



Philip Seccombe
Police and Crime
Commissioner
for Warwickshire

Item 5

Report to the Police and Crime Panel

Report on the work of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

22nd June 2017

1) Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Panel with an update on the key activities that have taken place since the panel last met on 23rd March 2017.

2) PCC Grant Awards 2017-18

I have awarded a total of £1.66 million to enable organisations across the county to deliver projects which will deliver “**A safer, more secure Warwickshire**”.

The Commissioner’s Grants Scheme is an annual award which seeks to support initiatives which will make a positive contribution to the objectives of the Police and Crime Plan. The funded projects address one or more of the plan’s key objectives to:

- Put victims and survivors first;
- Ensure efficient and effective policing;
- Protect people from harm;
- Prevent and reduce crime.

Schemes both large and small are benefiting from this year’s round of funding, with all applications fully evaluated and scored against strict criteria to determine their eligibility and suitability. All grants are subject to the same terms and conditions.

Initiatives have been supported on both a county-wide and area-specific basis. A full breakdown of the schemes awarded grant funding in 2017/18 can be found at **Appendix A**.

3) Force Performance:

The Quarter 4 2016/17 Warwickshire force performance report can be found at **Appendix B**. On receipt of the report I asked specific performance questions to the Chief Constable and Chief Superintendent Alex Franklin-Smith. The responses to my questions can be found at **Appendix C**.

Unfortunately the force complaints data did not feature in the Quarter 4 report, therefore my office has compiled a separate report detailing this information for the Panel which can be found at **Appendix D**. A more detailed complaint data report will be presented at the Planning and Performance working group meeting on 15 August as per the work programme.

4) Body Worn Video scrutinised by the Trust, Integrity and Ethics Committee

The new body worn video equipment which I am funding for frontline police officers across Warwickshire has been scrutinised by the Trust, Integrity and Ethics Committee.

The committee have had the chance to question the operational policing leads for the project, as well as studying the new force policies which will be followed by officers when they receive their new equipment over the summer months.

Firearms and Taser-trained officers will be among the first to receive the equipment in Warwickshire, followed by patrol officers, with all front-line operational officers – including those in Safer Neighbourhood Teams – gaining body-worn cameras during the remainder of 2017.

The Panel are due to receive a presentation on the work undertaken by the Committee at their September meeting.

5) Co-commissioned new domestic abuse support services for the county

My office has worked closely with Warwickshire County Council over the last 12 months to co-commission a new enhanced community-based domestic abuse support service for the county. The contract has been awarded to *Refuge* and marks another exciting step forward in providing a safer, more secure Warwickshire. Refuge is an organisation with a vast wealth of experience in working with victims and survivors and has achieved a high reputation nationally.

From 1st April 2017, Refuge began delivering a combined community-based support and accommodation service in Warwickshire, including:

- 24 units of accommodation in locations across Warwickshire and associated support for females aged 16 and over and their dependent children, including provision of a children's worker.
- A single point of contact and specialist helpline.
- Outreach support, specialist advocacy for high risk victims and specialist support for male, BME and LGBT victims.
- Support to Warwickshire's GP practices under the Identification and Referral to Improve Safety (IRIS) programme.
- Management of the Sanctuary Scheme.
- Coordination of Warwickshire's Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and support to the Warwickshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

6) Reviewing a loophole in criminal justice processes

A key part of my role as Commissioner is to listen to the public's views and experiences of the criminal justice system, particularly when there are concerns that things may have gone wrong or that procedures are not adequate. Last month I met with Colin Hehir, the father of murdered Nuneaton man Morgan Hehir, to discuss his concerns that a loophole in the processes for monitoring offenders on release from prison could have led to the murder of his son.

Having heard the details of the case, I am keen to understand whether processes within the criminal justice system provided adequate protection for the public.

Morgan's killer, Declan Gray, had only months before been released from prison, having served a full sentence for manslaughter. While there are national guidelines which police and other agencies follow to monitor violent offenders upon release from prison, the fact that Gray had served his full term meant that, under existing rules, there was little in the way of supervision and monitoring that could be undertaken by the police and other agencies, following his release, with tragic results.

This brings into question whether the powers that the police, National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Companies currently have to monitor individuals convicted of serious

violent crimes in these circumstances are adequate. While it's clear that agencies are all working extremely hard to protect the public from dangerous offenders, I think it is right to take stock and examine whether improvements can be made to help those agencies further minimise the risk to the public.

I gave Colin the assurance that I will convene a meeting in the coming weeks with the relevant agencies to discuss the concerns highlighted by Morgan's death. This will help me to further understand what if any shortcomings may exist in the current public protection arrangements and examine how they can be overcome. I'll keep the panel updated with progress.

7) Appointment of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner

I will provide the Panel with a verbal update at the meeting.

8) Summary of activity since 23rd March 2017

The list is not exhaustive but I have attended the following meetings / events:

- Continued to meet the Chief Constable in private on a weekly basis to hold him to account
- Attended the Trust, Integrity and Ethics Committee
- Met with the Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss- Lord Chancellor (Secretary of State for Justice)
- Attended the North Warwickshire Resources Assurance Group
- Visited the Multi-Agency safeguarding Hub (MASH)
- Attended Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer Community Partnership
- Chaired the Alliance Governance Group meeting (AGG)
- Attended the regional PCC and Chief Constable meeting
- Received a briefing on the Local Counter Terrorism Local Profiles
- Visited the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)
- Visited Neville House (new OCC) to assess development progress
- Presented at Nuneaton & Bedworth Neighbourhood Watch Association AGM
- Met with Youth Parliament and the Children in Care Council
- Visited HMP Hewell and observed the Supporting Offenders through Restoration Inside programme
- Attended the Strategic Independent Advisory Group meeting
- Attended the Leek Wootton Neighbourhood Plan meeting
- Presented at the Bedworth and Bulkington Neighbourhood Watch meeting
- Chaired the second meeting of the Emergency Services Collaboration Working Group (ESCWG)
- Presented at Alcester Town Council & NHW Combined meeting
- Gave the closing address at the Chief Constable's Award Ceremony
- Met with Guido Ligouri, Associate Commissioner, Independent Police Complaints Commission
- Attended Association of Police and Crime Commissioners Annual General Meeting
- Presented at Loxley Parish Council meeting
- Received a progress report on firearms licencing

- Visited HM Coast Guard
- Attended Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board and gave a verbal update
- Hosted the Cyber Crime survey findings launch event

9) Decisions of the PCC

I have made the following decisions since the last Police and Crime Panel meeting:

WPCC20020 - Not for Publication - Exempt from disclosure under S.31 (1) (a) (the prevention and detection of crime) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

WPCC20021 – Not for Publication - Exempt from Disclosure under S.40 (2) (personal information) of the Freedom of Information Act

WPCC20012 – Work in progress

A copy of the non-exempt completed decision forms will be published on the OPCC website together with any relevant documents in due course.

Appendices:

Appendix A – PCC Grant Awards 2017-18

Appendix B – Warwickshire Police performance report

Appendix C – Restricted

Appendix D – Warwickshire Police complaints data