

5<sup>th</sup> August 2019  
(should read 2020)

Dear Councillor Nevett and members of the Police & Crime Panel

**Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2019/20**

Many thanks for your letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 providing the Panel's comments on the draft Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2019/20 discussed at the Police and Crime Panel meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

I have provided a table below outlining the response to the issues raised. In addition, further information is provided at appendix 1 to this letter. A copy of the revised report is also provided for information.

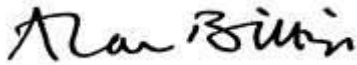
Comment	PCC response
<p>Councillor Otten commented that the report focused on activity, but had very little detail on the outcomes; in particular if the activity had been successful or otherwise. For example, on page 66 of the agenda pack, 'Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour' the report did not present the achievements around the activities</p>	<p>The purpose of the report is to show progress that is being made in achieving Police and Crime Plan objectives. It aims to give a rounded view on this. It is sometimes difficult to evidence that a particular activity on its own is achieving the high level objective. However that activity, along with others, contribute to achieving the objectives set.</p> <p>Outcome focussed information as far as possible is shown at the end of each section of the report: page 7 for Protecting Vulnerable People; page 12 for Tackling Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour; and page 14 for Treating People Fairly. There is also outcomes based information in the "Activities and Achievements" section on page 5.</p> <p>Other achievements around activities are on page 11 - the new Custody Navigators, page 10 - the VRU and page 15 – grant funding case study.</p> <p>In addition, <b>appendix 1</b> to this response includes more detail of outcome focussed information contained in the report.</p>
<p>Councillor Sansome referred to the Neighbourhood Policing Survey results. He noted that, 44% of respondents had felt crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) had increased in the last 18 months in their local area compared to 9% who felt that it had decreased. He asked if the Force were achieving performance targets in this area of work.</p>	<p>The Police and Crime Plan does not set specific targets. The priority within the plan is to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and work is always ongoing to understand fully people's perceptions which can be different to the actual levels of recorded crime and ASB. Perceptions can vary also depending on how and when people are surveyed.</p> <p>The results from the Neighbourhood Policing Survey will be used alongside results from other surveys of victims and residents to provide a richer picture of where work needs to be focussed in helping people feel safe and for further</p>

Comment	PCC response
	<p>developing Neighbourhood Policing in South Yorkshire. Whilst targets have not been set specifically to people's perceptions of crime and ASB, the report does include information on actual recorded levels of ASB and recorded levels of specific crime types at pages 7 and 12.</p>
<p>Professor James suggested that, when the five-year period of the Police and Crime Plan came to a conclusion, it would be appropriate for the Commissioner to specifically highlight all the outcomes which had been achieved over the five-year period.</p>	<p>Whilst the Police and Crime Plan is initially written to cover a 5 year period, in practice the plan is renewed appropriately each year to reflect changes to local and national policing and crime priorities and issues.</p> <p>Each year, once final relevant data is available, the PCC publishes an annual report which is the review of progress against the previous year's focus as described in the Police and Crime Plan. The annual report identifies actions, achievements, performance and outcomes.</p> <p>Reviewing each of the annual reports together will give an indication to Panel of achievements over the life of the plan.</p>
<p>A Carter referred to the 'Key Activities' section under the heading 'Treating People Fairly'. He suggested that it would be helpful to include some examples of the correspondence received by the Commissioner from local residents. He also suggested that, the report included an element of praise towards the Force to highlight to the public of South Yorkshire where the Force had done something very well and had been nationally recognised.</p>	<p>Correspondence themes and compliments have been added to this section on page 14.</p> <p>There is reference to SYP taking a national lead on Problem Orientated Policing on page 8</p>
<p>Additional comments were received from Professor Adrian James by e-mail on 22nd July 2020, and have been agreed for submission by the Chair and Vice-Chair – as follows: "I looked again at the PCC's draft annual report that came to the Panel on Monday and I noticed that there is no reference to his work with the Panel, apart from a brief passing reference to the Panel in the headline of the 'Transparency, Scrutiny and Holding to Account'</p>	<p>Additional information about the Police and Crime Panel has been added at page 16</p>

Comment	PCC response
section on page 16 of the report (unless I have missed it!). I wonder whether he might be encouraged to say a little more about the role of this (the Panel)".	

The report will now be finalised taking account of the above and a final version published on the OPCC website.

Many thanks and all good wishes,



Dr Alan Billings

*Enclosed: Appendix 1*

## Appendix 1

### **Summary of outcome focussed information included in the annual report 2019/20.**

#### **Protecting Vulnerable People**

- OPCC commissions a Victim Support service. After using the service, victims say they felt better informed, had a sense of reintegration, felt safer, had an improved sense of wellbeing, ability to cope and an improved experience of the criminal justice system (page 5)
- OPCC commissions an Independent Sexual Advisor Service – 80% of users of the service report improved mental health and helped them stay in the criminal justice system longer and helps them access other services. (page 5)
- OPCC commissions the child sexual assault assessment service. Following training to partners, increased knowledge of the type of work undertaken has partly been responsible for a 43% increase in referrals (122 to 175) enabling more children to receive help. (page 5)
- Continuing to let victims of domestic abuse know that they will be supported when reporting incidents and crimes. Recorded domestic abuse crimes increased by just over 8% during 2019/20 compared to the previous year (4), allowing the police and partners to help and support more people. The domestic abuse crime arrest rate has increased from 36% in 2018/19 to 51% in 2019/20 (4). Victims of domestic abuse are 81% satisfied overall with the police (page 7)
- Arrangements are now in place so that victims can record their evidence and be cross examined remotely without needing to attend court. (page 6)
- Callers to 101 no longer have to wait on the line, they can request a call back thereby freeing up their time whilst still getting the help they need (page 6)

#### **Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour**

- Increased number of neighbourhood policing team across SY (page 8)
- Re-opening of Edlington Police Station at residents' request (page 8)
- Increased resourcing across districts (an additional 55 officers in neighbourhood teams) as a result of the ctax precept increase (page 18)
- Given the opportunity to almost 600 people to give their views on neighbourhood policing and gained a better understanding of people's views (page 14)
- Setting up of the Violence Reduction Unit which has already provided additional support to 25 organisations through the Violence Reduction Fund and 8 through the Fortify Fund focusing on preventing and reducing violent crime and serious and organised crime (page 10)
- Introduced Custody Navigators who have already supported 27 people to move away from a life of crime, 26 of whom have not returned to custody (page 11)
- ASB has fallen by 20% compare to 18/19 (page 12)
- Burglary has fallen by 3% 19/20 compared to 18/19 (page 12)
- Knife crime has fallen by 6% compared to 18/19 (page 12)

- 75% of victims are satisfied with the overall service from the police (page 12)
- Secured an additional £1.6m of funding for the VRU (page 12)

### **Treating People Fairly**

- SYP now rated as outstanding for developing and maintaining an ethical culture (page 13)
- SYP rated good at treating the public and its workforce fairly (page 13)
- Gathered the views of over 2000 residents before increasing the policing council tax precept in line with their views (page 14)
- Independent custody visitors have seen over 600 detainees ensuring that they are being treated properly (page 14)
- Changes have been made to the provision of information in custody for people who have difficulty reading or who do not read English following work done by Independent Custody Visitors (page 14)
- Case study of Station House, Thurnsoe – example of grant funding (page 15)
- Grant funding has provided increased safety measures in the homes of the most vulnerable across SY (Page 15)
- Grant funding has enabled organisations to tackle drug use and so reduce Spice use (page 15)
- Provided additional scrutiny compared to previous years around hate crime, stop and search, equality, diversity and inclusion, complaints and ethical digital policing with the introduction of Link Members to the Independent Ethics Panel. A digital policing question set to ensure ethical issues are considered when implementing digital policing technology is now in place across SYP. (page 14)