

Report of: The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

Date: 1 October 2019

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner Annual Report 2018-2019

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel is required by Section 28 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to review Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report and make a report or recommendations.
- 1.2 On 9th September 2019, the Panel considered the Police and Crime Commissioner's 2018-2019 Annual Report.

2 Members Present

- 2.1 The members in attendance were Cllrs Ken Hawkins (Chair), Safia Akhtar, Paul Bradley, James Butler, Jasbir Jaspal, Richard Jones, Abdul Khan, Suky Samra, Shafique Shah, Farut Shaeen and independent member Lionel Walker.

3 Panel Comments

- 3.1 We thank the Police and Crime Commissioner for taking on board the Panel's 2018 recommendations to include data on arrests and charges. The Panel would like to invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to consider the following points.

(a) Performance Data

- 3.2 We note the performance information presented in the report. We suggest including clear statements of the progress made towards each headline measure would help the public better understand the progress made against these targets and the challenges that remain.
- 3.3 We believe that sections of the report would benefit from more detail and suggest data on the total number of incidents would give a fuller picture of force activity and data on out of court disposals would be useful.
- 3.4 We note the efforts to tackle anti-social behaviour by PSCOs and through partnership work with housing associations and suggest details be included in the report.

(b) Confidence in Policing

- 3.5 The Panel was concerned at the decline in confidence in the police. However we note the commitment by the Police and Crime Commissioner and Force to attending community groups to listen to views on crime. We acknowledge that resources must be prioritised on the areas where there is the greatest need. We welcome plans to tackle fraud to address confidence in policing this issue.

(c) WMP2020

- 3.6 The Panel was encouraged by the progress of the WMP2020 change programme particularly the 200 new officers as a result of efficiencies and also the introduction of body worn cameras. We welcome the proposal to evaluate the cashable and non-cashable benefits and efficiencies of the programme and look forward to receiving this information later in the year.

(d) Victims Commission

- 3.7 We would like to suggest you consider adding some project case studies to your annual report to illustrate the impact of victim services funding.

(e) Community Safety Funding

- 3.8 We note the £1m in efficiencies arising from the reorganisation of the Community Safety Fund and suggest more details of the funded activities be included in the annual report.

(f) Holding the Chief Constable to Account

- 3.9 We invite you to consider including in the report examples to demonstrate to the public how you hold the Chief Constable for operational delivery, such as the changes to the police approach to vehicle crime.

(g) Stop and Search

- 3.10 The Panel noted the rise in the positive outcome rates as a result of better targeting of stop and search powers, as well as the efforts to scrutinise through local Stop and Search Panels. We understand increasingly females are being used as mules to carry weapons and suggest going forward the stop and search data is broken down into gender to better understand this issue.

(h) Final Comments

- 3.11 Thank you for presenting your annual report to the Panel. Members ask that thanks are passed on to your officers who helped prepare the report, and to frontline officers for the work that they do.
- 3.12 The Panel hope that you consider this feedback helpful and look forward to your response.

Councillor Ken Hawkins
Chair, West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

Lead Officer:

Kevin O’Keefe – Chief Executive, Dudley MBC

Contact Officers:

Emma Williamson – Head of Scrutiny Services, Birmingham City Council

Sarah Fradgley – Scrutiny Officer, Birmingham City Council

wmpcp@birmingham.gov.uk Tel: 0121 303 1727