

**AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE AVON & SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
24th OCTOBER 2013**

AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PLAN - PERFORMANCE UPDATE

OCTOBER 2013

The Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Plan was launched in March 2013 setting out the Police and Crime Commissioner's aspirations for 2013-17. This included 45 police and crime objectives and nine numerical performance aspirations set out below. This paper provides an update on the progress made towards delivering the aspirations of the Police and Crime Plan between April and September 2013.

Public Confidence

Public confidence in policing locally, as measured by the Crime Survey for England and Wales, increased from 71% to 73% between December 2012 and March 2013. This comes after a period of falling confidence levels during 2012. While these early indications are encouraging, achieving a top ten national position by 2017 remains a significant challenge. The Office of national Statistics will release data up to the end of June 2013 during October.

Anti-social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour victim satisfaction has levelled off at around 81%, having shown no significant change on the 2012/13 baseline year. The proportion of ASB cases fully resolved has seen a marginal increase to 38.5%, but remains notably lower than the aspiration- for example in South Gloucestershire (33%).

The Police and Crime Plan set objectives to improve awareness and access to the services available for victims of ASB. An ASB Champion has been identified to lead this area of work. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Constabulary also launched a general population survey in August. The survey will be used to improve our understanding of the ways in which residents prefer to contact the police, their awareness of opportunities to have a say on local issues and perceptions of ASB in their local area. The first set of results will be available by the end of October.

The Commissioner has issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute to the reduction of ASB and perceptions of ASB across the force area. These include youth diversion schemes, ASB Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) processes and targeted initiatives in the night time economy. A more detailed quarterly report on progress in these areas can be found on the Commissioner's website.

The Commissioner has issued a range of grants to local communities and voluntary organisations in quarter 2 which included work with young people in:-

- the Langport, Wiveliscombe and Minehead areas of Somerset (Archies Xtra, 10 CY, Minehead Hope Trust)
- Twerton area of BaNES and the Mentoring Plus scheme

- Oldland and Kingswood areas of South Gloucestershire (Oldland Youth Club, Creative Youth Network)
- Yatton Youth Club, Conresbury Skate park, Clevedon YMCA and the Bournville Estate (Sports Active Seagulls Community Trust) in North Somerset
- ABLAZE, South Bristol Youth project and Southville Community Development Association in Bristol

Domestic and Sexual Violence

Recognising that a substantial proportion of domestic and sexual violence cases go unreported to the police and other agencies, the Commissioner has set an aspiration to increase confidence amongst victims to report these incidents. Reported sexual offences have increased by 29% so far this year. Conversely, detection rates for serious sexual offences have fallen from 34% to 27%, although a proportion of new cases are progressing through the criminal justice system. The national position for serious sexual offence detection has slipped from 14th highest nationally to 18th highest.

Domestic violence reporting fell steadily between April and June 2013, but showed signs of above average increases over the summer. Work is underway to identify what factors are thought to be driving this increase. The Commissioner will continue to work with partners and the public to increase confidence to report these incidents amongst both victims and third parties. Recent analysis has also identified opportunities to improve recording systems and processes with regard to third party reporting.

The Commissioner has also set out a commitment to improving understanding and awareness of domestic and sexual violence, improving the effectiveness of Public Protection Teams and local domestic violence services, and strengthening the focus on perpetrators of violence. The Commissioner centrally commissioned the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) services in April 2013 in order to provide continuity and stability to this important service.

The Commissioner has also issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute towards tackling Domestic and Sexual Violence in Avon and Somerset. These include a domestic violence empowerment group, perpetrator scheme, research in to the prevalence of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), child exploitation MARAC process and domestic and sexual violence awareness raising campaigns. Details of progress made in these areas can be found on the Commissioner's website.

The Commissioner has also issued a range of grants to local communities and voluntary organisations to support this priority. Grants awarded to date include:-

- Women's Project – counselling service for victims of domestic abuse in North Somerset
- Kinergy - volunteer counsellors providing support to victims of rape and sexual assault
- Weston YMCA – supporting young people who have experienced domestic abuse
- Unseen – work to tackle human trafficking
- The Green House – To increase counselling hours available to support survivors of sexual abuse

Burglary

The number of burglary offences across Avon and Somerset has fallen by 15% so far this year, equating to around 922 fewer crimes. The detection rate for burglary has also

increased from 11.6% to 13.6%. National positions for both burglary rates and detections have improved to 18th and 16th out of 43.

The Commissioner has also set Police and Crime objectives to tackle burglary hotspot locations, improve integrated offender management and criminal justice outcomes and improve the access to information available to the public. A review of the way in which serious acquisitive crime processes are managed and co-ordinated has contributed to further reductions in burglary and improvements in the burglary detection rate this quarter.

The Commissioner has engaged extensively with local communities to understand their concerns, including attendance and engagement at a number of Neighbourhood Watch and PACT meetings. Work is also underway to review the Constabulary approach to Neighbourhood Watch and information provided to local communities. The Commissioner also maintains oversight of the IMPACT programme for managing our most prolific and persistent burglary offenders.

The Commissioner issued grant funding to support the Drug Intervention Programme across Avon and Somerset in March 2013 alongside community safety grants for initiatives such as alley gating, crime prevention, youth diversion and substance misuse projects. Details of progress made in these areas are reported quarterly and are available on the Commissioner's website.

Victim Services

Victim satisfaction is increasing, having risen steadily from 86.7% satisfied to 87.8%, with the most recent results indicating that satisfaction rates are set to increase further. The national position for victim satisfaction has increased to 13/43, standing marginally outside of a top 10 position.

The Commissioner set out her commitment to improving victim care, particularly through improving our understanding of victim's experience and supporting the Integrated Victim Service pilot. The Commissioner has appointed a Victims Champion to lead this area of work and is working with key stakeholders to map the victim services landscape with support from the University of the West of England. This has included facilitating a Victims' Roundtable event in May and preparations to commission local victim services from October 2013.

The Commissioner has issued community safety grants that will contribute towards improving victim care across Avon and Somerset, which include Neighbourhood Justice Panels and a range of hate crime services. Details of progress made in these areas are reported quarterly and are available on the Commissioner's website.

The Commissioner has also issued a range of grants to local communities and voluntary organisations to support this priority. Grants awarded to date include:-

- Lighthouse at Weston – providing a safe place for vulnerable victims in the night time economy
- The Cole's Shed – supporting the development of a sensory garden for vulnerable young people in North Somerset
- South Gloucestershire Disability Equality Network – event to raise awareness of disablist hate crime
- Bristol and Avon Chinese Women's Group – specialist drop in surgeries
- Somerset West Business Against Crime – radio infrastructure to a new business crime reduction partnership

Additional areas of work

Road safety was identified as an additional priority issue for residents across Avon and Somerset as a result of extensive local consultation. The Commissioner requested a review of the effectiveness of fixed speed and red light cameras, mobile cameras and speed awareness courses was commissioned in April 2013 alongside a review of potential costs and revenues. This informed a decision to reinstate road safety cameras in specific areas of the force.

The Commissioner has continued her programme of community engagement which included a variety of out and about days and public events. This has seen a particular focus on hearing from underrepresented groups and victims of a range of crime types.

The Commissioner has also:-

- Appointed a Youth Champion and Health and Wellbeing Officer to develop relationships with and improve understanding of the issues affecting young people
- Worked pro-actively with the Community and Voluntary Sector to develop relationships with CVS umbrella organisations and key partners
- Developed and recruited individuals to a Volunteer Panel that will dip sample complaints made against the Constabulary in order to provide increased transparency, openness, independence and oversight of the process.

The Commissioner has also been working closely with the Chief Constable in reviewing the 'Operating Model', which will set out how the Constabulary will be re-configured to meet the £14m funding challenge for Avon and Somerset over the next two years and beyond.

Recommendations

Panel members are invited to consider and discuss the report.

Police and Crime Plan Scorecard 2013/14 – Quarter 2

		2012/13 Baseline	12 Month Rolling Position			Ambition	
			Current	Change on baseline	National Position	2016/17 Ambition	On track to meet ambition?
Public Confidence	Percentage that have confidence in their local police	70.9%	72.7%	+1.8%	28/43	National top 10	YES
Anti-social Behaviour	Overall satisfaction amongst victims of ASB	80.9%	80.9%	+/-0.0%	n/a	Same as crime	NO
	Percentage of ASB cases fully resolved	38.3%	38.5%	+0.2%	n/a	Increase	YES
Domestic and sexual violence	Reported domestic and serious sexual offences	20,336	20,288	-0.2%	n/a	Increase	NO
	- Reported Domestic Violence	19,366	19,128	-1.1%	n/a		NO
	- Reported Serious sexual violence	1,128	1,384	+22.7%	n/a		YES
	Detection rate for serious sexual violence	33.7%	27.2%	-6.5%	18/43	National top 10	NO
Burglary	Police recorded burglary	11,729	10,716	-8.6%	18/43	National top 10	YES
	- Recorded domestic burglary	5,056	4,608	-8.9%	20/43		YES
	- Recorded non-domestic burglary	6,673	6,108	-8.5%	17/43		YES
	Police detected burglary	11.6%	13.6%	+2.0%	15/43		YES
	- Detected domestic burglary	14.1%	16.6%	+2.5%	28/43		YES
	- Detected non-domestic burglary	9.7%	11.4%	+1.7%	11/43		YES
Victim services	Overall satisfaction amongst victims of crime	86.7%	87.8%	+1.1%	13/43	National top 10	YES
	Successful criminal justice outcomes	80.3%	80.2%	-0.1%	30/43	National top 10	NO