing with the underlying causes that can lead to offending or becoming a victim. In particular the Commissioner is keen to understand the role of local Community Safety Partnerships and how they can help to support safer stronger communities who have confidence in how all agencies respond to their needs.

5. Devolution

5.1 Leaders of key public services across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been discussing proposals for a devolution deal with the Government since initial proposals were submitted to Government at the end of last year. They have been seeking a devolution settlement which initially focuses on:

- Housing, Planning and Development
- Transport and Infrastructure
- Skills, Education, Aspiration and Employment.

Further powers may be agreed over time. Leaders have signalled their desire to discuss further devolution with the Government to support public sector reform in areas including community safety and health and social care.

5.2 By the end of October/start of November the devolution proposals will be considered by Full Councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and Government approval sought. If approved, through November to December, a legislative processes will be undertaken to establish the Combined Authority and secure the transfer of powers. In November a Shadow Combined Authority would be formed which would operate until May 2017. The Combined Authority would be established in February 2017. A Mayor for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough would be elected in May 2017.

5.3 A future deal for community safety across local authorities, police, fire, probation and other services could support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan, building on the existing good partnership work in place to create a better alignment of priorities and activity to create safer and stronger communities. Devolution provides an opportunity to discuss with the Government how it could support work to:

- improve the visibility, effectiveness and efficiency of our response to day to day community safety issues
- improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Criminal Justice System
- work with health and social care partners to create strong, as well as safe communities

5.4 The devolution governance proposals for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough enable the Mayor and Cabinet to agree to establish and participate in a Memorandum of Understanding with key partners to drive public service reform. This mechanism could be used to establish arrangements for the Combined Authority to work with the Police and Crime Commissioner on community safety issues. An updated Countywide Community Safety Agreement and a reinvigorated Countywide Community Safety Strategic Board could provide the necessary partnership governance structures to drive forward these changes.

6. Timescales for the Plan

6.1 It is intended that a final version of the Plan will be taken to the Police and Crime Panel for final comments on 1 February 2017.

7. Recommendation

7.1 The Board is recommended to note this report.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Documents	Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents
Contact Officers	Nicky Phillipson, Head of Strategic Partnerships and Commissioning