

HAMPSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Report

Date considered:	13 April 2018	Item:	8
Title:	Scrutiny Work Programme		
Contact:	Democratic Support Officer to the Panel		
Tel:	01962 846693	Email:	members.services@hants.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to detail the proactive scrutiny work programme of the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel (“the Panel”) for the 2018/19 municipal year.

2. Context

- 2.1 The Panel agreed at their 24 January 2014 meeting to build on the ‘statutory functions’ by moving to a fuller work-programme focusing on core elements of the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan. This included an agreement to:
 - 2.1.1 Hold two sessions at each meeting, with the morning session agenda items relating to the Panel’s statutory functions and the afternoon session hosting a proactive scrutiny evidence gathering session.
 - 2.1.2 Hold additional meetings of the Police and Crime Plan working group in order to set the agenda for the afternoon sessions of the Panel, which would be based on the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan.
 - 2.1.3 Plan scrutiny sessions in advance so that information can be invited from the Commissioner, key partner stakeholders, and the public (written and oral evidence as specified by the members) in a timely fashion.
 - 2.1.4 Report to the Commissioner conclusions and recommendations outlining the Panel’s findings following their scrutiny session.

3. Police and Crime Plan Working Group

- 3.1 The working group met on 2 March 2018 in order to discuss the forthcoming work programme for the 2018/19 afternoon sessions of the Panel. It was agreed that:

- 3.1.1 One theme per meeting would be explored in the afternoon session. This theme would be set and organised by the Plan working group, who aim to convene six weeks in advance of the formal meeting in order to determine review questions and stakeholders of interest.
- 3.1.2 The working group would consult with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) once the review topics have been set, in order to understand the key activities of the OPCC per quarter on selected theme, and to ensure that the review is timely.
- 3.1.3 The afternoon sessions would last for 1.5 - 2 hours, and would be preceded by a private briefing for Panel members over a working lunch.

4. Proactive Scrutiny Themes

- 4.1 The Plan working group have agreed an outline work programme for the year, based on the priority areas for delivery outlined by the Commissioner and previously expressed areas of interest to the Panel.

5. Work Programme

- 5.1. The work programme is attached as Appendix One.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 **That the work programme, subject to any recommendations made at the meeting, is agreed.**

WORK PROGRAMME – POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Proactive Scrutiny Theme	Description	6 July 2018	5 October 2018	25 January 2019	12 April 2019
N/A	A proactive scrutiny will not be conducted at the July meeting as the afternoon session of the July meeting is dedicated to Panel development, as in previous years.	X			
Community Engagement	<p>Within his Police and Crime Plan the Commissioner stated that “My first and overarching concern is to stand up for every resident: being visible, accessible and accountable to the people I represent, ensuring their concerns are heard and addressed.”</p> <p>In his role, the Commissioner not only has the ability to engage directly with the residents of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight but can share his messages and hear the thoughts, concerns and needs of the public he represents through effective engagement with statutory and community partners.</p> <p>Through this review the working group suggests that the Panel seeks to understand how effective the Commissioner has been in engaging with partners and residents to ensure that their concerns have been heard, and that the Commissioner’s vision and priorities are being shared and understood. Further the working group considers the Panel can support the Commissioner by making recommendation upon how he may enhance his engagement in the future and improve awareness and understanding of the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.</p>		X		

Proactive Scrutiny Theme	Description	6 July 2018	5 October 2018	25 January 2019	12 April 2019
Homelessness	<p>Homelessness, particularly rough sleeping has been brought to the fore of media attention, following the announcement of the royal wedding and plans to reduce the number of those sleeping rough in the nearby area.</p> <p>Due to the inherent increased instability of the lives of those individuals who find themselves homeless, they are at far greater risk of becoming victims and perpetrators of crime. Reports suggest that people sleeping on the street are almost 17 times more likely to become victims of violence, with one in three reporting that they have been deliberately hit or kicked whilst sleeping rough. Following the Panel's previous review of human trafficking and modern slavery it is also recognised that homeless persons are at a greater risk of being exploited by traffickers and being forced into slavery or criminal activity.</p> <p>This scrutiny will consider how the Commissioner is engaging partners across the two counties in reducing the crime and anti-social behaviour both experienced by and generated by those who find themselves homeless. This scrutiny will also consider the impact of homelessness on the wider community and seek to understand what services are currently available to support and keep safe those sleeping rough within the communities of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.</p> <p>The working group believes the Panel can support the Commissioner in his intention to keep communities safer through making suggesting upon how partner agencies may be better engaged to prevent homelessness and enhance the support provided to those sleeping rough. The working group also seeks, through undertaking this scrutiny, to identify opportunities to reduce the crime and anti social behaviour which is associated with homelessness and keep</p>			X	

Proactive Scrutiny Theme	Description	6 July 2018	5 October 2018	25 January 2019	12 April 2019
	those experiencing homelessness safe from violence and exploitation.				
Festivals and Public Events	<p>Hampshire and the IOW are home to a number of significant festivals and large scale public each year including the IOW Festival, Boomtown Fair, Common People, The Winchester Hat Fair, the Victorious Festival and Carfest.</p> <p>Organising large scale events of this nature requires partners to work together to ensure that visitors, and the communities in which events are held, are kept safe and to prevent criminals exploiting those attending. In particular theft, violence and drugs are a concern with as many 1 in 500 visitors falling victim to crime at festivals across the UK. The use of illegal substances has also had tragic consequences, with four suspected or known drug related deaths reported at the Boomtown festival since 2011.</p> <p>This scrutiny will consider how well the Commissioner is working with partners from across Hampshire and the IOW to ensure visitor and resident safety is being prioritised when large scale public events are being held. This scrutiny will also consider how well the Commissioner is holding the Chief Constable to account for preventing criminal activity at such events and encouraging members of the public to keep themselves safe.</p> <p>The working group believes that, thorough this scrutiny, the Panel can add value by making recommendations that will support the Commissioner in his pledge to keep residents and communities safer and make suggestion upon how the Commissioner could better engage partner agencies in efforts to maintain public safety at large scale events</p>				X

The following topics were proposed for consideration for future scrutiny:

- Sexual Crime
- Harmful Cultural Practices – e.g. FGM
- Childhood Sexual Abuse (including historical)
- Community Safety – Partnerships and Funding
- Policing in an Island Community
- Elder engagement