

AGENDA

KENT AND MEDWAY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Dear Panel Member

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the **KENT AND MEDWAY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL** will be held in the **Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone** on **Thursday, 2nd February, 2017, at 10.00 am** when the following business will be transacted

Members of the public who require further information are asked to contact Anna Taylor/Joel Cook on 03000 416478/416892

Tea/Coffee will be available 15 minutes before the start of the meeting in the meeting room

Membership

Councillor Paul Clokie	Ashford Borough Council
Councillor Pat Todd	Canterbury City Council
Councillor Chris Shippam	Dartford Borough Council
Councillor Keith Morris	Dover District Council
Councillor Samir Jassal	Gravesham Borough Council
Mr Mike Hill (Chairman)	Kent County Council
Councillor Fay Gooch	Maidstone Borough Council
Councillor Michael Franklin	Medway Council
Councillor Peter Fleming	Sevenoaks District Council
Councillor Malcolm Dearden	Shepway District Council
Councillor Alan Horton	Swale Borough Council
Councillor Chris Wells	Thanet District Council
Councillor Brian Luker	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
Councillor Don Sloan	Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Mr Roger Latchford	Co-opted member
Dr Mike Eddy	Co-opted member
Councillor Habib Tejan	Co-opted member
Councillor John Burden	Co-opted member
Elaine Bolton	Independent Member
Mr Gurvinder Sandher (Vice-Chairman)	Independent Member

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

- 1 Introduction/Webcast Announcement
- 2 Apologies and Substitutes
- 3 Declarations of Interests by Members in Items on the Agenda for this Meeting
- 4 Minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 15 November 2016 (Pages 5 - 12)
- 5 Meeting dates 2017/18

The Panel is asked to note the following meeting dates for meetings in 2017/18:

2017:

- 17 February, 10am (reserved date)
- 28 March, 10am
- 20 July, 10am
- 28 September, 2pm
- 15 November, 10am

2018:

- 8 February, 10am
- 15 February, 10am (reserved date)
- 25 April, 10am

B - Commissioner's reports requested by the Panel/offered by the Commissioner

- B1 Draft Safer in Kent Plan 2017-2021 & Precept Proposal paper (Pages 13 - 106)

C - Commissioner's Decisions

- C1 Commissioner's Decisions 011-012 (Pages 107 - 110)

D - Panel Matters

- D1 Proposed National Association of Police and Crime Panels (Pages 111 - 114)
- D2 Panel Report (Pages 115 - 118)
- D3 Future work programme (Pages 119 - 120)

E - For Information

E1 Minutes of the Commissioner's Governance Board meeting held
on 7 November 2016 (Pages 121 - 126)

EXEMPT ITEMS

*(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items
which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)*

John Lynch
Head of Democratic Services
03000 410466

Wednesday, 25 January 2017

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KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

KENT AND MEDWAY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MINUTES of a meeting of the Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 15 November 2016.

PRESENT: Mr P M Hill, OBE (Chairman), Mr Gurvinder Sandher (Vice-Chairman), Cllr P Clokie, OBE, Cllr M Dearden, Cllr M Franklin, Cllr P Fleming, Cllr F Gooch, Cllr A Horton, Mr T L Shonk (Substitute for Cllr Chris Wells), Cllr Sloan, Cllr P Todd, Mr R A Latchford, OBE, Cllr R Turpin (Substitute for Cllr H Tejan), Dr M R Eddy and Mrs E Bolton

ALSO PRESENT: Mr M Scott (Kent Police and Crime Commissioner), Mr A Harper (PCC's Chief of Staff) and Mr Robert Phillips (PCC's Chief Finance Officer)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr M Campbell (Policy Officer) and Mrs A Taylor (Scrutiny Research Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

201. Minutes of the Police and Crime Panel held on 8 September 2016

(Item 4)

1. Subject to the correction of the inconsistency around the description of the Independent Member throughout the minutes it was:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2016 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

202. Support for Victims

(Item B1)

1. The Commissioner introduced this item and highlighted Compass House in Ashford which provided a co-ordinated hub for victim services in Kent. HMIC had recently visited Compass House as part of their fact finding and were very complimentary about the services on offer. The Commissioner praised his staff for their work on developing Compass House prior to his arrival.
2. The Commissioner referred Members to paragraph 17 of the report which evidenced greater numbers of victims able to access support, victim satisfaction was very high and the Commissioner paid credit to the Victim Support team. There had been a drop in overall victim satisfaction from 79% to 74% but the Commissioner and his team were working with Kent Police to understand the reasons and learn lessons to improve satisfaction levels.
3. Referring to specialist victim services £450,000 had been allocated to charities and the Commissioner highlighted some including East Kent Rapeline and Family Matters, who were working with child victims of sexual assault, the charity DAVSS which provided support for male victims of domestic violence and Choices DA

service in Dartford which was providing an Independent Domestic Violence Adviser for men and LGBT victims. The Commissioner was aiming to visit all the charities he had provided funding to.

4. A Member asked whether victims had to travel to Compass House, had any work been done on whether victims were willing to travel and where the visitors to Compass House were coming from. The Commissioner explained that Victim Support operate Compass Points, making themselves available in every district for those people who are not able to travel to Ashford. The Commissioner offered to submit a report to a future meeting of the Panel setting out the number of victims visiting Compass House.
5. Another Member asked whether there were particular hard to reach or isolated communities which could really benefit from the services available but did not access them? If there were pockets across Kent which did not access the support available due to, for example, culture or race, what action was Compass House taking to support these groups? The Commissioner confirmed that Compass House focussed on being accessible and breaking down cultural barriers and offered to talk to Compass House about this issue and to provide a report back.
6. One Member asked whether there was any value in a Kent wide group sharing good and bad practice across victim support services. The Commissioner explained that the Victim Support contract ensured Kent wide coverage, and his office also tried to ensure Kent wide coverage when deciding on grant allocations. The Commissioner also outlined an important project with Essex Police focused on child sexual exploitation and Modern Day Slavery, with a Coordinator working hard to break down barriers within certain communities and promote the support available. The domestic abuse contract was also county wide with triage provided by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and services provided within the districts.
7. A Member asked how success was defined in relation to specialist victim services, particularly in relation to support for victims of hate crime who had autism or learning difficulties. The Commissioner explained that services such as 'Talking Therapies' had had a tremendous impact on the waiting list for counselling support for young people. The Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were being challenged to do all they could to support vulnerable people.
8. A Member congratulated Victim Support on being awarded the core victim services contract in December 2015. The Commissioner explained that money had been received from the Ministry of Justice to procure the service.
9. In response to a comment from a member about how crime was perceived, the Commissioner explained that the classification of hate crime was a decision for the Force. Since the EU Referendum there had been an increase in reported incidents of hate crime linked with race and religion.
10. The Commissioner was asked what his opinion was of the consultation from the Minister for Policing, Fire, Criminal Justice and Victims on the devolution of the remaining nationally commissioned victim's services. The Commissioner explained that he was in favour of services being joined up where appropriate; he

would be supportive of the devolution of the remaining nationally commissioned victim's services.

11. A Member asked about support for businesses as victims of crime. Businesses wanted to have confidence in the charging process and confidence in the prosecution process. The Commissioner explained that business crime across the county was extremely important to him. The Commissioner had been very active meeting businesses in Kent and had recently travelled to Ramsgate to meet businesses there. The Federation of Small Businesses had been consulted on their views and concerns. Referring to the prosecution process the Commissioner said it was a decision for the Crown Prosecution Service over whether to pursue cases to prosecution. If more powers were devolved and Commissioners got oversight of performance of the criminal justice system the Commissioner would have more powers in this area. The Commissioner also referred to 'Track my Crime' which could be used more with victims to ensure they had confidence that the policing service was robust.
12. The Chairman closed this item commenting that victims and policing should not be seen as separate entities, the Commissioner confirmed that victims and witnesses were his priority and also that of Kent Police.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the Commissioner's report on Support for Victims.

203. Update on expenditure to support the Police and Crime Plan *(Item B2)*

1. The Commissioner explained that up to the summer he had honoured the funding commitments made by the former Commissioner. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) published, via its website, all expenditure over £500. The Commissioner paid tribute to Safer Kent for their support with administering the Youth Diversion Fund.
2. The Commissioner highlighted the work of the Kenward Trust which delivered sessions to young people hosted by a reformed drug addict. The Commissioner had attended a session and the presenter had had a huge impact on the young people not only demonstrating the effects of drugs on his body and health but on his community from a real life scenario.
3. The Commissioner explained a number of the projects set out within the report which had received funding from the OPCC in the last six months.
4. The Commissioner was reviewing the funding available to ensure it was achieving value for money.
5. The Commissioner was congratulated on the projects set out within the report and for the transparency offered by the OPCC in producing the report outlining how OPCC expenditure was being spent. The Member asked for a fuller list showing the grants in other areas which were not so high profile.

POST MEETING NOTE: A list of all OPCC expenditure (April – October 2016) was circulated to Members of the Panel via email on 22.11.16.

6. In response to a question about feedback received from community groups the Commissioner explained that all groups in receipt of funding were required to complete monitoring forms to ensure that money had been spent where agreed and the results monitored. If the funding was not spent it would be returned and the group might not receive funding in the future if there were poor results.
7. In response to a question about the importance of role models the Commissioner confirmed that he thought role models to be very important, Kenward Trust had mentors with real life experience of working with young people across Kent and Medway. Any overlaps found between the groups receiving funding were challenged and lessons learned.
8. A Member commended the report but asked how many young people were not being reached by the groups set out within the report. The Commissioner explained that it was his hope that no part of the county was forgotten, he worked with Kent Youth County Council and Medway Youth Parliament to promote the groups and encouraged direct engagement with young people to ensure the right message was getting out into communities.
9. A Member pointed out that acknowledgement had not been given to the OPCC within the sponsorship section on the website of one of the groups, Urban Blue Bus Ltd. The Commissioner explained that it was a requirement attached to the funding that acknowledgement was given, he was sure it was an oversight but it would be checked.
10. The Chairman suggested that future reports on expenditure could be prepared in consultation with Panel officers, who might suggest particular items to highlight. The Commissioner agreed to this suggestion.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the Commissioner's Update on expenditure to support the Police and Crime Plan and that future reports be prepared in consultation with Panel officers.

204. Mobile Policing & Emergency Services Network

(Item B3)

1. The Commissioner introduced this report and explained that it gave an update on mobile policing within Kent Police and the national Emergency Services Network that would be operational by 2020. The aim was to provide officers with the tools needed on the front line. Body worn cameras had been rolled out force wide and had proved to be a fantastic, robust piece of equipment which officers could use to show evidence to lawyers and the public resulting in earlier guilty pleas and moderating the behaviour of all involved.
2. The Commissioner outlined an example of where the body worn cameras had been successful, during one incident where police were called by a victim of domestic violence, the victim had changed her mind about the incident by the time the police arrived but footage taken by the body worn camera revealed injuries caused by the perpetrator.
3. Smartphones had also been rolled out across Kent Police and now forces were looking for integrated mobile solutions.

4. A Member asked whether there was a mechanism in place to hold the force to account for the delivery of officer free time as mentioned in paragraph 6 of the report, as well as how the PCC would oversee this project. Paragraph 26 of the report stated that the Commissioner's Chief of Staff chaired a quarterly IT Delivery Board where progress against the delivery of all Kent Police IT projects was reviewed. The Commissioner explained that the saving of 1 hour per officer per shift of transaction time was an early estimate based on pilot projects. It was necessary to review quantitative and qualitative data and the equipment would be very valuable in allowing officers to complete paperwork, whilst monitoring offenders at A&E, for example. The Commissioner assured Members that he was very hands on with monitoring IT projects and held regular meetings to review progress.
5. A Member asked about the cost of the scheme and the mobile coverage provided. The Commissioner explained that the costs were difficult to clarify at this stage as the handsets had not been purchased yet, since the technology would improve over the next couple of years and it was important to get the right device, at the right time. In terms of operational cost, the Commissioner referred to the decision on page 25 of the agenda and explained that this was indicative of the costs to Kent Police. The Commissioner explained that the coverage and operability function had to be 99.999% otherwise the scheme would fail at a critical time.
6. In response to a question from a Member about whether fingerprint technology would be used the Commissioner explained that it currently would not. Members raised concerns about the mobile coverage provided and the ability of the mobile phone operators to deliver a national project, the Commissioner confirmed that he would do everything possible to hold the providers to account and he was aware that sometimes time could not be quantified when it came to saving officer time.
7. Another Member expressed nervousness about changing contracts and asked whether it would be a gradual phase in of the new technology and whether there would be a pilot scheme. The Commissioner explained that a gradual roll out was planned, other forces would adopt the new technology before Kent and Kent would learn lessons from the other forces. A lot of thought would go into the mobile devices to ensure the handset had the right functionality for Kent.
8. Mr Phillips, the Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer, confirmed that the cost of the handsets had been built into the programme; it was not an unexpected cost.
9. A Member asked for assurance that the hand held devices were fit for purpose and could be used when supplying aid to other forces. Mr Harper, the Commissioner's Chief of Staff, explained that it was a national project and that all handsets and vehicles would use the system and that the devices were interoperable.
10. In response to a query about the timescale for the roll out of this project the Commissioner explained that it would be rolled out in Kent during 2018/19.
11. Mr Phillips explained that the budget for mobile policing was £5.9million over the next 4 years and the budget for the Emergency Services Network project was £9.5 million, this was a huge national project.

12. In response to a concern from a Member about the capacity of the mobile network in the case of a national emergency the Commissioner explained that the emergency services network would always be prioritised.

13. The Chairman closed this item by asking whether the project would extend to other partners and the Commissioner confirmed that he would look into this.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the Commissioner's report on Mobile Policing and the Emergency Services Network.

205. Mental Health - verbal update

(Item B4)

1. The Commissioner opened this item and thanked the Councillors and Kent MPs for lobbying for funding for the Kent health based places of safety. With regards to outreach work there would be a Thanet mobile engagement vehicle and in West Kent a crisis café available in partnership with West Kent Mind. This had been part funded by West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and part funded by the Commissioner. The Commissioner thanked everyone who had supported the bid.
2. The Commissioner referred to the Police and Crime Bill, which would ban police cells from being used as a place of safety for children and severely restrict their use for adults. West Kent CCG was holding an engagement day in December to help understand existing processes and to develop alternative pathways. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's relationship with the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust (KMPT) continued to grow.
3. A Member asked about support given to dementia patients, the Commissioner explained that his office had been dementia friendly trained as had all Kent Police staff. There was a partnership with Kent Fire and Rescue Service which was undertaking preventative work to ensure safety in homes. Community Wardens also had the role of checking on residents with dementia ensuring visits by carers had been made etc.
4. In response to a question about the relationship with the CCGs the Commissioner explained that through the Talking Therapies for Children scheme the Commissioner's Office had been engaging with the CCGs, mental health scorecards had been produced for mental health services in Kent and it was clear that some areas were good and some not so good. It was necessary to question the CCGs on why they were underperforming in some areas and determine methods of accountability.
5. The Chairman referred Members to a virtual dementia experience which he had learned of.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the Commissioner's verbal update on Mental Health.

206. Questions to the Commissioner

(Item)

1. Mr Sandher:

Can the PCC provide an update on how many responses he has had to date with the consultation on the crime plan, the last I read there had been 800? Are there any districts which are showing a low response to date, and if so what will he and the team be doing to increase the response rate if applicable?

The Commissioner explained that the majority of responses had been online. The consultation document had been advertised on the PCC's website and the Officers were doing their best to promote the consultation. A youth forum event was taking place at which it would be promoted and the Commissioner was looking at ways to extend the reach of the consultation and was willing to consider any ideas Members had.

POST MEETING NOTE: A breakdown of responses is available [here on KCC's website](#).

2. Mr Sandher:

In light of the recent BBC 5 LIVE investigation report nationally about the use of strip searches by police forces, are you in a position to provide an update on what the figures are for Kent including figures on under 18?

The Commissioner explained that the figures had not yet been verified however he was assured that they were very low with less than 10% strip searches. Once the data was verified he would present it to the Panel. For clarity the definition of a 'strip search' under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 is: 'a search involving removal of more than outer clothing... outer clothing includes shoes and socks'. The Commissioner read out the safeguards in relation to use, which included:

- the police officer carrying out must be same sex as detainee;
- the search taking place in an area where detainee cannot be seen by anyone else, or member of opposite sex;
- whenever involves exposure of intimate body parts, must be at least two people present other than detainee;
- having proper regard to sensitivity and vulnerability of detainee, and every effort made to secure detainees cooperation and minimise embarrassment;
- detainees not normally required to remove all clothes at the same time;
- record made on custody record, including reason, those present and result.

3. Cllr Gooch:

Of the 63 requests for Maidstone's mobile camera deployment in 2015/16, 53 requests came from Kent Police in order to, for example, detect parcels being thrown over the wall at Maidstone Prison, criminal damage, drug issues. Mindful that CCTV evidence is useful for detecting and investigating crimes, saving the Police a considerable amount of time through guilty pleas, how far will the reduction in CCTV, whether static or mobile, impact on valuable police time?

The Commissioner explained that partnerships were vital, the public and businesses benefited most from CCTV and it helped to protect the public from harm. CCTV was one of the issues over which the PCC was contacted most frequently. Kent Police were not in a position to provide a contribution to CCTV but they did fund the radio network which feeds into the Force Control Room.

With regards to the impact on police time the Commissioner confirmed that he had considered the impact on police time and would urge operators to be mindful of the value provided by CCTV in the past.

4. Mr Latchford:

Following the Commissioner's visits last week to a number of Parish Councils in Thanet (within my division) I understand that you undertook to look into the question of PCSOs and extending their powers. Can I ask what the current situation is please?

The Commissioner confirmed that he had made a commitment to reviewing the discretionary powers of the Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). There were currently 20 Standard Powers and 22 Discretionary Powers available to Chief Constables to delegate. Kent's PCSOs already had 10 of the discretionary powers and these were published on the PCC's website. The Commissioner would discuss further with the Chief Constable the powers of the PCSOs and would present a further report at a future meeting of the Panel.

RESOLVED that the Panel thank the Commissioner for providing answers to Member's questions.

207. Commissioner's Decisions - 008 - 010
(Item D1)

1. With regard to the decision over the Dedicated Complaint Managers, a Member explained that she understood that Kent Police should be undertaking this function. The Commissioner explained that there was an underspend in the Police budget and the proposal was to fund dedicated complaint managers. The PCC holds the Chief Constable to account however the only statutory duty that the Commissioner had in relation to complaints was around those made about the Chief Constable personally. The Commissioner's staff dip checked police records to ensure a consistent service was being provided and Members of the Police and Crime Panel were invited to attend the Commissioner's Governance Board to watch the PCC challenge the Chief Constable.

RESOLVED that the Panel note the Commissioner's Decisions.

208. Future work programme
(Item E1)

RESOLVED that the Panel note the future work programme.

From: Matthew Scott, Kent Police and Crime Commissioner
To: Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel
Subject: Draft April 2017 to March 2021 'Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan' and Precept Proposal for 2017/18
Date: 2 February 2017



Introduction:

1. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRSRA 2011) sets the requirement for Police and Crime Commissioners to formulate a Police and Crime Plan which covers their term of Office.
2. A Police and Crime Plan must include the following information:
 - the police and crime objectives to be delivered;
 - the policing that the Chief Constable should provide;
 - the financial and other resources to be provided to the Chief Constable to exercise their functions;
 - the means by which the Chief Constable will be held to account for the provision of policing; and
 - the crime and disorder reduction grants that will be made and any conditions associated with them.
3. Whilst every plan will be localised in nature, they all share a common aim in communicating a Commissioner's vision and objectives.
4. The plan will also impact upon a wide variety of stakeholders and has a number of intended audiences including the public, victims of crime, the Chief Constable, police officers and staff, the Secretary of State, the Police and Crime Panel, the private and voluntary sector and partner agencies.
5. Before publishing a new plan, Commissioners must:
 - prepare a draft of the plan;
 - consult the Chief Constable in preparing the draft plan;
 - send the draft plan to the Police and Crime Panel;
 - have regard to any report or recommendations made by the Panel in relation to the draft plan;
 - give the panel a response to any such report or recommendations; and
 - publish any such response.
6. Commissioners are also required to notify the Police and Crime Panel of the precept which is proposed to be issued for the financial year.
7. This report fulfils the requirements as set out in paragraphs 5 and 6.

The Police and Crime Plan:

8. Please find attached as Appendix A the draft 'Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan – April 2017 to March 2021'. Whilst the PRSRA 2011 refers to a 'Police and Crime Plan' there is no requirement to title the document as such.
9. In developing their plans, there is a duty on Commissioners to consult with victims and the wider community on the priorities, although the nature and extent of that consultation is at their discretion.
10. For the Commissioner, the process of seeking the views of local people on matters relating to policing and crime commenced in the period preceding the election in May 2016 as part of normal pre-election campaigning activity. Based on this engagement, the Commissioner developed his Six Point Plan.
11. However, the Commissioner has now been in office for over eight months and to support the development of the plan, further significant consultation has been undertaken.
12. From the outset, there was a commitment to positively encourage feedback from individuals, communities and partner agencies. With 1.8 million people living in diverse urban, rural and coastal communities across Kent and Medway, the Commissioner commenced a multi-channel consultation in autumn 2016.

13. Launched on 10 October and ending on 2 December, the chief objective of the consultation was to reach out to and hear from as many of Kent's communities as possible. In total, 1,690 responses were received. A report outlining the full consultation methodology and results is attached as Appendix B.
14. Overall, there was strong support for the priorities in the Commissioner's Six Point Plan, so with only minor amends, they are in principle reflected in the plan. Of the issues that 'mattered most' to respondents, as the number one concern, child sexual exploitation is explicitly referenced in the plan, and the next seven top issues are also captured.
15. Clearly though, the consultation forms only one element of the plan's development. Other inputs taken into account include the Strategic Policing Requirement, emerging local threats and risks, national guidance and the views of other partners and stakeholders.
16. In addition, the Chief Constable has been fully consulted, and of course the Commissioner's own objectives and principles, particularly in relation to mental health, as well as overall vision for policing and community safety in the county are at its core.
17. In accordance with the PRSRA 2011, the Commissioner will keep the plan under constant review, particularly in light of changes to the Strategic Policing Requirement or recommendations made by the Police and Crime Panel.
18. Further to any recommendations made by the Panel, the plan will be launched on 1 April 2017. Subsequently, the Commissioner will submit updates to the Panel as required.
19. The Commissioner would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who took the time to have their say on policing and crime in the county and have helped to shape the way forward over the next four years.

Policing Precept Proposal for 2017/18:

20. In a written statement on the Police Grant Report (England and Wales) 2017/18, dated 15 December 2016, Brandon Lewis, The Minister of State for Fire and Policing said:

'Following the principles set out on the 4 February 2016 when publishing the final police funding settlement for 2016/17, direct resource funding for each PCC, including precept, will be protected at flat cash levels compared to 2015/16, assuming that precept income is increased to the maximum amount available in both 2016/17 and 2017/18. No PCC who chooses to maximise precept in both years will face a reduction in cash funding next year compared to 2015/16...'

'As in 2016/17, additional flexibility will be given to the 10 PCCs in England with the lowest precept bills (the lower quartile). The PCCs with the ten lowest bills will be able to raise their precept by £5 per Band D household. Other PCCs in England will receive a 2% referendum threshold.'

'The PCCs to receive the £5 flexibility in 2017/18 are Essex, Greater Manchester, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Northumbria, South Yorkshire, Sussex, West Midlands and West Yorkshire...'

21. In order to minimise cuts to Kent Police funding in the future, the Commissioner therefore has the ability to increase the council tax precept by up to 3.3% (or £5 on an average Band D property).
22. Between 6 and 23 January 2017, the Commissioner published and widely circulated his proposal to increase the council tax precept by £5 to £157.15 for public comment. In total, the Commissioner received 81 unique responses, with 65.4% (53) being 'for' the proposal.
23. Attached as Appendix C is a summary of how the proposal was promoted, an overview (and full list) of all the responses received, and a copy of the proposal itself.

24. Taking into account the responses, and as one of the 10 Commissioners with the lowest precept bill, the Commissioner confirms his intention to increase the policing precept in 2017/18 to £157.15 for an average Band D property. This represents an increase of £5 or 9.6 pence per week on the current precept.

25. Even with a £5 increase, Kent's policing precept will still remain in the bottom 10 of all forces.

Budget and Medium Term Plan Supporting Information:

26. For information, attached as Appendix D is the Commissioner's 2017/18 Commissioning Strategy that is referenced in the plan.

27. Also attached as Appendix E, is a detailed report dealing with financial matters prepared by the Chief Finance Officer.

List of Appendices:

- Appendix A** Draft 'Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan - April 2017 to March 2021'
- Appendix B** Police and Crime Plan Consultation - October to December 2016
- Appendix C** PCC's council tax precept proposal - January 2017
- Appendix D** Commissioning Strategy - April 2017 to March 2018
- Appendix E** Chief Finance Officer's Commentary

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Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan

April 2017 to March 2021

Version: Final

Safer in Kent: Plan on a Page

Leadership:

Strong ethics, transparency and integrity at all times

Guiding principles:

People suffering mental ill health need the right care from the right person
Crime is important no matter where it takes place
Vulnerable people must be protected from harm

The Chief Constable's priorities for the next four years are to:

1. Put victims first
2. Fight crime and antisocial behaviour
3. Tackle abuse, exploitation and violence
4. Combat organised crime and gangs
5. Provide visible neighbourhood policing and effective roads policing
6. Deliver an efficient service

As the Police and Crime Commissioner, I will support this by:

1. Holding the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of Kent Police's priorities
2. Supporting all victims of crime and abuse
3. Commissioning services that reduce pressure on policing due to mental health
4. Investing in schemes that make people safer and reduce re-offending
5. Making offenders pay for the harm that they have caused
6. Actively engaging with residents in Kent and Medway

Opportunities for the future:

1. Calling for more criminal justice powers for PCCs
2. Lobbying for a fairer funding settlement for Kent
3. Further collaboration with other organisations
4. Oversight of the Police complaints process
5. Ideas tested during the consultation
6. Backing volunteering

Introduction and context

As Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) I am required to publish a Police and Crime Plan which covers my term of office.

'Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan' sets out the priorities that will drive the work of Kent Police, partners and my office over the next four years, and the overall strategic direction for policing and community safety in the county.

Informed by [extensive consultation](#) and taking into account national guidance such as the [Policing Vision 2025](#), this plan will be continuously reviewed. Recommendations made by the Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel and guidance issued by Government will be considered too. More importantly, it will be regularly updated in line with what local communities want.

Progress against this plan will be published in future Annual Reports which will be made public via my website and also submitted to the Police and Crime Panel. However, this progress will not be judged on stipulated numerical targets, but consider other feedback, including HMIC reports and other independent publications.

Leadership: strong ethics, transparency and integrity at all times

The public rightly expects the highest standards of behaviour from everyone in public life, particularly those engaged in policing and criminal justice. Trust in policing is vital. From the Chief Constable, to the police officer on the street, all must play their part in instilling and upholding ethical standards. Their honesty, integrity, impartiality and openness must be beyond reproach.

Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), elected by residents, have a key role to play in this. PCCs hold the Chief Constable to account on all elements of policing, and I believe that strong ethics, transparency and integrity must be at the heart of this, both personally and professionally. I will therefore ensure the [College of Policing's Code of Ethics](#) forms the bedrock of standards and behaviour within Kent Police.

It is equally important that PCCs themselves operate with integrity and the highest standards of conduct and behaviour. I am clear what my statutory duties are and the responsibilities I have been entrusted to undertake by the electorate of Kent. Therefore, I will never interfere with operational decisions made by the Chief Constable, or any other police officer or professional staff, but will hold the force to account on behalf of the public for the delivery of the priorities set out in this plan.

To demonstrate my own commitment to ethics and integrity, I have also [signed and published the Committee on Standards in Public Life checklist](#) and my [personal Code of Conduct](#) which reflects the Seven Principles of Public Life:

- Selflessness – I will act solely in terms of the public interest; not to gain financial or other material benefits for myself, my family, or my friends.
- Integrity – I will not place myself under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence me in the performance of my official duties.
- Objectivity - In carrying out my duties, including making appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, my choices will be based on merit.
- Accountability – I am accountable to the public for any decisions and actions I take and will submit myself to whatever scrutiny is appropriate for PCCs.
- Openness – I will be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that I take. I will give reasons for my decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.
- Honesty – I will declare any private interests relating to my role as PCC and take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.
- Leadership – I will promote and support these principles through my leadership and by setting an example to those around me.

As I commit to making my decisions open and transparent, I will ensure that Kent Police does the same so that public confidence can be maintained.

Guiding principles

For a Police and Crime Plan to be successful, not only should the PCC seek to hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of the priorities, but there has to be clear principles that guide the actions and decisions taken by both Kent Police and the PCC. This plan sets out both what residents want to see Kent Police focus on, but also what I will do to support communities and protect people from harm.

1. People suffering mental ill health need the right care from the right person

It is estimated that 33% of Kent Police's time is now spent dealing with individuals and cases involving mental health illness. It is sadly the case that there has been an increasing reliance on Kent Police to assist those in mental health crisis. More people in crisis are coming to the police's attention and being assisted by officers and staff, sometimes in place of healthcare professionals.

This clearly isn't always best for a person in crisis. Nor is it fair on police officers, who are not healthcare professionals, to be relied on so heavily and so frequently.

Policing has always had an element of mental health crisis that it must deal with, and that will not change, particularly when there is a criminal allegation involved. However, it is not sustainable for forces to have to spend so much time dealing with this important issue, when there is another body that should be involved. With new legislation banning the use of police custody for children detained under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act, and extreme limitations being placed on its use for adults, now more than ever it is vital that people suffering mental ill health get the right support from the right person at the right time.

The Chief Constable and I will continue to raise awareness of this issue and work with others in order to both reduce demand on policing, and ensure that vulnerable people are being helped in the appropriate way.

2. Crime is important, no matter where it takes place

Kent and Medway are fortunate to both have a mixture of urban, rural and coastal communities. As PCC, I believe that crime should be considered important and investigated, no matter where it takes place. That includes offences committed in residential, business and online environments, or on our roads.

Victims come from all sections of society and the impact upon them can be drastic. It is therefore important that Kent Police has the right resources in the right places to both address threats from terrorism and demands from all of Kent's local communities.

3. Vulnerable people must be protected from harm

Nationally, there is a greater emphasis on 'vulnerability' as an issue for victims and police forces. It is a priority for the new Home Secretary and something that Kent Police is inspected upon independently by HMIC. Kent Police's Control Strategy already features many of the key themes – sexual exploitation, abuse, drugs, gangs and human trafficking.

Police, the PCC and other key bodies need to continue to work together to raise awareness of these issues in order to protect both adults and young people from harm, support victims of crime by guaranteeing their rights through the [Victims' Code](#), tackle hate crime and ensure those perpetrating serious and heinous crimes are brought to justice.

Joint Vision

The Chief Constable and I are committed to working together to secure the best possible outcomes for policing and community safety in Kent. This commitment is reflected in our joint vision for policing which focuses on partnership working, placing victims first, reducing crime and antisocial behaviour and protecting the public from harm:

“Our vision is for Kent to be a safe place for people to live, work and visit and by protecting the public from crime and antisocial behaviour, we will allow our communities to flourish. We will work closely with our partners to ensure that a seamless service is provided and that opportunities for joint working are explored. By working with partners and listening to the public we will provide a first class policing service that places the victim first and is visible and accessible. We will ensure local visible community policing is at the heart of everything we do. We will be there when the public need us and we will act with integrity in all that we do.”

Kent Police's Priorities – 2017 to 2021:

The following priorities have been created based on the outcome of the consultation I ran from October to December 2016 and from meetings with community groups and residents. The Chief Constable is expected to formally respond and outline how the plan will be delivered. As PCC, I will then hold him to account for the progress made.

1. Put victims first

Being a victim of crime affects people in very different ways and has a significant impact on the person's life, their family, and the local community. Their initial contact will often be with the police, but thereafter they may have to go to court, give evidence and await a verdict – at the same time as dealing with the emotional after-effects of what unfortunately can be a traumatic and understandably life-changing experience.

It is paramount that victims receive swift and effective help and support to cope, and their needs are identified and met from the outset. That is why Kent Police must provide a quality service that puts victims first and foremost and meets the expectations of the Victims Code.

Victims must be at the heart of everything the force does and be treated with fairness, respect and dignity so that victims of all crimes, including abuse, violence and hate, have the confidence to come forward.

2. Fight crime and antisocial behaviour

Tackling crime and antisocial behaviour are issues that residents care deeply about and this is reflected in the outcome of the Police and Crime Plan consultation. This includes violent crime, burglary and knife crime.

The force has shown a commitment to improving investigations and case files to bring more people to justice. I hope this will lead to more criminals being caught.

Kent Police must work with the county's Community Safety Partnerships, other statutory and non-statutory bodies, and local communities to understand, prevent and tackle crime and antisocial behaviour wherever it takes places across the county, and address its sometimes complex causes.

3. Tackle abuse, exploitation and violence

There is no place for abuse, violence or exploitation in our society. However, new and emerging crimes such as human trafficking and child sexual exploitation which pay little respect to traditional borders, present a whole new set of challenges for policing.

Criminals are targeting the most vulnerable in Kent. Those involved in modern day slavery, child sexual exploitation and human trafficking are not just using Kent as a gateway to and from the continent, but committing these crimes in our local communities. They are often involved with complex criminal networks which require substantial investment to investigate and disrupt.

There are also many individuals in relationships facing abuse, violence and exploitation on a daily basis, but are too afraid to seek help. Domestic abuse may occur behind closed doors but the consequences are often devastating and long term, affecting victims' physical health and mental well-being. It can also have a significant and long-lasting effect on children in the household, the wider family and the local community.

4. Combat organised crime and gangs

Tackling organised crime and gangs presents considerable challenges at a local, regional, national and global level. The impact on individuals and whole communities can be significant.

Kent Police must continue to develop and share intelligence to build a detailed local picture of threats, risk and vulnerabilities, to enable the deployment of the right resources to prevent, disrupt and investigate offending in order to keep the county safe. There also needs to be a combination of effective local, regional, national and international coordinated activity, and seamless working between Kent Police and other partners and law enforcement agencies.

In addition, as technology develops, so too does criminality. Online crime for example, is becoming an increasing problem, with organised criminals exploiting the internet to commit a diverse range of crimes.

5. Provide visible neighbourhood policing and effective roads policing

Neighbourhood policing is fundamental to delivering policing in the county. By focusing on local problem solving, together with partners and local communities, it improves the quality of life within those communities, helps keep people safe, and importantly builds public confidence and trust.

Kent Police must also continue to work with partners to ensure that individuals - whether driving, riding a bike or motorbike or walking - can use our roads safely. The force must continue to crackdown on the main factors which contribute to people being killed and seriously Injured on Kent's roads – including speeding, using a mobile phone, not using a seatbelt, and drink/drug-driving. These are not trivial offences; they put public road users at risk and can be addressed with both education and enforcement.

6. Deliver an efficient service

Kent Police must continue to exploit opportunities to collaborate with Essex Police and other parts of the public sector. As part of the Seven Force Strategic Collaboration opportunities are available to share procurement and other functions in order to increase efficiency and innovation.

Whether through new technology and innovation such as mobile devices, body worn video, or video enabled justice, by reducing demand or investing in its people, Kent Police must continue to review processes and reduce bureaucracy where appropriate, to make sure the demands of local communities are being met, while ensuring value for money.

The Strategic Policing Requirement

Like all forces, Kent Police must be ready to make an effective contribution to tackling the national threats set out in the Strategic Policing Requirement. At any moment it may need to share and pool resources with other forces in order to tackle incidents that cause serious harm or are a threat to the nation's security and public safety. This may include acts of terrorism, serious and organised crime, cybercrime, child sexual abuse, major public unrest or civil emergencies such as flooding. The Chief Constable must ensure there are sufficient resources to meet these important responsibilities.

The force must also continue to work with other emergency services to respond to major or complex incidents effectively.

How I will support this plan:

The PCC has a broad set of responsibilities that expands beyond policing and it is important that I carry out these functions effectively to support local people's priorities.

1. Holding the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of Kent Police's priorities

A key duty of PCCs is to be democratically accountable to the public for the provision of an efficient and effective police force by holding the Chief Constable to account.

It is important for these accountability arrangements to be visible to the public, and for policing to be responsive to local communities. It is vital that the public's voice is heard on how policing is delivered across the county and my office will ensure this happens.

To exercise my powers and duties in holding the Chief Constable to account, my governance arrangements will include:

- Weekly one-to-one meetings with the Chief Constable, which on a cyclical basis will cover Performance, Police and Crime Plan Delivery, Finance and People.
- A quarterly Performance and Delivery Board meeting at which the Chief Constable will be held to account on the themes listed above. The meeting will be open to the public, with an additional meeting every year held in the evening to encourage attendance.
- A joint Audit Committee that looks at financial and risk management as well as internal controls.
- Attendance at the internal Kent Police Culture Board, which is chaired by the Chief Constable. The Board's purpose is to continue the development of a culture consistent with the Chief Constable's and my shared Mission, Vision, Values and Priorities and to ensure the Code of Ethics forms the bedrock of standards and behaviour.
- An established scheme of Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs), who check on the welfare of people in police custody by visiting police stations unannounced.
- Requesting bespoke briefings from the force on significant and/or sensitive issues.

Kent Police and Essex Police also share a number of operational and non-operational resources and I will ensure appropriate governance arrangements are in place, such as the Kent and Essex Collaboration Board, to oversee these shared resources.

In specific circumstances, PCCs may also call upon public bodies, such as Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), to inspect their force.

2. Supporting all victims of crime and abuse

It is my responsibility to commission support services for victims of crime across the county. I am committed to providing services that treat victims as individuals, and can be tailored to their needs. I also believe services should support victims in not only dealing with the often complex criminal justice system but empower individuals to cope and recover from the crime they have suffered.

The services I will support and develop range from core victim support services for those who have suffered crimes such as theft, to specialist services for victims with more complex needs, such as rape, sexual assault and hate crime.

In light of this, I will continue to support and develop services for all victims, providing the following:

- **Engagement and Support Service**

Currently awarded to Victim Support and delivers free and confidential support, advice, information, signposting and referral for Kent residents who have been a victim of crime and have reported it to the police. Victim Support also provides self-referral opportunities for those that have experienced a crime but do not wish to report it to the police. This service works in collaboration with specialist services to ensure victims receive the most appropriate support for their needs.

- **Compass House**

This is the hub for victim and witness support services in Kent. Victim Support, Kent Police's Witness Care Unit and Citizens Advice's court-based Witness Service are co-located within the building on a permanent basis. In addition, other services also co-locate based on need to meet with victims or work collaboratively with the permanently-based agencies on delivering improved services to victims.

Victims and witnesses are not required to visit Compass House to access support, as the services are delivered within Kent's communities. Victim Support also operates Compass Points where victims can discuss their needs face-to-face in their communities.

- **Specialist Victims' Services**

In addition to the services provided by Victim Support, it is important to ensure victims have access to more specialist support services where they have more complex and specialist needs. These services might include trauma counselling and support for sexual assault victims, and my office will continue to identify opportunities to develop these in collaboration, or by making funding available such as through the Victim Specialist Services Fund.

- **Restorative Justice**

Recognising that the recovery process is unique, I will provide services that support the delivery of victim-led restorative justice opportunities in order to support their recovery and reduce re-offending.

- **Independent Sexual Violence Advisers and Sexual Assault Support Services**

I will seek to provide greater sustainability for Independent Sexual Violence Advisers in Kent, including by working closely with NHS England, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and other partners to ensure the right services are available at the right time.

- **Domestic Abuse**

I will continue to work in collaboration with partners to ensure victims of domestic abuse, whether male or female, including the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) community, are able to access appropriate support services, and that prevention and early intervention opportunities are identified. This includes working with both Kent County Council and Medway Council on delivering an effective commissioned service for domestic abuse victims. I will also provide any extra resources that are needed to guarantee future provision of domestic homicide reviews and raise awareness of domestic abuse services for men.

- **Child Sexual Assault**

Part of the funding I receive from Government is to specifically support victims of child sexual assault. I will continue to work with partners and providers to identify the best opportunities for supporting children who have suffered sexual assault, including adults who now feel able to access services to help them deal with historic abuse.

To ensure the best possible service for victims of crime in the county, it is important I understand their needs and views on the services being delivered. I will continue to engage with victims through a range of forums, including the Victims Panel.

3. Commissioning services that reduce pressure on policing due to mental health

I will allocate funding to support schemes and / or projects that reflect my commitment to this issue. In addition to projects already in existence or those implemented since I took up office, including increasing the presence of mental health professionals within the Force Control Room, I will make funding available for new and innovative projects that reduce pressure on policing due to mental health through early intervention, raising awareness, counselling, crisis support or provision of alternative places of safety. I also want to work with those who help keep vulnerable people, with conditions such as dementia, safe from harm and exploitation.

Importantly, the funding will not be used to support mental health services which are the responsibility of the NHS, or to support those services where statutory funding has been withdrawn or reduced. I want to see locally-led, community-based initiatives that will help reduce demand on officers and staff.

Equally, research conducted by the mental health charity Mind shows that members of the emergency services are more at risk of experiencing a mental health problem than the general population, but less likely to seek support. I will work with them to support their own wellbeing.

4. Investing in schemes that make people safer and reduce re-offending

I will continue to allocate funding to support innovative local working to tackle online crime and other issues linked to this plan. The funding will be aimed at the Community Safety Partnerships, Kent Police, voluntary, charity and community groups to support the delivery of projects that address one or more of the following criteria:

- Empower and support local communities to work towards preventing and/or reducing crime and antisocial behaviour;
- Provide support to vulnerable, minority and/or hard to reach groups to prevent and/or reduce victimisation and repeat victimisation;
- Prevent and reduce re-offending.

Police forces are not responsible for funding CCTV schemes, and Kent Police does not fund any at present. Due to financial pressures, this policy will not change, but I will look at ways CCTV might be used more flexibly to target antisocial behaviour.

I will continue to fund drug and alcohol misuse programmes in order to support individuals to turn their lives around, and tackle the harm that can be caused in communities. I shall also fund work to reduce youth offending and to try to prevent young people re-entering the criminal justice system.

5. Making offenders pay for the harm that they have caused

An important principle of criminal justice is to ensure that those who cause harm give back to victims and the community they have hurt. The Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) allows forces to keep some of the revenue from illegal activity, which is shared between the Government, CPS, victims and policing. I will ensure Kent Police continues to re-invest POCA proceeds to drive up performance on asset recovery and to fund crime fighting priorities for the benefit of local communities.

There are also other mechanisms to ensure that offenders repay communities. When people are fined, or their cars seized after breaking the law on our county's roads, depending on the offence some of this money is retained by Kent Police. For example, I will use money from those found to have been driving without insurance to support community safety projects. Further details on this will be published in due course.

6. Actively engaging with residents in Kent and Medway

A fundamental duty of PCCs is to ensure the public's concerns are listened to and acted upon. Good public engagement also improves the quality of decisions PCCs take, since they are based on a broad knowledge of the issues that matter most to local communities.

That is why I have developed a varied engagement programme that enables residents to have their say on how their streets and communities are policed. The programme has been designed to allow people to express their views in a way which is most convenient for them, including in urban, rural and coastal locations right across the county, and opportunities outside of normal office hours.

They include the following:

- A more accessible website;
- 'Street stalls' in high-footfall locations;
- 'Question Time' events;
- Public consultations;
- Talking to pupils at the county's schools;
- Traditional and social media channels;
- Visits to various community organisations and representative groups;
- Direct engagement with partners and other elected officials;
- Proactive e-news alerts.

Alongside this plan, I will also set out how I will increase my direct engagement with young people to ensure that they are adequately represented, and those who face particular challenges, such as looked after children and unaccompanied asylum seeking children are supported.

In addition, many Kent Police officers and staff live within the county, and so their feedback is important. As a result I will continue to engage with them and meet with representatives of the Kent Police Federation, UNISON and staff support associations such as Kent Network of Women and Kent Minority Ethnic Police Association.

Opportunities for the future:

1. Calling for more criminal justice powers for PCCs

Criminal justice is delivered by a number of organisations including the police, Crown Prosecution Service, the courts, probation and prisons. Through the Kent Criminal Justice Board, these organisations work together to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

However, there is more that can be done. The Ministry of Justice is reviewing the potential of further devolvement of victims' services to PCCs. I will explore these opportunities to ensure that victims of crime in Kent receive the best possible services to support them in coping and recovering from the crime they have experienced.

PCCs can also play a pivotal role in developing and improving partnership working. I want to ensure those organisations involved in Kent – not just the police – play their part, and will call for further criminal justice powers to be devolved to PCCs.

2. Lobbying for a fairer funding settlement for Kent

As PCC, part of my role is to ensure the Chief Constable has the resources he needs to deliver effective policing across the county.

As the 'Gateway to Europe', Kent Police faces some very unique policing challenges with ferry ports, the Channel Tunnel and miles of coastline within our county. Kent's officers and staff are on the frontline in protecting the country from terrorism and international criminality, including human trafficking and drugs smuggling.

Recent world events have led to increased international migration and the plight of those trying to enter the country illegally is a reality in Kent, as are protests over immigration. There are also significant challenges in relation to the increased numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking children being looked after in the county, many of whom are in the care of local authorities, but at risk of being exploited by gangs and unscrupulous criminals.

Kent Police has the UK's longest Strategic Road Network and some of the busiest, with significant levels of traffic flowing through the ports and a corresponding high level of freight and HGVs. This takes up substantial police resources and at times of major disruption at the ports, requires the implementation of Operation Stack. Ramsgate is also the only port in the country that has live animal exports, which in turn can attract protests which require policing.

The county's proximity to London also presents opportunities for gangs and organised crime groups to cross borders and operate in our county. That is why I will continue to lobby Government to get a good deal on police funding for Kent, so these unique challenges, and many more, are properly recognised.

3. Further collaboration with other organisations

Over recent years, Kent Police has embraced collaboration, for example, leading the way nationally in its work with Essex Police to develop a Serious Crime Directorate and shared Support Services, as well as co-locating Kent Fire and Rescue Service staff in the Force Control Room, the first fire service to do so in the UK.

The force also works closely with a number of statutory and non-statutory partners to tackle crime and address community safety issues, including the Community Safety Partnerships, local authorities, health and probation services.

Kent is formally linked with two regional groups of police forces. The Eastern Region group of seven forces, which includes Kent and Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, is where the most collaboration is done and where there is greater potential to explore benefits to policing. Kent also works with Surrey, Hampshire, Thames Valley and Sussex Police in the South Eastern region, but on a smaller scale.

By collaborating with other organisations, it is possible to tackle crime and community issues more effectively through improved communication and by making better use of limited resources and greater sharing of skills and expertise. We can also share best practice across a wider area on issues like mental health and innovation. Powers given to PCCs and police forces in the Police and Crime Act will increase the opportunities for Blue Light services to work together for the benefit of the areas that they serve.

As a PCC, I am developing positive relationships with the county's MPs, Council Leaders and other key stakeholders, so that we can deliver even more for Kent and Medway residents.

4. Oversight of the police complaints process

The Police and Crime Act will give PCCs greater involvement in, and responsibility for the performance of, the police complaints process. At present, my office only has a statutory duty in terms of complaints made against the Chief Constable and also works with the force to assess complaints handling.

There are several different models suggested for PCCs in the future, and I am considering the 'Appellate' function, which would provide a review process for complainants to contact the PCC if they are not satisfied with lower level complaints handling.

Through reform of the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) and changes proposed, more confidence can be given to the public, seeking resolution, when things do not go right.

5. Ideas tested during the consultation

A number of suggested policies were included in section three of the consultation in order to see if they were plans that residents might support. There were some which received high levels of support, and so I will work with the force to explore these further.

6. Backing volunteering

Kent Police is lucky to have so many dedicated officers and professional staff working within the organisation, who are also supported by our award-winning Special Constabulary and police volunteers. With match-funding from my office, we have started to see the return of Volunteer Police Cadets for young people. Through the force's Citizens in Policing Board, further opportunities can be developed for those who give up their time to work within Kent Police.

I am also keen to support those organisations which support Kent Police, but do not formally wear a police logo. Without the extensive support of a great number of charities and volunteers, there would be extra costs and resources that Kent Police would need to find. Through my Volunteering Support Group, I will back those who compliment policing through their vital work.

Resources and Medium Term Finance Plan:

Setting the force budget and deciding on the level of council tax is one of the most important decisions I take. In a time of diminishing resources I will challenge every spending decision to ensure it delivers value for money for the Kent taxpayer.

• Funding

I receive all funding for policing and crime in Kent. The current gross funding I receive comes from the following sources:

- 63% grant funding, both general and specific, from Central Government
- 31% from the council tax
- 6% from miscellaneous income

The amount I receive from government is falling and for 2017/18, Kent will lose £2.4million of funding as money has been taken away to pay for other central government priorities in policing and criminal justice. That equates to an actual cash cut of 1.4%.

• Medium term financial challenges

A significant challenge over the medium term is the uncertainty over the funding I will receive in the future. The government has announced plans to revise the Police Funding Formula. This is the formula used to distribute the national pot of police grant to the individual PCCs. It is anticipated that a new formula will be in place for the police grant settlement for 2018/19. It is hard to predict whether Kent will gain or lose funding through this change but I will be lobbying government hard to make Kent's voice heard, highlighting the unique financial pressures we face and trying to ensure we receive a fair share of police funding.

The reduction in funding for 2017/18 was larger than expected and with inflation and other cost pressures Kent requires savings to be made of £25.9m by 2020/21. With the increased uncertainty over future funding levels due to the potential formula changes I have decided to support the force with £5.1m reserves in 2017/18 with further support in 2018/19. This does not absolve the force from making those savings but allows them time to re-profile the savings over a longer period when more certainty over funding levels is known.

I have challenged the Chief Constable that I expect the force to maximise efficiency opportunities, fully explore collaboration with other forces and with partners and challenge all aspects of spending in order for the savings to be achieved and to limit the impact of savings on the frontline wherever possible. I have received assurance from the Chief Constable that the force are developing and refining saving options to ensure that we can meet the medium term challenge.

• Council tax

The Government sets a limit on how much can be raised through the council tax before I have to call a referendum. For most forces this limit is 1.99%, but for the ten force areas with the lowest council tax, which includes Kent, the limit is £5.

Ideologically, I am a low-tax Conservative. During the course of my campaign, I said that I did not want the precept to rise unless it was needed to protect frontline policing. The Chancellor has stated clearly that to maintain funding for policing the precept should be increased to the maximum level. Therefore I believe for 2017/18 that this announcement meets that test and that the council tax for Kent will increase by £5 for an average Band D property, an equivalent increase of 3.3%.

I have made no assumptions on increases over and above the 1.99% limit in future years.

- **Commissioning and working with partners**

Working with partners to reduce crime, antisocial behaviour and to support victims is vital and I have been given responsibilities and funding to deliver the ‘and crime’ element of my role. I have developed a [Commissioning Strategy](#) that sets out clearly my approach to commissioning.

In total the combined Commissioning and victims support budget of £4.2m is fully funded for 2017/18. My commissioning strategy sets out the intention to provide as much medium term certainty to our partners as possible, however, the position over the medium term may need to be adjusted in light of future Ministry of Justice grant decisions.

The commissioning budget breakdown for 2017/18 is set out below.

Organisation	2017/18 £m
Community Safety Partnerships	511,229
Young Persons Substance Misuse	92,627
Youth Offending Teams	365,460
Kent & Medway Safeguarding Adults and Children Boards	82,488
Drug and Alcohol Action Teams	360,491
Volunteer Youth Cadets	40,000
National Crimestoppers	39,156
Local Crimestoppers	14,699
The Safer in Kent Fund	150,000
Safer Kent	20,000
Domestic Abuse Services	185,000
Kent Criminal Justice Board Support	40,000
Restorative Justice	200,000
Sexual Assault Support Services	200,000
Core Victim Services	1,055,000
Specialist Victim Services	500,000
Mental Health & Policing Fund	250,000
Contingency	95,367
Total	4,201,517



Police and Crime Plan consultation

October – December 2016

Contents

	Page
Introduction	3
Methodology	3
Engaging with harder to reach communities	6
Survey responses	7
Additional feedback	9
Demographics of respondents	10
Policing in Kent 2017-2021: Autumn 2016 survey	13

Introduction

Under the terms of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) must set the police and crime objectives for their area through a Police and Crime Plan.

When writing their plans all PCCs have a duty to consult with victims and the wider community they serve, although what form(s) that consultation exercise takes is at the discretion of individual PCCs.

When Matthew Scott was elected Kent PCC in May 2016 he inherited an existing Police and Crime Plan which ran until 31 March 2017. That plan was refreshed in summer 2016 to incorporate the core priorities on which Mr Scott was elected – his Six Point Plan.

However, Mr Scott wrote in his introduction to that document in September 2016: “Having served as Commissioner for a number of months and conducted broad public and partner consultation later this year, I will be publishing a brand new plan on the 1 April 2017.”

To honour that pledge, and in recognising that the 1.8 million people living in Kent and Medway come from a diverse diaspora of urban, rural and coastal communities, the PCC and his senior management team set about formulating a multi-channel consultation exercise in autumn 2016.

Launched on October 10, the chief objective of that consultation was to reach out to and hear from as many of Kent’s communities as possible. The OPCC has then borne their views in mind, along with the representations of other key stakeholders, when setting out Kent’s policing priorities until 2021.

Methodology

The PCC’s autumn 2016 consultation was launched on World Mental Health Day (October 10), in honour of the fact that mental health was one of the top priorities in the PCC’s Six Point Plan and the refreshed Police and Crime Plan, published in September.

Various methods of engagement were entered into, to reach out to as many of Kent and Medway’s diverse communities as possible. Consideration was given to utilising a variety of methods to enable individuals and groups to choose to communicate with the PCC by whatever means of communication was most convenient and accessible to them.

A **Safer in Kent survey** was compiled and made available, online and in a hard copy form, on the launch date of the consultation. The OPCC determined that the reliability of the data collected would be directly proportionate to the number of people completing the survey, especially if the demographics of those participating mirrored the demographics of the whole of Kent and Medway. Drawing on past experience, it was anticipated that residents would be more likely to complete the survey if the number of questions was kept to a minimum and if they could easily understand what they were being asked. To that effect, only three mandatory questions were given and plain English was used where possible.

Critically, the questions focused on Kent Police’s strategic priorities – those which the PCC has the power to set out. Free text fields were avoided to prevent the public from suggesting changes to operational policing or the deployment of resources which are the remit of the Chief Constable.

Question one asked for people’s views on the importance of the six priorities listed in the existing Police and Crime Plan.

Question two invited respondents to select up to eight areas of police business which are important to them. The survey made it clear that Kent Police would continue to deal with all 28 areas of police business listed, but the PCC was interested to see how the public’s concerns around traditional neighbourhood policing concerns (eg. anti-social behaviour / road traffic offences) compared alongside emerging threats (eg. child sexual exploitation / fraud and cyber-crime). Potentially, the feedback received could help the PCC determine how he commissions victims’ services in future.

Question three enabled the public and partners to rate eight schemes or innovations which could be adopted or expanded within Kent. The PCC had first discussed each of these ideas with senior officers at Kent Police to be assured they were feasible, ensuring so any feedback received would be more valuable than if public and partners were invited to suggest their own schemes or innovations which the Chief Constable may not be in a position to adopt.

Questions four to 12 asked non-mandatory questions about the person completing the survey. The survey was anonymous to encourage people to share their honestly-held views, but question four enabled representatives of organisations to notify the OPCC that they had sent a response.

Any data collected from questions five to 12 would allow the OPCC to compare the demographics of those responding with the demographics of the whole of Kent and Medway (see page 10).

A copy of the Safer in Kent survey is included as an appendix to this report, starting on page 13.

A **press release** was posted on the OPCC website and issued to local media contacts to launch the survey, and on the morning the survey launched, the PCC gave a live interview with **BBC Radio Kent**.

A link to the survey was placed prominently on the homepage of the **OPCC website** and regularly posted on the OPCC's official **Twitter** feed which boasts more than 10,400 followers.

Copies of the survey were sent by e-mail to more than 5,000 OPCC **e-newsletter** subscribers and to Police and Crime Panel members and Kent's MPs. Leaders of influential organisations such as the Crime Rural Advisory Group (CRAG) were also encouraged to disseminate the survey to their members to ensure a broad range of responses.

Details about the survey were also added as a footnote to all **outgoing OPCC e-mails** to encourage partners and members of the public with whom the OPCC has existing contact to participate.

The OPCC is grateful to all the **partner agencies** which assisted in promoting the survey via their own social media channels and/or on their public-facing websites. These partner agencies included:

- Age UK Maidstone
- Citizens Advice Medway
- Country Land and Business Association
- East Kent College
- Eynsford Parish Council
- Family Matters
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Hartsdown Academy
- Healthwatch Medway
- Independent Custody Visiting Association
- Institute of Directors (Kent)
- Kent County Council
- Kent Police
- Kent Police Federation
- Kennington Community Forum
- Living in Ashford community forum
- Love Margate
- METRO
- Ramsgate Town Council
- Sevenoaks District Council
- Sittingbourne FM
- Victim Support
- Women Work (Tunbridge Wells)

Recognising that communities may want to raise issues not included within the survey, the PCC made himself available to speak face-to-face with members of the public about their own local policing concerns at high-footfall **street stall** locations across Kent and Medway, including:

- Royal Victoria Place shopping centre, Tunbridge Wells
- Fremlin Walk shopping centre, Maidstone
- Bluewater shopping centre, Greenhithe
- McArthurGlen Designer Outlet, Ashford
- Morrisons, Dover
- Dockside Outlet Shopping Centre, Chatham

- Tesco superstore, Sheerness
- Westwood Cross shopping centre, Broadstairs
- Market Place, Faversham

Members of the public and partners were welcome to contact the OPCC **by phone, post or e-mail** to suggest any additional policing priorities or give any further comments they might have. More than 70 relevant representations were logged from these channels. Most were comments from individual residents but some were from representatives from groups such as:

- Bean Residents' Association
- Countryside Alliance
- Kent County Council
- ManKind
- Safe Line
- Sevenoaks District Council
- Tobacco Manufacturers' Association
- Transport Focus
- Westerham Town Council

The PCC engaged directly with **partner agencies and other elected officials** at private briefings and public meetings including, but not limited to:

- Action Fraud
- Citizen's Advice Medway
- East Kent Federation of NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Folkestone Mental Health Festival
- Gillingham Rotary Club
- Kent's MPs
- Kent Association of Local Councils
- Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel
- Kent and Medway Community Safety Conference
- Kent and Medway NHS Partnership Trust
- Kent Speedwatch
- National Association of Retired Police Officers
- NHS Medway Clinical Commissioning Group
- NHS West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group
- Prison Officers' Association
- Rubicon Cares
- Tenterden Town Council
- West Kent Chamber of Commerce

The PCC has discussed his Police and Crime Plan with senior officers including the Chief Constable and, valuing the feedback of all Kent Police officers and staff, a message from the PCC was also posted on the Kent Police **intranet** pages.

He made himself available to speak directly with officers, staff and trainees at police stations across Kent and Medway; including explaining to 100 newly recruited police officers and PCSOs at the Kent Police College the importance of participating in the consultation.

He also met with representatives of the Kent Police Federation and UNISON and made contact with staff associations such as Kent Network of Women and Kent Minority Ethnic Police Association.

Engaging with harder to reach communities

As already stated, the PCC was keen to reach out to as many of Kent and Medway's diverse communities as possible - including **young people, the business community, residents of rural areas and black and ethnic minority groups**. To that end, the PCC and his senior management team proactively encouraged various groups to offer their views including, but not limited to:

- Business Crime Advisory Group
- Canterbury Christ Church University
- Federation of Small Businesses
- Historic England
- Kent Equality Cohesion Council
- Kent Minority Ethnic Police Association
- Medway Youth Parliament
- Orchards Academy, Swanley
- Porchlight
- Show Racism the Red Card
- Tobacco Retailers' Association (Ramsgate)

The PCC also hosted a special **Youth Forum** evening event for young people aged up to 21, on Monday 5 December. Invites were sent to representatives of the Kent Youth County Council, Medway Youth Parliament, Kent Volunteer Police Cadets, Army Cadets, St John Ambulance, CXK, Young Lives Foundation, The Princes Trust, Fixers, the University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University.

Around 35 young people attended, completing the survey and engaging in a discussion around the answers they had provided (see page 10).

Survey responses

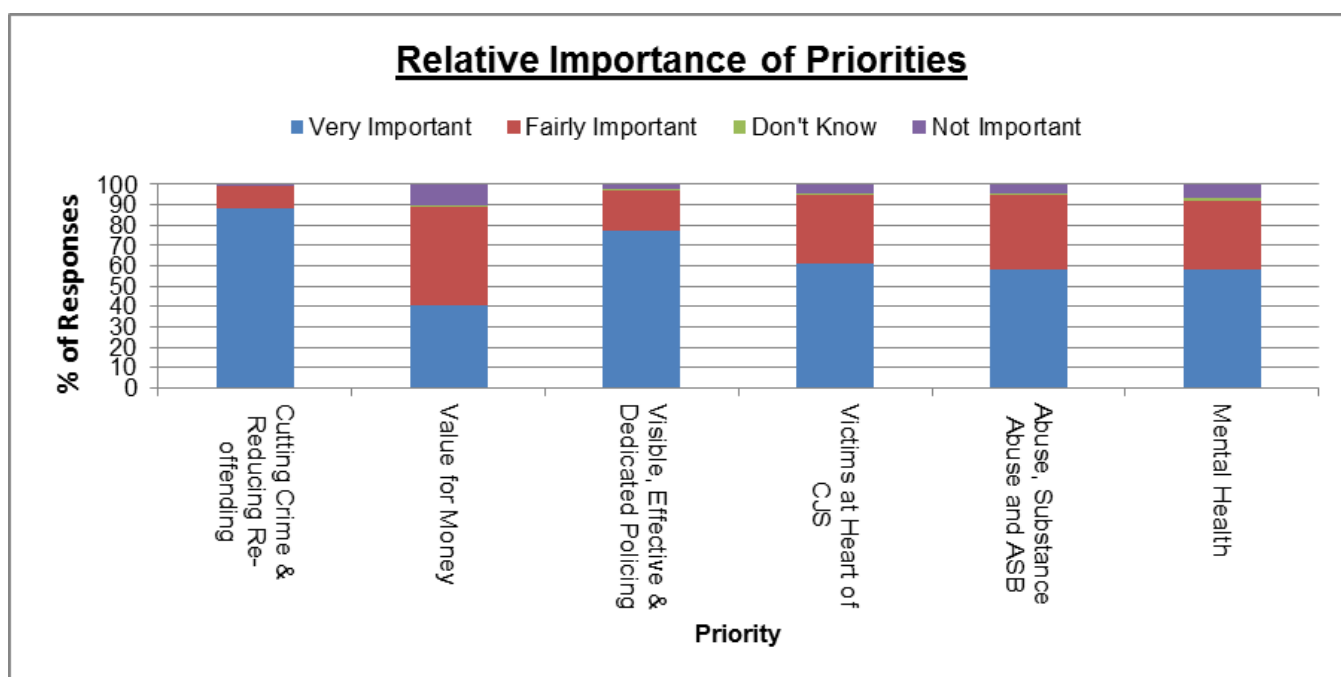
A total of 1,690 individuals and organisations completed the Safer in Kent: Autumn 2016 survey, a figure which is considered more than adequate by the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners to constitute meaningful consultation.

Eighty of the responses came from organisations including borough/district and parish/town councils, residents' associations, clinical commissioning groups, the Federation of Small Businesses, schools, the Medway Youth Parliament, charities and commissioned victims' services such as the East Kent Rape Crisis Centre, Rubicon Cares and Swale Action to End Domestic Abuse (SATEDA).

The raw data has been made publicly available on the OPCC website, within a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. To protect the anonymity of individual organisations' feedback, the names of each organisation have been replaced with a description of the type of organisation which responded.

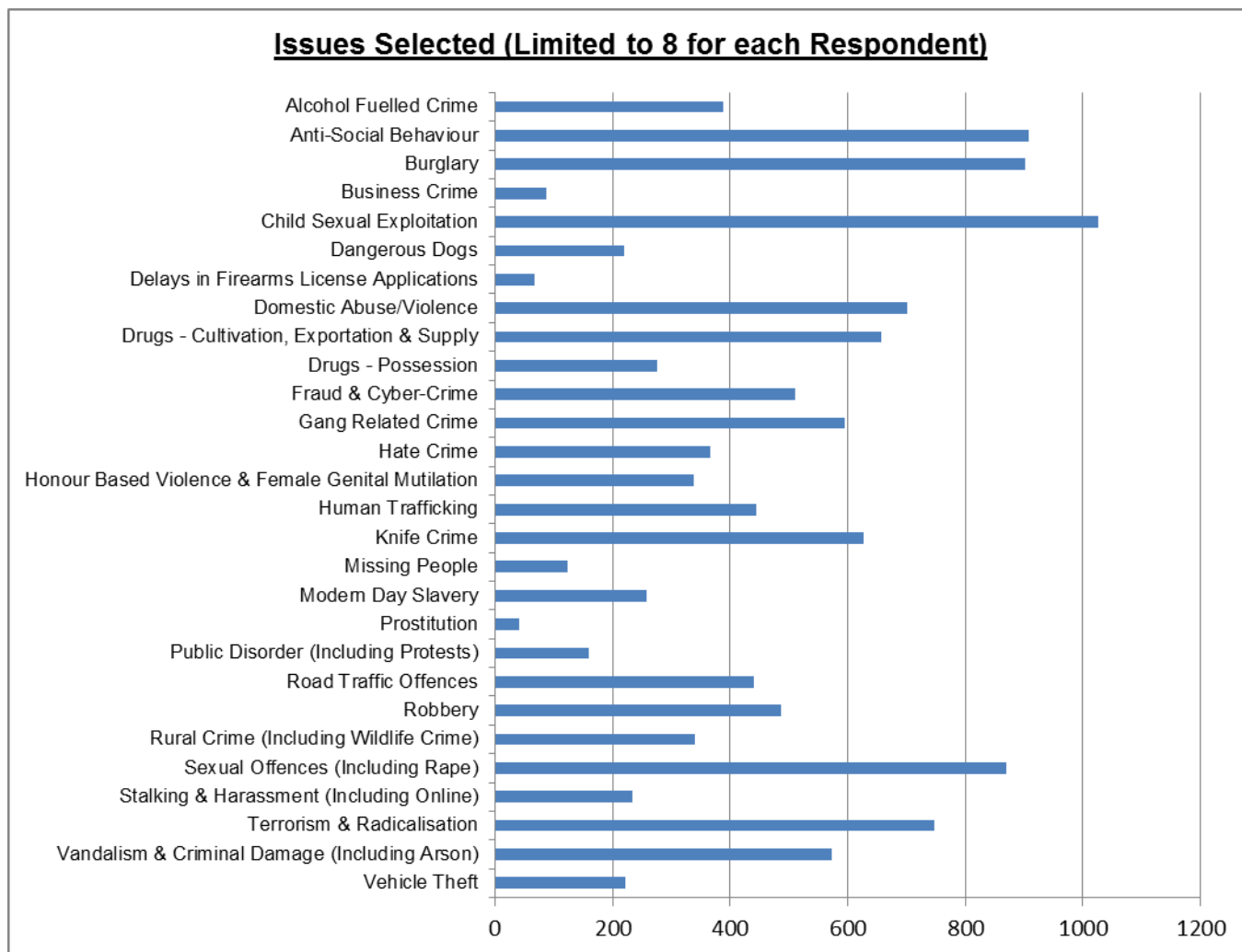
The PCC invites members of the public and partners to review the spreadsheet and draw their own conclusions, but the following represents a summary of the data.

The responses received for question one were as follows:



All six of the priorities in the existing Police and Crime Plan were 'very important' or 'fairly important' to the overwhelming majority of people who completed the survey, which illustrates the public strongly supports all of them being included in the PCC's plan. Cutting crime and reducing reoffending was very important to the largest number of people (88.3%) while Delivering value for money was the priority very important to the fewest people (40.9%).

The responses received for question two were as follows:



Each of the 1,690 people who completed the survey was able to select up to eight issues, out of a list of 28, which mattered most to them. Some people chose to select fewer than eight – resulting in 12,613 issues selected out of a maximum of 13,520 (an average of 7.5 per person).

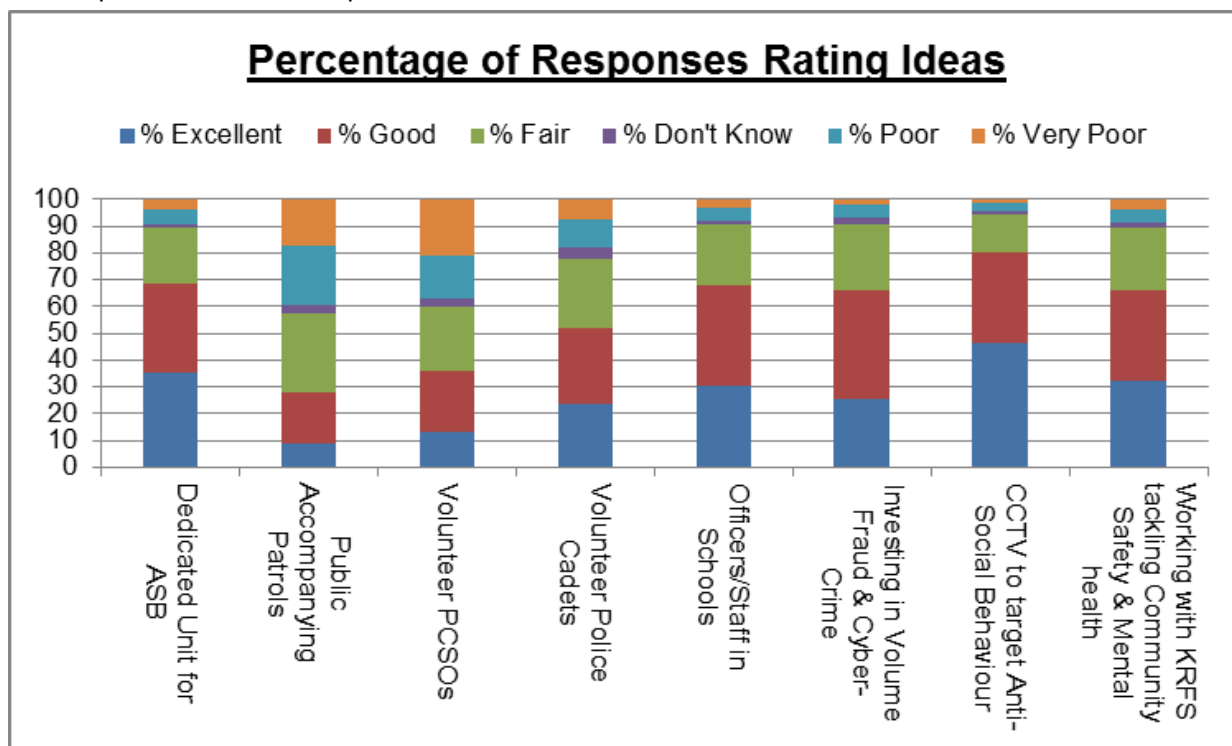
More than 60% of the 1,690 people who completed the survey selected child sexual exploitation as an issue which mattered most to them (1,027 people selected this issue). This made child sexual exploitation the number one concern for people across Kent and Medway.

The next seven top issues were:

- Anti-social behaviour (selected by 54% of respondents)
- Burglary (53%)
- Sexual offences including rape (51%)
- Terrorism and radicalisation (44%)
- Domestic abuse/violence (41%)
- Drugs cultivation, exportation and supply (39%)
- Knife crime (37%)

This 'top eight' indicates that the people of Kent and Medway are not only concerned about traditional neighbourhood policing concerns like anti-social behaviour and burglary, but that they are also concerned about emerging threats to public safety like child sexual exploitation and knife crime; and that they recognise the important role Kent Police has in tackling national and international threats such as terrorism and the supply of drugs.

The responses received for question three were as follows:



The views of the public and partners with on the eight ideas the PCC put forward were mixed, but broadly positive. No single idea was rated 'excellent' by more than 50% of the respondents to the survey, but all of the eight ideas were rated 'excellent', 'good' or 'fair' by at least 50% of respondents.

The idea receiving the most support was Using CCTV more flexibly to target anti-social behaviour (46% rated it an 'excellent' idea; 80% rated it 'excellent' or 'good'). This correlates with the feedback from questions one and two of the survey which showed popular support for tackling anti-social behaviour.

The idea receiving the least support was Facilitating a scheme for members of the public to watch officers on patrol, and then feedback what they saw in their local area to their communities (39% of people rated it a 'poor' or 'very poor' idea; 28% rated it 'excellent' or 'good'). Members of the Police and Crime Panel told the PCC they had trust in Kent Police and did not see the need for time or money to be used to observe the force in this way, but conversely young people attending the PCC's Youth Forum were supportive of the idea (7% of attendees rated it a 'poor' or 'very poor' idea; 62% rated it 'excellent' or 'good').

Additional feedback

The issues most often raised at face-to-face street stalls and by those who contacted the OPCC by phone, post or e-mail to suggest any additional policing priorities or give any further comments included:

- Anti-social behaviour.
- Begging and vagrancy.
- Business crime.
- Child sexual abuse and safeguarding vulnerable people.
- Delays in processing firearms licenses.
- Domestic Homicide Reviews.
- Drug dealing.
- Engagement with Kent Police, including via 101.
- Hate crime.
- Online harassment / bullying.
- Partnership working.
- Road traffic offences.

- Wildlife crime.

The most common views expressed by young people attending the PCC’s Youth Forum event on December 5 included:

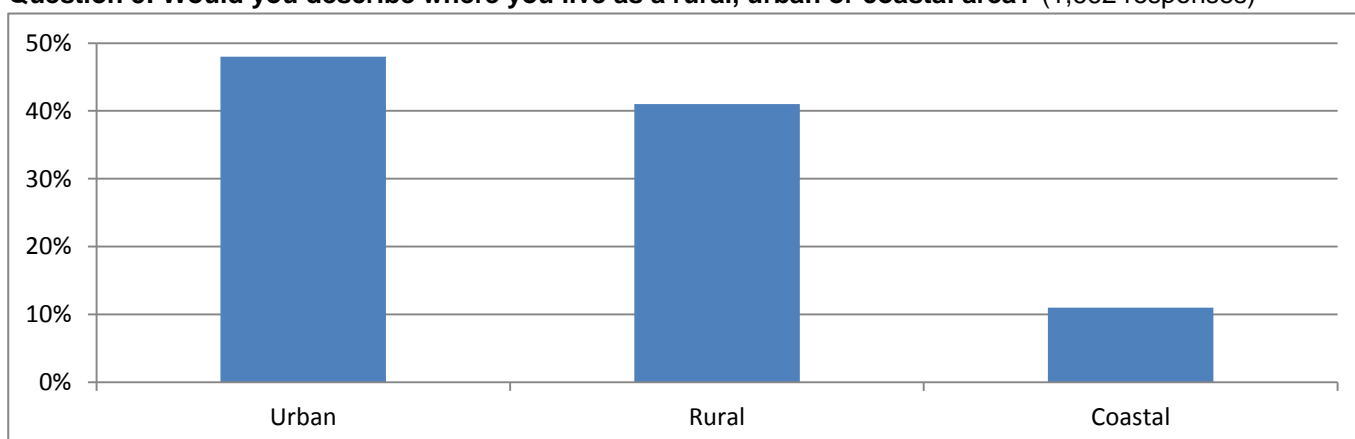
- Kent Police should engage more with schools – potentially working closer with Kent Fire and Rescue Service and local authorities to deliver safety advice.
- A public ride-along scheme would be beneficial to showcase what Kent Police does.
- More should be done to encourage members of the BME and LGBT communities to join Kent Police.
- The Volunteer Police Cadets Scheme should be expanded countywide – with Cadets becoming ambassadors for the force.
- Work experience opportunities should be made available for young people.
- Kent Police should continue to treat possession of cannabis as a serious criminal offence.

Demographics of respondents

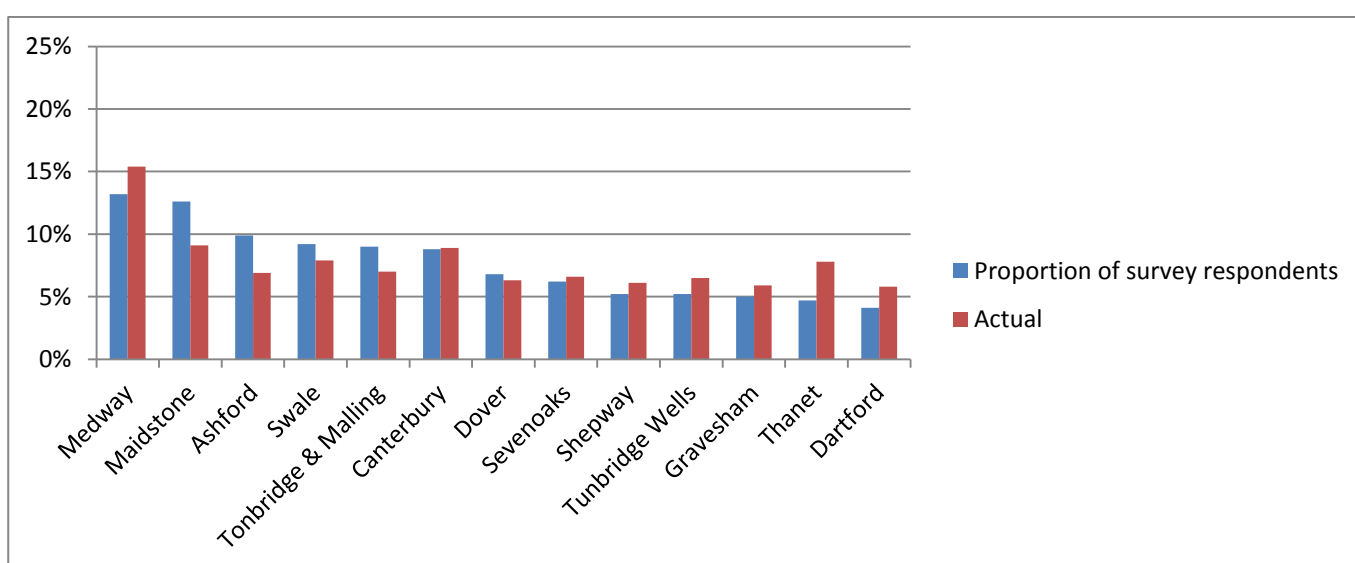
The following charts show the demographics of those who responded to the survey, based on the responses given to optional questions five to 12. Because these questions were optional, the sample sizes vary.

Where possible, the survey data (in blue) is shown alongside the actual demographics of the whole of Kent and Medway (in red) as recorded in the 2011 census (Source: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-and-data/Facts-and-figures-about-Kent>)

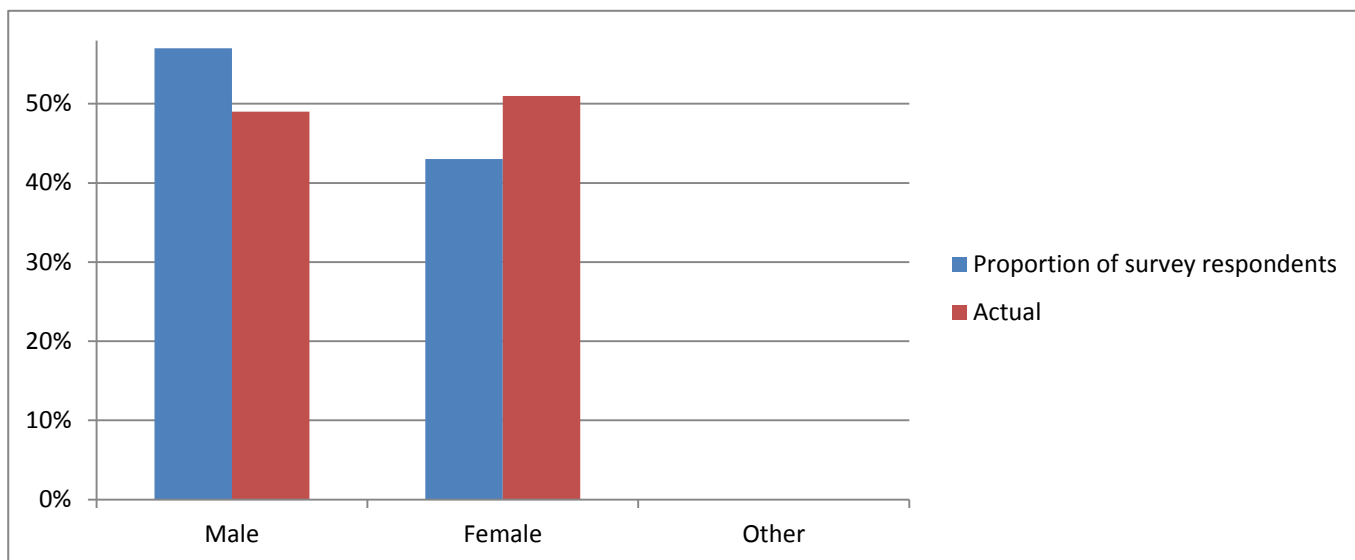
Question 5: Would you describe where you live as a rural, urban or coastal area? (1,662 responses)



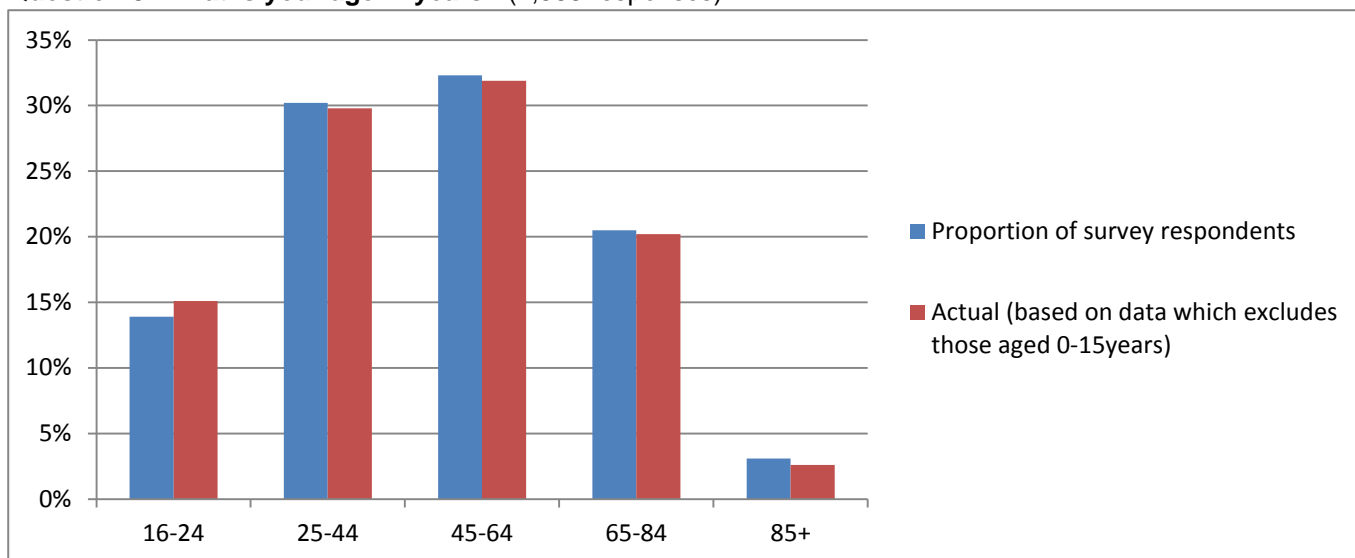
Question 6: Which district do you live in? (1,650 responses)



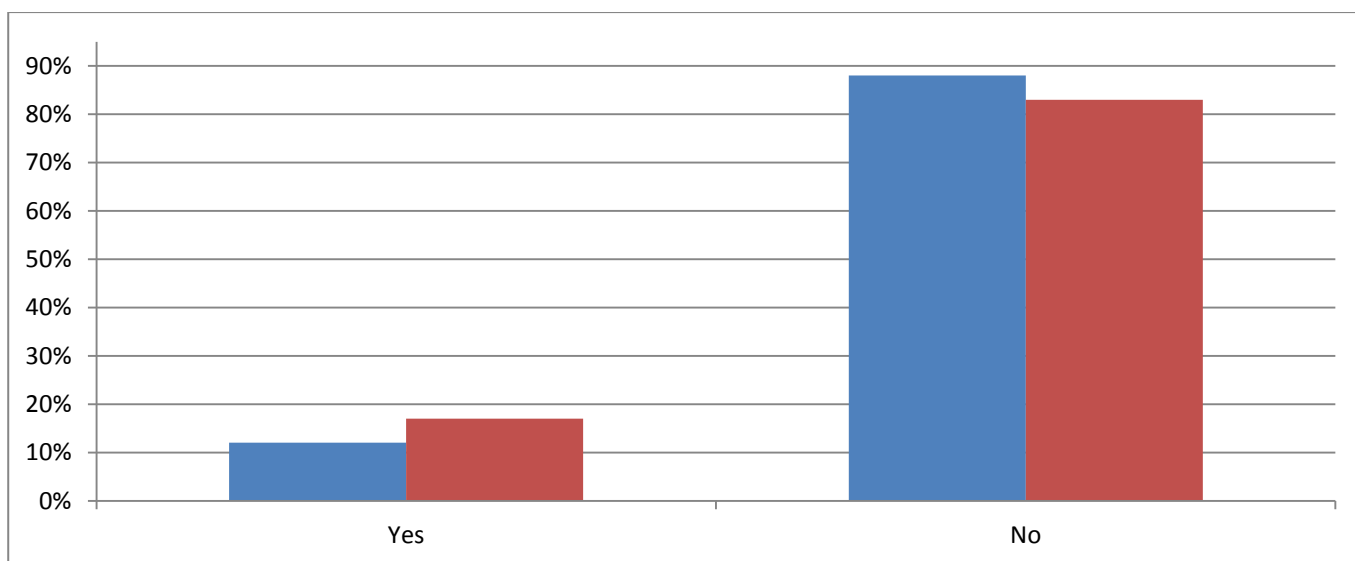
Question 7: How do you define your gender? (1,609 responses)



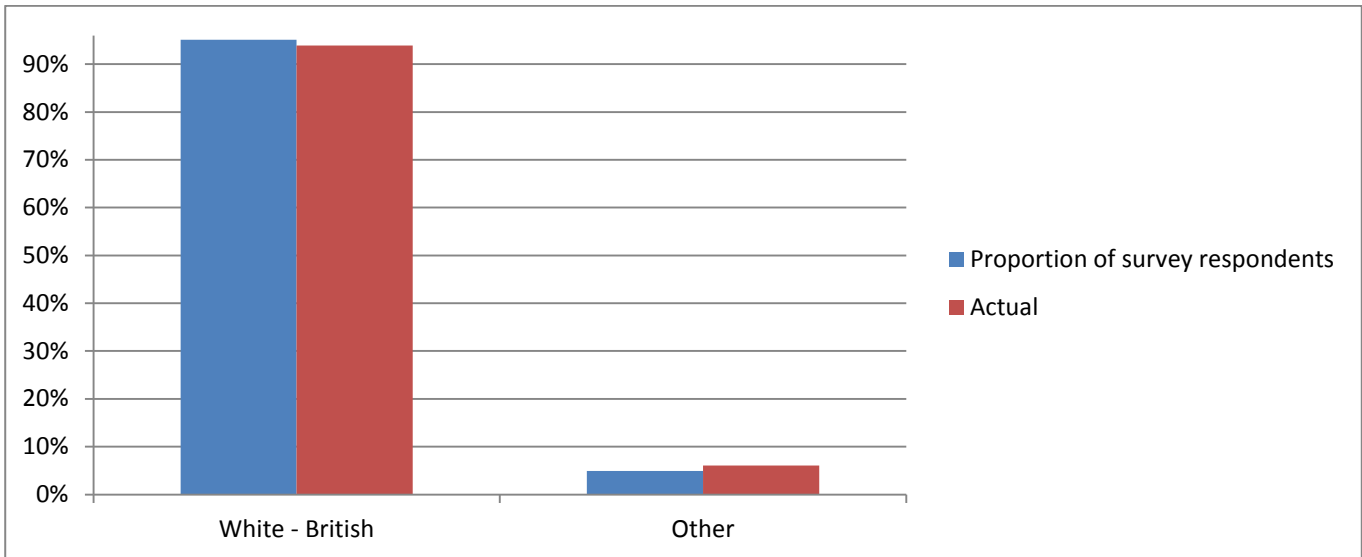
Question 8: What is your age in years? (1,588 responses)



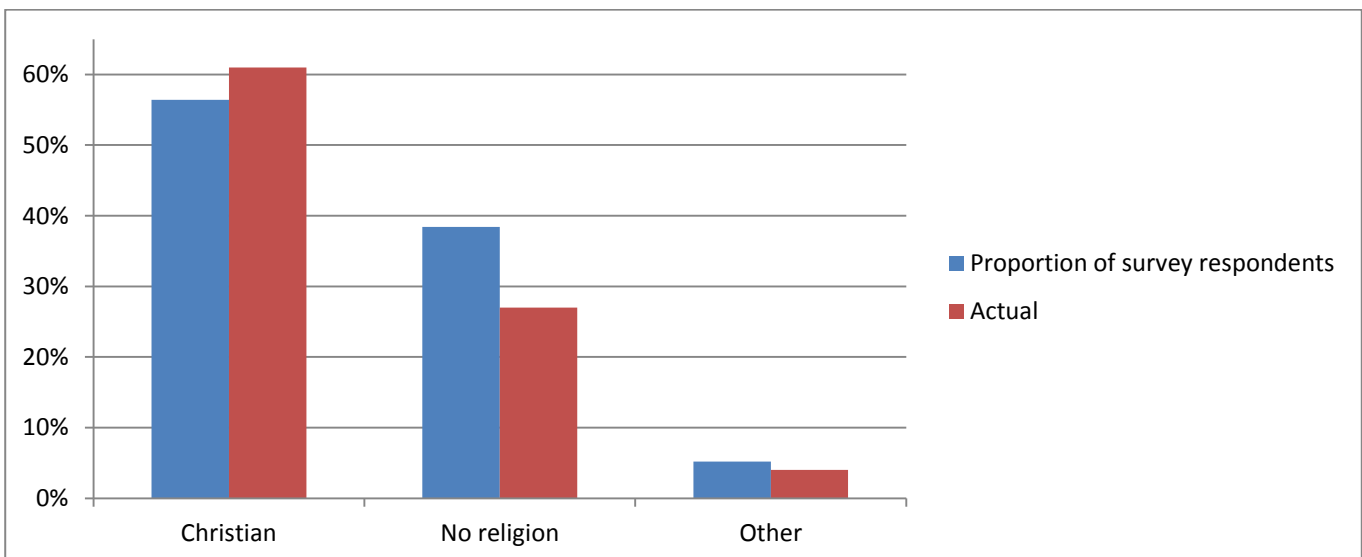
Question 9: Do you consider yourself to have a disability? (1,592 responses)



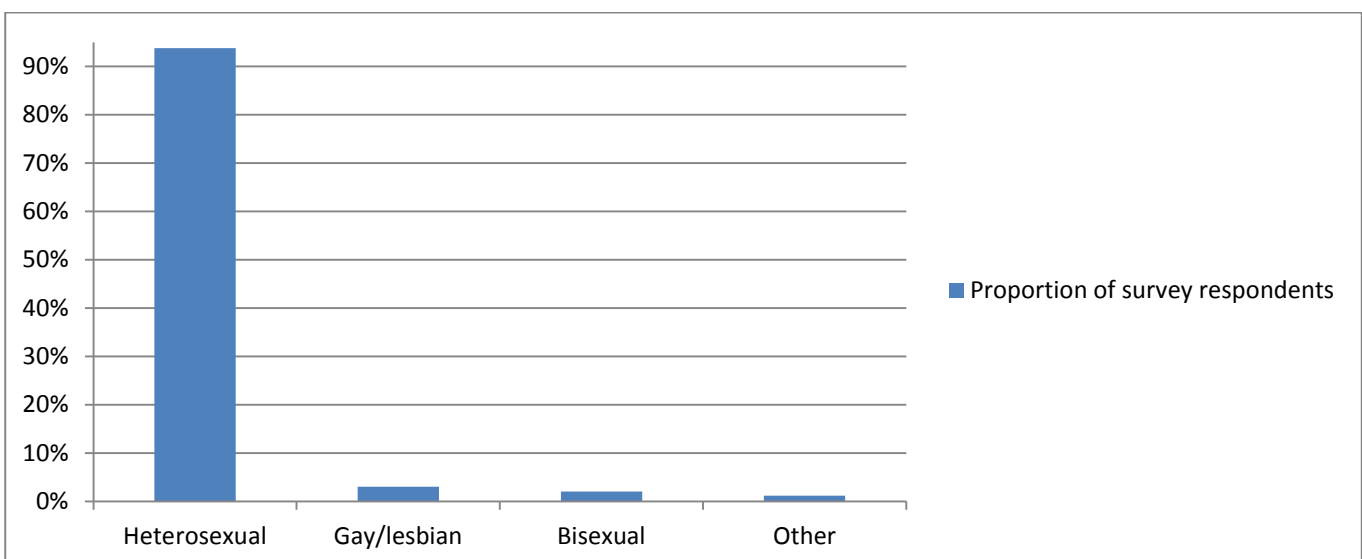
Question 10: How do you define your ethnicity? (1,543 responses)



Question 11: What is your religion or belief? (1,452 responses)



Question 12: What is your sexual orientation? (1,405 responses)



Appendix: Autumn 2016 survey



Policing in Kent 2017-2021: Autumn 2016 survey

As Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner I must produce a Police and Crime Plan setting out the strategic priorities for Kent Police. The existing plan ends on 31 March 2017, to be replaced with a new plan for 2017 – 2021.

When writing a new plan I have a duty to consult with victims and the wider community, so I want to know what matters most to you. Please take the time to fill out this short survey and encourage your friends, family and colleagues to fill one in as well. You do not need to provide your name or contact details.

This survey can also be completed online at www.kent-pcc.gov.uk/take-part

The deadline for completing this survey is 2 December 2016, after which a summary of views and how they have been incorporated into the plan will be published on my website.

This short survey is only the first stage of a consultation process about Policing in Kent which will continue throughout my term as your Police and Crime Commissioner. I will be attending regular meetings with partners to seek their views on policing and the criminal justice system in Kent and members of the public are welcome to contact my office about any policing issue which matters to them.

Please remember that the Police and Crime Plan only sets the strategic priorities for Kent Police - it cannot amend or change the way officers are deployed or the way operational decisions are made. These are matters for the Chief Constable to determine. My job is to hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of the plan and its strategic objectives on your behalf.

Thank you.

Matthew Scott

Kent Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Tick a box for each of these six priorities in Kent, to show how important each one is to you.

	Very important	Fairly important	Not important	Don't know
Cutting crime and reducing re-offending				
Ensuring Kent Police delivers value for money				
Providing visible, effective and dedicated policing				
Putting victims at the heart of the criminal justice system				
Tackling the misery caused by abuse, substance misuse and anti-social behaviour				
Revolutionising the way the police interacts with people with mental health issues, ensuring they receive the most appropriate care while freeing up police time to deal with the priorities above				

2. These are just some of the issues that Kent Police will continue to tackle on a daily basis. However, I am interested to know which ones matter most to you. **Select a maximum of 8 options.**

Alcohol-fuelled crime	
Anti-social behaviour	
Burglary	
Business crime (including shoplifting)	
Child sexual exploitation	
Dangerous dogs	
Delays in firearms licence applications	
Domestic abuse (including coercion and control)	
Drugs cultivation, importation and/or dealing	
Drugs possession	
Fraud and cyber-crime (including identity fraud)	
Gang-related crime	
Hate crime	
'Honour-based' violence and Female Genital Mutilation	

Human trafficking	
Knife crime	
Missing people	
Modern day slavery	
Prostitution	
Public disorder (including at protests or demonstrations)	
Road traffic offences	
Robbery	
Rural crime (including wildlife crime)	
Sexual offences (including rape)	
Stalking and harassment (including online harassment)	
Terrorism and radicalisation	
Vandalism and criminal damage (including arson)	
Vehicle theft	

3. What do you think of each of the following ideas, which could be explored or expanded further in Kent?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Don't know
Establishing a dedicated unit to advise and assist residents wishing to report anti-social behaviour issues						
Facilitating a scheme for members of the public to watch officers on patrol, and then feedback what they saw in their local area to their communities						
Introducing Volunteer PCSOs						
Making the new Volunteer Police Cadets scheme, for 13-18 year olds, available countywide						
Sending more police officers/staff into schools to deliver lessons in personal and online safety						
Investing more in tackling volume fraud and cyber-crime						
Using CCTV more flexibly to target anti-social behaviour						
Working closer with Kent Fire and Rescue Service to address community safety and mental health issues						

Finally, some questions about you. **These are optional**, but any details provided will help us understand whether certain priorities are popular among particular groups or communities.

4. Are you completing this form as an individual, or on behalf of an organisation such as a charity or local authority?

Individual	
Organisation (please state which organisation below)	
No answer	

5. Would you describe where you live as a rural, urban or coastal area?

Rural	
Urban	
Coastal	
No answer	

6. Which district do you live in?

Ashford	
Canterbury	
Dartford	
Dover	
Gravesham	
Maidstone	
Medway	
Sevenoaks	
Shepway (Folkestone)	
Swale	
Thanet	
Tonbridge and Malling	
Tunbridge Wells	
No answer	

7. How do you define your gender?

Female	
Male	
Other	
No answer	

8. What is your age in years?

16 - 24	
25 - 44	
45 - 64	
65 - 84	
85+	
No answer	

9. Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes	
No	
No answer	

10. How do you define your ethnicity?

White - British	
White - Irish	
Any other White background	
White and Black Caribbean	
White and Black African	
White and Asian	
Any other Mixed background	
Asian - Indian	
Asian - Pakistani	
Asian - Bangladeshi	
Any other Asian background	
Black - Caribbean	
Black African	
Any other Black background	
Chinese	
Other	
No answer	

11. What is your religion or belief?

No religion or belief / Atheist	
Buddhist	
Christian	
Hindu	
Jewish	
Muslim	
Sikh	
Any other religion	
No answer	

12. What is your sexual orientation?

Bisexual	
Gay/lesbian	
Heterosexual	
Other	
No answer	

Thank you for taking part in the Policing in Kent 2017 – 2021: Autumn 2016 survey.

Please return this form either by hand, or by post to the address below by 2 December 2016.

Due to the number of anticipated responses, the Commissioner is unable to reply to each one personally. If you have any further questions or you require a response to a particular question, please email contactyourpcc@pcc.kent.pnn.police.uk

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PCC's council tax precept proposal

January 2017

Contents

	Page
Introduction	2
Summary of feedback	2
Copies of all feedback received	3
Copy of PCC's council tax proposal (January 6 2017)	12

Introduction

Under the terms of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) must set their force's budget and determine the precept. They must also notify the Police and Crime Panel of the precept which he/she proposes to issue for the financial year.

Based on feedback received from his Safer in Kent survey the Kent PCC proposed a 3.3% increase to the policing precept for 2017/18. This was published on January 6 and the public and partners were welcome to offer feedback to a bespoke email account prior to a deadline of January 23.

Consideration was given to providing a longer feedback period but the PCC and his team wished to first fully understand the implications of the Government's Police Grant Report for 2017/18 - which was delivered on December 15, 2016 – on Kent Police's finances.

The proposal was published on the OPCC website, where it was read by more than 1,100 unique users. It was also circulated by email to more than 5,000 OPCC e-newsletter subscribers and was promoted to more than 10,000 followers of the OPCC Twitter feed. Local media reported on the proposal, inviting further comments, and the PCC participated in media interviews with KMFM and BBC Radio Kent.

The PCC also used his personal social media channels to promote the proposal and invite feedback.

Summary of feedback

The OPCC received 51 formal responses by email to the PCC's council tax precept proposal. In addition, 11 comments were posted on the [OPCC website article](#) and 13 comments were posted underneath an article on the [Kent Online website](#).

The PCC has also taken account of any relevant posts from the public or partners on the OPCC Twitter feed (two), his own personal Twitter feed (five) and his personal Facebook page (four).

In total, 86 responses have been recorded. Five individuals were identified as having posted two comments, resulting in 81 unique responses.

Of these:

- 53 were recorded as being 'for' the proposal (65.4%)
- 21 were recorded as being 'against' the proposal (25.9%)
- Seven were recorded as being neutral (8.6%)

Of the 21 responses recorded as being against the proposal, the most common reason given was dissatisfaction with the current service Kent Police provides (12 responses). Others believed funding for Kent Police should come

from Central Government rather than local taxation; or that Kent Police was too wasteful or inefficient; or that the council tax proposal was unaffordable.

In the interests of openness and transparency, copies of all 86 recorded responses are included below. They are listed unedited. Only respondents' personal details, and/or names of authorities they are responding on behalf of, have been removed.

Copies of all feedback received

The 86 recorded responses received are listed below. Where multiple pieces of correspondence from the same individual have been identified - for example an email and a comment on social media - these have been listed together, resulting in 81 unique responses.

1. Good Evening

I would just like make it clear that I do not support any increase in my council tax to fund policing. Please do not think this means I don't support increased police funding, which I do. I however believe this funding should come from central Funding. There are many savings that the government could make to fund such an increase, such as using funds from the Foreign Aid budget, clamping down further on benefit cheats and tax avoiders.

I am like many people who appears to have to work harder everyday for a smaller and smaller return. Since the Conservatives have been in government I have had below inflation pay increases, large increases in my pension contributions, increases to my NI contributions, council tax increases. All to see less in return.

I like many people feel that I wasn't responsible for the economic issues of this country yet those that were appear to be doing very nicely for themselves once again, whilst the rest of us pay for there mistakes. I'm sure this email will make no difference to the decision you make but I felt that I had to make my feelings clear

Thanks

2. Sir,

Please consider the overworked and reliant on overtime (both paid and unpaid) requirements and pressures on police officers/staff.

In order to reduce such pressures etc. consider raising the household precept by between £10 and £20 per year in order to give frontline staff and resources sufficient support. Monies to be spent not on chief officers but supporting those at the "coalface". Your frontline staff are your best assets and should be allowed adequate "downtime" between shifts to recharge their work/life balance.

3. Dear sir

May I remind you I live in crockenhill,not the gazza strip! In my unfortunate 20 years in this time capsule I've been burglarized and only got an officer when you knew id caught the dear fellow and whilst in mu custody he fell and hurt himself.then a family feud when your force had given our case to around 20 officers over 2 years who didn't talk to each other ,or know the law.you don't need more money!!! You need infrastructure.perhaps you can speak to the council who ferl greater need to hang nice flowers and decorate our roundabouts with our taxes.i wish you well but your on a hiding to nothing.great,great ideas but we all no they wont work.they never do.and pcso? Hmm,train a real policeman.yet they need incentive which they don't get,more leave than join.any idea why? The officers we have met on the whole are good hard working people.remember what you do will never matter,those from above just want figures.you cant rebuild public faith with money.infrastructure is what's needed.as I say I wish you well with an impossible task.regards

4. Dear Matthew

Brilliant proposal expertly explained - you have my full support

5. **First comment:**

My family and I see Community Safety & Security paramount and easily trumps health, education, etc. Personally I'd be very happy for the Policing portion (only) of my Council Tax bill to increase by 10%. It's SO important.

Meanwhile I would urge the PCC to chase Home Office funding for policing THE Frontier County with

Europe and all the additional costs it involves on our roads, rail, pubs and infrastructure in relation to crime and disorder.

Keep up the great work Matthew Scott!

Second comment:

My top priority is the safety/security of my family. This is delivered 24/7 primarily by the police service. For me, it's a much higher priority than health, education, environment, welfare etc.

I'm very happy to pay more Council Tax if it directly benefits the security of our neighbourhood and public places. If we lose security and safety nothing else is worth having anyway.

6. You have my full support for your proposals

7. Does not seem an unreasonable proposal to me.

Why Kent Police should be expected to fund additional fire arms officers is beyond me when it is Central Governments flawed immigration policy that has given rise to the need and the cost should therefore be met by them!

I see £5 million is to be taken from reserves. How much is kept in reserve and for what purpose? or do I need to ask this question under the Freedom of Information Act?

It is nice to know we now have a proper Police Commissioner rather than that silly woman and her gimmicks

8. Dear Mr Scott

Thank you for keeping me so fully informed. £5 does not seem excessive.

Good wishes

9. Dear Matthew,

Thank you for your correspondence concerning Kent Police funding.

I understand the pressure on the budget, rising demand and the cuts imposed by the Government on all public services. I have no doubt that there will be similar proposals to fund the shortfall in social care, education and health at some stage in the future.

However, I would only be in favour of an increase in the precept if those resources are to be ring fenced to local policing. The forensic escalator that pushes resources towards more serious crime results in the denuding of local patrols, response policing and traffic policing.

Most people have very little contact with the police until they have to report a crime, traffic incident or local disorder. Unfortunately from my own and friends experiences the response to 'minor' matters is less than reassuring. I say this with some regret having spent 45 years as a police officer, but the accounts that I have heard are too numerous to be discounted. I have lost count of the times that I have had my ear bent by friends and acquaintances about poor response to crimes in action, particularly from farmers reporting incidents on their land or intruders in their farm yards. I know that the police call handling policy has criteria for response, but my theory is that control room staff are overwhelmed by calls and that as they have few resources to deploy they apply a secondary informal screening policy that results in callers being denied a proper response. These deployment decisions receive little day to day scrutiny from supervisors and are often only examined in any depth when HMIC carries out an inspection.

In addition to this extra money, another pruning of HQ staff will help to put police officers where they are needed. Using this extra resource for local warranted officers would do much to reestablish confidence in local policing.

Best wishes,

10. Dear Mr Scott

Thank you for your email explaining your receipt increase for kent Police.

I support this increase as I concerned about terrorism and continued PCSO support in rural communities- I live in capel le ferne near Dover.

I am not ideologically, as you say you are, a low tax conservative. In fact, I believe we have to fund our public services properly so that we enjoy them as a civilised society.

Police is a central core of these. I, in fact, despite not being wealthy would rather pay MORE council tax if I were reassured of the outcome of my tax subsequently.

Life is difficult for many at the moment, but removing or reducing key services will not help the majority.

Kind wishes

11. I'd like to tell you where you can stick your increase in the council tax precept, but I won't because I won't be paying it.
I don't see why I should pay towards a 'service' that can't be bothered to do the job it is overpaid for.
12. I broadly support the policing initiatives outlined in Matthew Scott's email of 9 January and must therefore reluctantly support the council tax rise he proposes to pay for them.
I do not agree with the Home Office police funding for Kent being cut further and believe that the new government should look again at the Old Chancellor and Home Office's austerity budgets for policing generally and particularly recognising the unique issues arising from Kent channel crossings.
13. Dear Police Commissioner
I am disappointed that you are not seeking to increase the precept for the police service by a more realistic amount, say 8%. While cuts have usefully ensured greater cooperation between police forces ~ there is no doubt much more to be done in this area ~ there is a limit to the amount that can be saved or taken from reserves. I am also disappointed that you have not had the courage to tell residents that if they want good local government and police services they have to pay for it.
Best wishes
14. I just thought that you are very candid in explaining that basically during an election campaign promises can be made that sound good but after the election reality calls. Welcome to the real world and increased demands on Police caused by accumulated effects of cuts in spending in other areas.
15. Good morning,
I read this communication with great interest.
I am a Councillor at both Parish and Borough level - and have sympathy with the financial predicament you've been put into. I am very aware of the financial pressures imposed on Councils too!
I endorse the points you make reference to - in particular the items referring to local community and its safety.
I have lived in a semi rural location for several years and have noticed a considerable change to the 'visibility' of the Police, either full time officers or latterly - PCSO's.
I'm aware of the pressures and echo some of your sentiments, if the financial burden imposed on the public provides a tangible display of where the money goes. I have a huge concern that continual financial pressures on authorities will have to reach a point where it's utterly exhausted. With the growing demands on infrastructure, housing, schools, medical facilities and the like - sometime soon I hope - the pressure must ease.
However, we must move forward and remain strong.
I fully endorse an increase in personal contributions - as I say, just as long as it's solely utilised to better the service you're all offering.
On a small point - my local Parish [location removed] used to have regular attendance : once a month, at our public meeting by either an officer or PCSO. This hasn't happened for months. I understand the pressures of the job - but really do miss the visibility.
Thank you for your update and if there's any way in which Councils can work closer with you, I'd fully subscribe to it.
Best regards
16. Dear Mr. SCOTT,
To see a police officer in Folkestone and indeed in the surrounding area is as one says as rare as rocking horse poo.
I find the propaganda laid out by Government and those in your position not particularly related to reality, for we both know that even if ten new officers were introduced they will be spread over the whole County and with no disrespect, their impact will not greatly if at all improve on services. It is like successive Governments promising the paperwork will decrease it never did, and now police men and women are tied up with reports for everything, which of course means that they are in rather than out of their respective police stations.
I find it difficult to support such subjects as you mention, because there are organisations within the public service system that should be held to account rather than police officers being burdened with it.
I cannot make no difference to what price you or others place on policing, and I shall contribute as I have too by law, however I personally no longer have any belief in a system where Senior Police Officers will Not stand as one and tell the truth and how it is. With people more concerned with Political Correctness diversity and minority groups being considered before the "average Band D" house owner the system

seems to be bending under the pressures of those topics rather than concerns with real policing matters. I do however wish you all the very best in your quest for improving the lives of communities within the County.

17. The views of [location removed] Parish Council to the proposed increase is that it is disproportionate. Rural Areas see no visible Policing, and response time for assistance is appalling. [Location removed] is let down by the service provided by Kent Police.
Any form of increase is unacceptable.
Sent on behalf of the parish council
18. No no no, I do not agree with any rise, our P C S O has been changed so many times I am no longer sure if our village has one or who he or she is. Police cars race through the village constantly, we would be very fortunate to physically see a Policeman or woman.
19. I am against the proposal. At the moment I never see any police presence and it is all reactive not proactive. We wanted a say in how we thought our PCSO could be better deployed but wasn't listened to. Needs a complete overhaul and a better service and then happy to pay
20. Dear Sir,
I am in full agreement with the rise in the precept for the coming year.
21. Thank you for inviting responses to your proposals.
I am in full support of your proposals for an increase in precept on the understanding that it allows for more front line policing across the whole of the Kent Police area, including rural communities.
Kind regards
22. To whom it may concern,
Thank you for giving [location removed] PC the chance to comment on the proposed £5.00 per year rise towards the police.
You mention that this will help you with, and I quote from your webpage *I believe that the proposal is fair and reasonable - £5 a year for an average household to fund more police officers and PCSOs, increased visibility in communities, investment in protecting the vulnerable and action to keep residents safe from emerging threats and terrorism.*
[Location removed] Parish Council area has no PCSO at this time. We have been informed that we 'Share' with a nearby parish. Well we have never been able to find out who this may be, and on the one occasion when the Council requested their presence or that of a police officer as we were expecting a rather volatile meeting nothing happened. The meeting went ahead, but only due to the strenuous management by the chairman, the verbal abuse and threats notwithstanding.
The only time we see any police is when they drive through the village on a blue light call - so I suppose they are visible, albeit for a very short time.
When we reported HGV's parked under the motorway and high speed bridges, with concerns about terrorism, we were told not to be so dramatic. (If some-one thought about it the South East could be ground to a halt with a lorry bomb under these.) These HGV's were also blocking the pavement, the drivers were defecating on the path - even when children were being walked to school, so parents had to walk on the road.
In the end the Parish Council spent from it's own precept and put in bollards for something that should have come from a national pot of money not a local one.
([Location removed] is on the main A20 road between Ashford & Hythe)
On the election of the current Police and Crime Commissioner I invited him to come to the village of [Location removed] and join in a parish council meeting, to date I have not had a reply!
Fly parking has also been an issue in [Location removed], we have been told there is a number to phone to report this, however on requesting this phone number no information has been forthcoming.
It has taken a local resident, who speaks a large number of foreign languages and the chairman of the PC going out and moving HGV's on to alleviate the issue. (where is the police then)
So unless there are to be more police actually visible and not virtually, the PC are not very supportive of this increase.
Regards
23. We are strongly in favour of the increase proposed.

24. First comment:

Dear Commissioner

I was pleased to get your message, passed on to me via Deal Town Council. I was even more pleased to hear that you have learnt after only a short time in office that public services have to be paid for and ultimately, the taxpayer will pay for them one way or another.

Like most people, I want good services above all. I know that historic cuts have already reduced budgets to the extent that a full and high quality service, be it health, policing or other service, is very difficult to deliver. I hope when you meet other politicians that you pass on your learning. Empty promises designed to get a person elected are not honest and a candidate with integrity does not make them. The fact that you have reversed your approach is courageous and praiseworthy.

Please do everything you can to influence other Conservative politicians to take off the blinkers and change their attitude. We all deserve better.

Second comment:

I was pleased to hear that you have learned after only a short time in office that public services have to be paid for and ultimately, the taxpayer will pay for them one way or another.

Like most people, I want good services above all. I know that historic cuts have already reduced budgets to the extent that a high quality service, be it health, policing or other service, is very difficult to deliver. I hope when you meet other politicians that you pass on your learning. Empty promises designed to get a person elected are not honest and a candidate with integrity does not make them. The fact that you have reversed your approach is courageous and praiseworthy.

Please do everything you can to influence other Conservative politicians to take off the blinkers and change their attitude. We all deserve better.

25. Against rise in council tax to fund policing

My reasons being:

- your message states we have already paid an increase for 24 firearms officers but these are not yet in post. So where has that money gone?
- pcos are a waste of space so get rid of them and reallocate the money
- you state you will work with charities but it isn't clear if that is your time or money
- it's only £5 - yes it is but families are already struggling. A bit on council tax, a bit on electricity it all adds up and hits hard working families once again while those on benefits don't contribute

26. I am happy to see the precept raised by the proposed 3.3% in line with the PCC draft budget and the objectives put forward in support of it.

27. Could we possibly have exemptions for pensioners? Many of us are on low incomes and could do without the extra burden.

28. I support the proposed increase as living in Herne/Herne bay i am only to aware of the lack of visible policing. We have a large number of vulnerable residents, not all elderly and our Warden / PCSO do an excellent job supporting them and the community.

29. As a retired Kent police officer who is a member of [location removed] Parish Council I am regularly frustrated by the failure of the local service to honour the promises made from time to time. There is a lack of will to cooperate with residents.

Over the years, at irregular intervals, we have been advised of a change in our local community officer and each time we are promised an introductory visit. Once that has taken place (perhaps 50% actually take place) we never see the local contact again. This was happening BEFORE all the cut-backs. Why should we be expected to pay extra for a service which is never going to improve. I am against the proposed increase.

30. I am emailing to inform you I am in favour of the increase. There have been many cuts in services impacting on the resources to fulfil the extra needs for our communities and the increase goes some way to helping to bridge this gap.

Regards

31. I would be happy to pay such a small amount for an improved service.

Kind regards

32. I support the proposed rise – I am convinced that the police (like other services) need better funding. I wish that this were coming from central government, but since that is not the case then I think the suggested increase is justified
33. Sorry but can you inform the PCC, Mr Scott, that I am unable to send a reply to his link. I wanted to state my reluctant approval for the £5 increase but I was unable to pass a technical hurdle for some reason..
Thanks
34. [Location removed] Parish Council considers the proposed increase as outrageous.
[Location removed] seldom sees a Police presence and when one is required the response time and interest shown is unacceptable.
There should be no increase to Kent Police precept as residents [of location removed] receive very little support from the Service and therefore an increase cannot be justified.
Regards
35. I fully endorse the proposed increase in the precept as a strong and proactive police force is key to underpinning a safe and prosperous community.
Yours faithfully,
36. 1) I am vexed that Central Government is continuing to make large cuts to Kent's budget. I think by and large KCC does a good job but the mentality behind this is beyond sense, making public service year by year an increasingly demoralized activity while no longer making for either greater effectiveness or efficiency.
2) I am surprised that no mention is made of policing in the wider context. What other increases can we expect? And what other areas would be affected if this proposal is not followed through?
3) There is a lot spoken about visibility of police as though it is a virtue to see 'bobbies on the beat'. It isn't. We need a good intelligence-led force, and thank goodness we seem to have it, so don't waste money on a show.
4) And now a personal plea. As well as the big issues in bold in the Police Commissioner's message we need some improvements in local services. For example, a short but visible purge on speeding in Cranbrook High Street might make an appreciable to the lives of local residents, at very low cost. The speed and traffic volume are getting almost intolerable at times.
5) How can we possibly judge whether the money is being well spent? This is crucial to support and to answering this proposal . Or could this just be a PR exercise in anticipation of the inevitable? I'm no cynic, but I just don't know.
37. Sir,
I write in support of your proposed budget and precept increase.
I am pleased you are planning to employ more officers and PCSOs and to make policing more visible, particularly in rural areas.
I am also pleased you are strengthening teams that deal with the most serious issues facing society such as terrorism and child exploitation, mental health issues and cyber crime and fraud.
Regards
38. Dear Sir
Following on from Matthew Scott's email, given the pressure on funding from Central Government and the increasing expectations of police in Kent, I'd personally support the suggested increase in the police precept as suggested.
Yours faithfully
39. [Location removed] Parish Council supports the Commissioners proposal to increase the Kent Police precept by 3.3% especially if it delivers greater efficiency and visibility in rural areas.
40. I support this move and hope it results in a police presence and better policing in Sissinghurst. This applies especially to current inadequate policing of speed limits(cars currently hurtling through Sissinghurst which has a 30mph limit at 60mph!!)
Yours sincerely
41. Thank you, that sounds reasonable

42. As a new resident to Kent, I think this proposal is fair and just. More police/visibility/makes for a better environment.
43. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the raising of the Police Precept in Kent. Parish Councillors in this Parish feel that a rise is necessary as outlined but ask for a greater Police presence in rural areas; our PCSO service is under strain and is such a valuable contribution to ensuring residents feel safe. The feedback we get from our PCSO [name removed] at Parish Council meetings is welcomed and has helped the Parish Council to engage more fully with community safety.
Sincerely
44. Sir, as a pensioner on a fairly fixed income, I realise that if we wish to have a continued police presence in the village and given the constraints on the budget, we will have to pay more.
As long as the villages continue to receive the support of the PCSO's and the Community Wardens, I support the increase in the precept
45. Dear Matthew
You can willingly increase my contribution.
Asking for 10% would still be fine with me.
Too many English think that we can avoid Tax and still keep proper services.
I am of a generation that knows that you get what you pay for.
I would never vote for a low-tax candidate as they are delusional.
46. As Chair of [location removed] Parish Council, I quite understand the pressures the Police are facing. We have had to raise our precept this year by a large amount, just in order to cope and know you face the same issues so clearly set out in your e-mail. You have my support.
47. Further to Have your Say [location removed] Parish Council are happy to support commissioners proposal. Our PCSO [name removed] is great and keeps in regularly contact via email. However, from time to time we would like face to face contact in particular at our Parish Meetings. Recently there has been a spate of burglaries in our village. We are disappointed with the local community warden scheme and that contact with the village has all but virtually dried up. Over a year ago the local community warden would visit the village on a weekly basis and attend our Parish Meetings regularly. KCC's recent consultation regarding parish councils supporting financially the volunteer community warden scheme who will work along side community warden. The Parish Council would have to raise the precept to contribute to the scheme. As a Parish Council we are mindful of raising the precept. KCC are under pressure to reduce their costs but asking the parish councils to increase theirs, passing it on to our parishioners. The same can be said of Kent Police where costs are being cut in other re Home Office in turn its being passed down to parishioners.
Kind regards
48. Dear Sir,
I agree with your reasons for the proposed increase of 3.3%. Please use it wisely.
Yours faithfully,
49. I agree with the proposal and hope It will be successful.
50. The government continue to strip the police resourcing. Instead of increasing the contribution per house hold to help fund this, they need to review how they use there resources currently.
Too much of the police officers times are wasted in custody. therefore, I believe that a civilian team should be employed. The officers bring the individuals to custody. Hand over to the civilian team they are then responsible for interviewing and collating the necessary evidence. They would also do the constant supervisions instead of the police officers.
This would allow the police officers to continue there hard work and you would have resources on the streets and more of them to deal with the domestic abuse calls, the increased calls due to the increase in mental health and to deal with the terrorist threats.
Regards
51. We need to support our police services at the grass roots. If the money is really going to be used to provide a safer environment for people I agree it is money well spent. If it is used for red tape, paper

pushing and I'll thought out initiatives it will be a travesty.

52. I for one have no problem finding just ten pence extra a week, if it is well-targeted as this proposal comes across as being.

53. Yes. We already had a rise to help pay towards the 'needy' hopefully genuine needy!!!

54. I'd rather it applied to the larger properties thus not affecting lower income families #counciltax

55. I don't object to Kent Police getting enough funds. However I do object to KCC Cabinet members getting more.

56. fully support these proposals.

57. A 3.3% rise is less than 10p a week. What can you buy for that? Not much! Collectively, all those small amounts make a real difference.

58. **First comment:**

the 1 % pay rise the police get from the torys will go along way towards this... not!

Second comment:

cant believe federation supporting this from PCC! This will be in addition to the other raises that KCC need!

59. grasping realities of job. He campaigned on holding precept down. How many voted for him on that basis.

60. I think we all know it will be the maximum hike in poll tax they can have without a referendum.

61. Ahh, there we go. 3.99% just magically under the threshold. How did they arrive at that figure I wonder?

62. 3.3% you cheeser

63. Why be rude?

64. **First comment:**

I'm sure none of us will mind if we actually see more police on the streets! If the councils could also make good use of any additional revenue claimed that would also be a bonus. Let's not just see the staff wages bill eating up our taxes.

Second comment:

Forgot about the degrees now required by new police recruits! Someone has to pay their £9250 fees per year. Looks like it's you and I!

65. I do not begrudge an extra fiver a year (a whole ten pence a week)if it does mean more front line police.

66. **First comment:**

That won't happen trust me I know the internal politics. Like the report says most of it will go on anti-terror policing (important yes but not effecting people's day to day life) and child exploitation etc. For the majority of the population suffering from low level crime and anti social behaviour it will make no difference which is a great shame. With the destruction of neighbourhood teams and swarms of very experienced officers leaving the force due to the horrendous working conditions the place has been doomed for years.

Second comment:

Exactly it's incredibly frustrating I had a brick thrown at my moving car the other week I stopped and the offenders were still at the scene and I called 999 only to be told no one would be coming and that I would receive a crime number (still waiting!). Strange though that when a fight or something 'exciting' gets reported there are four to five cars there.

67. Policing, and the funding thereof is a vast and broad issue, but...over the last ten or so years, the police have changed themselves from what many folk understood, and supported..i.e, community

based 'policing by consent' by smartly dressed Officers walking the streets to the paramilitary dressed rayban and baseball cap wearing egos' driving around ignoring the kind of antisocial behavior that makes no difference to their Uni 'educated' boss's statistics but makes a world of difference to peoples quality of life.

68. Okay, Mr Scott. Let's try 3%... but for that I want a policeman in Whitstable... a proper, one mind! That's one that walks under his own steam... thinks... isn't afraid of the dark... and doesn't take three steps before his hat moves.
I can do without a uni degree provided that he breathes in and out at pproximately the right intervals.
Hey.. it's thumbs down time! ;)
69. I do not mind paying extra for Policing, as long as that is what we get. Not PCSO's, real Policemen that can tackle our problems.
Next we need proper Judges that pass sentences that fit the crime.
70. Here here. Well said.
71. I do not. support your increase. You continue to waste public money on PCSO's that lack the powers to be effective. Do your police dogs lack teeth?
72. I would say that your proposal is fair and makes sense. It is unfortunate that we are going through these times of change in this manner but the service needs to adapt to suit the times. £5 is a small amount to ask for looking at the whole picture. Thank you for all your hard work and keeping to your values.
73. Having called the police in dover on sunday evening as an emergency situation, the police advised they would come out and never showed up ...all night. Something needs to be done. People were put at risk in my care as was I. I'm not convinced that increasing my council tax would give me any reassurance that it would not happen again. Also are the police force saying then that they are incapable of doing there jobs at this time unless we pay more money for you to do it?
74. Ok by me ,
75. I would sooner see extra money coming from central government and a local increase going to Ashford Boroug Council
76. I am not convinced that more P.C.S.O.s is the answer, they have little power and generally appear to be poor imitations of the real thing. We require a better visible old fashioned Bobby on the beat not riding around in vehicles.
77. Yes, we are prepared to contribute
78. As a Parish Councillor I am clearly in agreement with adequate funding for the police. I feel it would have been helpful, however, for councils to have more time to discuss this proposed increase and for greater detail over the financial implications for each payment band to have been given.
79. I agree with the increase. It is definitely needed.
80. I disagree with this back handed funding from the people, management are paid too much money and should be sorting the funding out rather than begging from the wider public. Last year was the same excuse, now again this year, no matter what anyone says it will be put through and I bet this will also happen again next year.
81. On the basis that I don't see any chance of getting more funding from central government and we desperately need front line police then I agree with the proposed precept.

Appendix: Copy of the PCC's proposal

A message from the Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott:

I am responsible, as Police and Crime Commissioner, for determining the overall budget for policing in the county and for setting the amount that Kent Police receives from the annual council tax. Policing is mainly funded in two ways; about two thirds come from grants we receive from the Home Office and the rest from the council tax.

For the next financial year, Kent will lose more than £2million of funding from the Home Office, as money is set to be taken away to pay for other things. I believe some of these, such as giving money to the courts service to pay for changes to police bail, are unfair and I will be challenging those.

So in my first year as your Police and Crime Commissioner, I have been faced with a difficult choice. Ideologically, I am a low-tax Conservative. During the course of my campaign, I said that I did not want the precept to rise, unless it was needed to protect frontline policing. However, I believe that this announcement meets that test. In 2017/18, I am proposing that the council tax precept for Kent Police rises by 3.3%, equivalent to £5 for an average Band D household, supported by a contribution from reserves.

These are the grounds for my proposal:

Last year, residents were asked to contribute to the **increase in the number of firearms officers**. I have been holding the force to account to ensure that the 24 extra firearms officers promised will be delivered. This year's rise in the council tax will help Kent Police go a little further and be even more readily able to respond in the event of a terrorist attack, such as those we have seen in Europe over Christmas. It also means I can fund the proposed **increase in police officer numbers** that residents have told me they want to see and we can **keep PCSOs** in the county as I promised, whereas other forces consider their future.

Secondly, changes will be made so pressure will be taken off local policing teams in order that community **visibility can improve** in urban, rural and coastal areas. **Mental health** accounts for one third of all police time now in Kent and I am working with other public bodies, including the NHS, to understand and alleviate some of this demand on Kent Police officers' time. **Domestic abuse** calls are on the increase, nearly doubling in recent years thanks to the confidence of victims in coming forward, and **fraud and cyber-crime** could soon account for more offences than any other crime type. Dedicated police teams will be established with support from police staff to address these issues.

Vulnerability is the new Home Secretary's top priority. We have seen here in Kent and Medway that, even now, people are continuing to target the vulnerable for their own gain. Those involved in **modern day slavery, child sexual exploitation and human trafficking** are not just using Kent as a gateway to and from the continent, but committing these crimes right here in our local communities. These often complex networks require substantial investment to investigate and disrupt.

So, as you see, my proposal is about not standing still. I will be doing my bit as Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure Kent Police delivers **an effective and efficient service** to the residents of Kent and Medway. My **new Police and Crime plan**, which will be published soon, will set the Chief Constable's priorities for the next four years and will reflect what residents told me they want and expect when I consulted with them in the autumn. I shall also hold the Chief Constable to account and provide the appropriate scrutiny so that we all get **value for taxpayers' money**.

Already, Kent Police has made in excess of £8million of savings towards next year through better working, sharing procurement with other forces and investing in technology. That is on top of the £62million of savings already achieved since 2011/12 by sharing a significant amount of back office functions with Essex Police and by collaborating on a number of projects with Kent Fire and Rescue Service. Even with the rise in council tax further savings need to be achieved and so, with the uncertainty over future funding levels, I have decided to support the force with up to £5million from reserves. This decision does not absolve the force from making those savings but does allow it to make them over a longer period.

In 2015, when the then Chancellor announced police spending would be protected in cash terms, he did so on the basis that Police and Crime Commissioners increased their council tax precepts by the maximum amount allowable. His announcement did not account for the 1% pay rise awarded to police officers and staff, increases in national insurance contributions, and the new apprenticeship levy on organisations' payrolls.

In the future, we have opportunities. I am lobbying hard for Kent to get a better deal on police funding, so that the unique challenges we face here are properly recognised. There is a fund that we can apply to for extra resources for new technology and other projects that will help improve policing and the way forces work together. I will also be supporting Community Safety Partnerships and local charities who police officers and staff work with to make our communities safe.

I believe that the proposal is fair and reasonable - £5 a year for an average household to fund more police officers and PCSOs, increased visibility in communities, investment in protecting the vulnerable and action to keep residents safe from emerging threats and terrorism.

Even with this rise, the Band D precept in Kent will remain one of the lowest in the country at £157.15 for the year. The alternative is even fewer police officers and PCSOs, and less of a visible policing presence in our local communities.

I hope that you will support these plans.

- *To let the Commissioner have your feedback on this proposal, please email **haveyoursay@pcc.kent.pnn.police.uk** by 9am on Monday, January 23. Due to the volume of correspondence received, the Commissioner will not be able to respond to each email but all comments will be read by him personally. The Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel will be notified of this proposal for its review on Thursday, February 2.*

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Office of the Kent Police & Crime Commissioner

Commissioning Strategy – 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

1. Introduction

Police & Crime Commissioners (PCCs) are responsible for setting the strategic direction of policing in their local area and ensuring that this is being delivered effectively and efficiently. As a result, the budget allocated to PCCs predominately focuses on this requirement. However, Commissioners also work in partnership to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and support victims of crime, which includes commissioning functions and associated funding. This commissioning function can be defined into two elements,

- Community Safety
- Victim Services

The community safety element is incorporated into the general policing grant provided by the Home Office (HO) and it is not a stand-alone funding stream. This means that it is subject to the same budget constraints as the policing grant.

The victim services element is a separate grant provided by the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) specifically for the delivery of support services for victims of crime in Kent.

While there are two funding streams there is a strong degree of overlap between the two elements defined. In all cases, the commissioning activity must demonstrate a clear link to the delivery of the objectives in the Kent Police & Crime Plan.

2. Commissioning Budget

Taking these two funding streams together, the overall commissioning budget for the Kent PCC is in the region of £4.1 million. This total is made up of the community safety element of £2 million and the separate victim services allocation from the MOJ of £2.1 million.

3. Strategic Commissioning Priorities

To ensure consistency of approach the OPCC adheres to the following strategic commissioning priorities,

- All commissioning approaches must adhere to the grant conditions issued by the relevant grant award body and must support the delivery of one or more of the priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan
- All commissioning awards must be subject to appropriate and proportionate governance to ensure the effective allocation and subsequent delivery of the monies provided. This should ensure that clear outcomes are demonstrated, along with value for money
- We will work with established partnerships, where possible and appropriate, to deliver joined up services and where possible ensure delivery of a longer term solution
- We will commission services directly, where it forms part of our direct functions, if that proves more effective and where gaps in provision are identified or innovative approaches would be beneficial
- We will seek to provide as much medium term certainty to our partners as possible, subject to any funding constraints we are subject to
- The police service should not incur a disproportionate reduction in funding to protect the level of the commissioning budget that forms part of the policing grant

4. Strategic Commissioning Approach

The OPCC employs a variety of commissioning approaches to ensure the best outcome can be achieved. The approaches taken include,

- The Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU)
- The use of commissioning prospectuses , in particular where new or innovative services are needed to fill identified gaps in provision
- The use of existing frameworks or co-commissioning arrangement
- Grant awards, in particular for existing partnership approaches where the Commissioner wishes to devolve some responsibility for the delivery of local approaches
- Short or medium term contract awards, in particular where interim arrangements are needed to allow longer term solutions to be developed
- Specific funding rounds, in particular for more specialist services or for smaller bid opportunities

In determining the approach to be taken consideration will be given to the funding available, the outcome to be achieved and whether existing partnerships/services are in place to support delivery.

This mixed model commissioning approach enables the OPCC to be flexible in how services are delivered and better placed to support a variety of organisations. In particular, we are fully committed to supporting the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) in

Kent. Therefore, we aim to support them in developing their capacity and capability so they are able to access the commissioning opportunities available.

4.1 Victim Services Commissioning Approach

The victim services funding is devolved from the MOJ and is therefore subject to separate grant conditions; and the OPCC is required to report twice yearly on delivery against these conditions and outcomes achieved. As a result there is a requirement to have more bespoke principles in place regarding this funding, albeit the overarching commissioning approach documented above still applies.

To ensure effective use and reach of the victims funding provided, the OPCC divides the grant into two areas,

- Core victim services funding
- Victims specialist services funding

The core victim services funding consists of the following areas,

- The core support services contract, which is currently awarded to Victim Support. This contract commenced on 1 April 2016 and is for three years with the option to extend yearly for a further three years
- Compass House running costs, which is the central hub for victims services in Kent

The victim specialist services funding consists of the following areas,

- Victim specialist services funding, which provides an opportunity for specialist victim services to bid for funding to deliver services which will work in collaboration with the core victim services offer
- Restorative Justice Services
- Independent Sexual Violence Adviser Service
- Domestic Abuse Services

Due to the contracted nature of some of the above services e.g. core victim services contract these will need, as much as possible, to be protected in the event of a reduction in the victim services grant. If this scenario should occur the specialist victims funding opportunity will need to be reduced accordingly.

The commissioning of victim services will incorporate the following services, which is in accordance with the MOJ grant conditions

- Provision of emotional and practical support services to victims of crime, particularly those classed as persistently targeted and vulnerable and intimidated victims. In addition, support should be made available for bereaved family members
- Provision of emotional and practical support to victims of sexual violence, domestic abuse and child sexual assault
- Support for the associated costs of commissioning victim services

- Support for the building of capacity and capability in service providers for victims of crime
- Adherence to Article 8 of the Victims Directive e.g. free of charge, confidential and available whether the crime has been reported to the Police or not
- Provision of a referral service, where victims' needs can be assessed and then supplied with relevant support, information or referral to other support services
- Provision of victim initiated and pre-sentence restorative justice services
- Provision of services which help victims to cope with the impact of the crime and as far as possible recover from the harm they have experienced
- Ensuring efficiency and best value for money in the commissioning of services

Commissioning Budget Breakdown for 2017/18

Below is the commissioning budget breakdown for 2017/18.

Organisation	2017/18 £m
Community Safety Partnerships	511,229
Young Persons Substance Misuse	92,627
Youth Offending Teams	365,460
Kent & Medway Safeguarding Adults and Children Boards	82,488
Drug and Alcohol Action Teams	360,491
Volunteer Youth Cadets	40,000
National Crimestoppers	39,156
Local Crimestoppers	14,699
The Safer in Kent Fund	150,000
Safer Kent	20,000
Domestic Abuse Services	185,000
Kent Criminal Justice Board Support	40,000
Restorative Justice	200,000
Sexual Assault Support Services	200,000
Core Victim Services	1,055,000
Specialist Victim Services	500,000
Mental Health & Policing Fund	250,000
Contingency	95,367
Total	4,201,517

5. Funding Streams and Commissioned Services

This section sets out the details for each of the funding streams and services commissioned by the Kent OPCC.

5.1 Community Safety Fund (CSF)

In 2013-14 the HO, as part of the main policing grant, provided PCCs with the CSF. This fund was an amalgamation of previous HO drugs, crime and community safety funding streams. The CSF is a non-ring-fenced fund within the main police grant and therefore it is subject to the same budget reductions. As a result it would not be appropriate for policing to incur a greater reduction in budget to protect the funding provided under the CSF. Therefore, whilst there is a commitment to provide medium term certainty this must be weighted against the potential for year on year funding reductions.

The primary aim of the CSF is to support local delivery of projects which in the main should help tackle drugs, crime, reduce re-offending, and improve community safety.

Due to the established partnership structures in Kent and Medway the Kent PCC has decided to use the CSF as means to issue grants to a number of these established partnerships such as Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). The details of those partnerships in receipt of this grant can be found in the above table and the following sets out the grant details¹

¹ Appendix One provides the overview timeline

Availability and Timelines	Length of Grant	Grant Conditions	Payment Schedule	Monitoring Schedule ²
<p>Yearly grant issued on 1 April</p> <p>Notification of grant and associated conditions to be provided in the week commencing 27 February 2017</p>	<p>1 year but indicative allocations provided for the length of the Police & Crime Plan</p>	<p>The funding must be used to support delivery of the priorities defined within the Police & Crime Plan, in particular tackling crime, drugs, reducing re-offending, and improving community safety</p> <p>The OPCC must be involved in the development of strategic plan/priorities or relevant business planning processes. Likewise the OPCC will ensure inclusion in the Police & Crime Plan refresh processes</p> <p>Payment will be made bi-annually based on the submission of an invoice and completion of satisfactory twice yearly monitoring forms, which will include spend, outcomes achieved and links to the Police & Crime Plan</p> <p>The spending will reflect the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fight crime, ASB and reduce re-offending • Tackle abuse, exploitation, violence, organised crime and gangs • Invest in schemes that make communities feel safer and support the engagement of residents • Support initiatives that reduce pressure on policing due to mental health • Support victims of crime and abuse 	<p>Twice yearly on receipt of a correct invoice and a satisfactory monitoring form</p> <p>Payment should be claimed no later than 1 June (first instalment) and 1 December (second instalment)</p>	<p>A framework number will be issued at the point of grant notification</p> <p>Payment will be made in two equal instalments</p> <p>Invoices must be submitted with the framework number; along with a completed monitoring form outlining the intended spends twice yearly</p> <p>Monitoring forms to be received no later than 30 May 2017 and again by 28 November 2017</p> <p>An annual report will be provided and must reflect the year's</p>

² Example monitoring form can be found in Appendix Two

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in schemes that make offenders pay for the harm they have caused <p>Innovative and new projects which support the priorities identified should also be considered</p> <p>Where victim services are supported they must support victims of crime to cope and recover from their experiences and ensure clear interaction with both the core and specialist victim services</p> <p>Funding must not duplicate existing projects already being supported by the PCC, and where this is being considered discussions must be undertaken with the PCC's Commissioning Team prior to making a funding commitment</p> <p>The OPCC to be offered a seat on the relevant Executive meeting or other appropriate forum and for a commitment from organisation to attend any relevant meetings, which the PCC may call to discuss or resolve cross boundary issues</p> <p>Funding must be spent in the financial year for which it was issued</p> <p>Funding can be used to support frontline and partnership delivery of projects but should not be used to replace cuts in statutory funding</p> <p>That the OPCC is informed of the point of contact for the funding and updated on any changes</p>		<p>activity and update on the achieved outcomes of all projects funded over the year, no later than 30 April 2018</p>
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		<p>The PCC will be identified as key funder of the project by use of OPCC logo on project correspondence (including media release, which will be in conjunction with PCC Media Team)</p> <p>Funding will be withheld or withdrawn if the conditions are not adhered with and satisfactory monitoring forms are not returned by the deadlines</p>		
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OPCC Annual Reporting on the Community Safety Fund

The completed monitoring forms will be reviewed and used to formulate an overview report on how the funding has been spent, the outcomes achieved and the links to the Police and Crime Plan. For the larger statutory agencies funded, such as the Youth Offending Teams and Drug and Alcohol Action Teams, regular reviews of their performance reports will be undertaken, which will be in addition to their completed monitoring forms. This is to enable a clear understanding of how services are being delivered and any risks or opportunities to be identified.

5.2 Victim Specialist Services Funding (VSS)

Crime affects people in very different ways and a 'one size fits all' approach does not provide the flexibility to meet those differing and diverse needs. As a result appropriate specialist services should be in place that complement and effectively link with core victim service. This funding opportunity is focused on support to those more specialist services.

The VSS is managed through a commissioning prospectus which is published every 12 months and documents the specialist support services providers will be asked to bid to deliver. These services will be identified through a combination of needs assessment, engagement with partners and service providers and review of outcome information to establish gaps and opportunities in current provision. Providers are required to complete the VSS funding bid form (an example bid form can be found in Appendix Three) highlighting which services they are bidding to deliver, outcomes to be achieved, costs etc. Bids are then evaluated against a scoring matrix (an example scoring matrix can be found in Appendix Four along with example decision note), issued at the same time as the commissioning prospectus.

Indicative Funding Pot Available £500,000

Availability and Timelines	Length of Grant	Grant Conditions	Payment Schedule	Monitoring Schedule
<p>Open for bids once a year</p> <p>Review the previous year's commissioning prospectus and formulate new prospectus by end of January 2017</p> <p>Commissioning Prospectus issued January 2017</p> <p>Bid submissions to open from 1 February 2017</p> <p>Closing date for bids 3 March 2017</p> <p>Award/regret decisions agreed and announced by 23 March 2017</p> <p>Service should be ready to commence on or around 1 April 2017</p>	<p>From between 1 and 3 years depending on the bid, associated service and outcomes achieved. However, funding beyond 1 year will be indicative only</p>	<p>All funds must be spent by the end of the financial year in which the award took place</p> <p>Previous successful bidders to the VSS can bid to a maximum of their previous years grant award</p> <p>All new bids can bid to receive a maximum of £35k</p> <p>Bids will be expected to relate to one or more of the specified services. The below are provided as examples from the 2016 VSS prospectus. Planning regarding services to be included in the 2017 prospectus will commence in early 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. General crime trauma counselling and therapeutic services b. Victim trauma counselling, excluding sexual violence c. Support for victims of hate crime d. Support for children and young people who have been victims of crime e. Support for male victims of crime, particularly harm related crime³ <p>Bids across all victims funding should also show consideration for the following, which are provided as examples⁴</p>	<p>One payment for the full grant made no later than 30 May 2017</p>	<p>One year end monitoring form to be submitted no later than 30 April 2018</p> <p>A brief update to be provided at the 6 month stage no later than 30 September. This update should provide quantitative information on numbers referred to the service and include brief outcomes to date etc.</p>

³ A to E are examples only

⁴ Note not all areas will apply to all services and are provided as examples only

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scope of the service i.e. gender, age, delivery methods etc. • The provision of support for immediate family members of the victim • The ability to prioritise victims eligible for enhanced entitlements under the Victims' Code • Whether the service will support all diversity categories or will focus on specific categories • The scope of the service i.e. third party reporting etc. • Whether the service will provide support services, therapeutic services or a combination of services • Demonstrate how the service will be made accessible to 'hard to reach' groups and support the prevention of repeat victimisation • The age range that the service will work with • The provision of support for immediate family members and how parents/ carers can be empowered to provide on-going support • The bid should not duplicate existing services in your area or duplicate funding already being given by the PCC • Your bid should demonstrate innovation in your approach to delivering the service • Where possible innovation will be a product of an identified gap in service <p>The PCC will be identified as key funder of the project by use of OPCC logo on project correspondence (including media release, which will be in conjunction with PCC Media Team)</p>		
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OPCC Annual Reporting on the Victims Specialist Services Fund

The completed monitoring forms will be reviewed and used to formulate an overview report on how the funding has been spent, the outcomes achieved and impact the service has had on victims of crime.

5.3 The Safer in Kent Fund

The Safer in Kent Fund is aimed at supporting innovative local working and the bringing together of partnerships and communities to tackle local issues which are linked to priorities within the Police & Crime Plan. The fund is targeted at district Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), Kent Police and the voluntary, charity and community groups to support the delivery of projects and pilot / develop proof of concept. The funding is predominately for one-off innovative bids but longer term bids (up to three years) will also be considered. Bidders are asked to complete a standard funding bid form, which is evaluated against a scoring matrix.

Total Funding Pot Available £150,000

Availability	Length of Grant	Grant Conditions	Payment Schedule	Monitoring Schedule
Open for bids twice a year in the following instalments: 1 st round of applications to be received no later than 30 May 2017 2 nd round of applications to be received no later than 1 September 2017	From between 1 and 3 years depending on the bid, associated service and outcomes achieved. However, funding beyond 1 year will be indicative only	Bids should address one or more of the following criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Empower and support local communities to work towards preventing and or reducing crime and ASB• Provide support to vulnerable, minority and/or hard to reach groups to prevent and or reduce victimisation and repeat victimisation• Prevent and reduce re-offending• Link to at least one of the Police and Crime Plan priorities• Enable partnership working (including cross border)	One payment at the point of funding award	All funding must be spent within the financial year and year-end monitoring to be submitted no later than 30 April 2018

<p>Bids will be evaluated against a scoring matrix, which will be available to all prospective bidders.</p> <p>Bids will be reviewed by OPCC staff and the Commissioner will make the final award decision based on the scoring</p>		<p>Maximum individual bid £10,000 and joint bids to a maximum of £20,000</p> <p>All funds must be spent by the end of the financial year in which the award took place. If the full funding awarded is not utilised and underspend remains, organisations must consult with the OPCC for final decision</p> <p>Joint bids for cross border projects will be considered and a maximum bid of £20,000 can be requested</p> <p>Bids submitted by Kent Police officers and staff will only be accepted with the approval of the District Commander and where appropriate the Area Commander (refer to application form)</p> <p>The funding must only be used for the purposes documented within the bid and changes will be communicated to the OPCC for final decision</p> <p>A monitoring form must be completed demonstrating impact and outcomes achieved</p> <p>Bids should demonstrate evidence of need, engagement with relevant partner agencies and or VCSE groups</p> <p>The funding source should be referenced in any literature associated with the funded project</p>		
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Annual Reporting on the Safer in Kent Fund

The completed monitoring forms will be reviewed and used to formulate an overview report on how the funding has been spent, the outcomes achieved and impact the service has had on meeting the objectives of the Police & Crime Plan.

5.4 Mental Health & Policing Fund

One of the PCC's priorities in the Police & Crime Plan is ensuring people with mental health issues, who come into contact with the police, have access to the right support. These may be victims, witnesses, offenders, and could range from being in crisis to a missing person or needing to access the right support mechanisms within their communities. Due to this, funding has been allocated within the commissioning budget to enable the PCC to support schemes and or projects which directly relate to this priority.

The funding allocated to mental health is divided between projects in existence and that have been developed since the PCC entered office in May 2016 and a separate funding stream to enable new and innovative other mental health projects to be developed. However, both elements will be subject to the same monitoring and governance processes.

The total amount available for new services is £173,000

Availability	Length of Grant	Grant Conditions	Payment Schedule	Monitoring Schedule
Open for bids twice a year in the following instalments: 1 st round of applications to be received no later than 30 May 2017 2 nd round of applications to be received no later than 1 September 2017	From between 1 and 3 years depending on the bid, associated service and outcomes achieved. However, funding beyond 1 year will be indicative only	Bids should address one or more of the following criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the bringing together of relevant bodies to review mental health and policing in the county and to deliver solutions which will ensure effective and appropriate support• Ensuring staff have the support and training required to deal with mental health incidents safely and appropriately• Supporting mental health professionals, police resources and other partners to ensure those with mental health issues, that come into	One payment at the point of funding award	All funding must be spent within the financial year and year-end monitoring to be submitted no later than 30 April 2018

<p>Bids will be evaluated against a scoring matrix, which will be available to all prospective bidders.</p> <p>Bids will be reviewed by OPCC staff and the Commissioner will make the final award decision based on the scoring</p>		<p>contact with policing receive the right support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work with partners to raise awareness of mental health and how to access support <p>Funding will not be used to support mental health services which are the responsibility of health providers nor to support those services where statutory funding has been withdrawn or reduced</p> <p>Maximum individual bid £10,000 and joint bids to a maximum of £20,000</p> <p>All funds must be spent by the end of the financial year in which the award took place. If the full funding awarded is not utilised and underspend remains, organisations must consult with the OPCC for final decision</p> <p>Joint bids for cross boarder projects will be considered and a maximum bid of £20,000 can be requested</p> <p>Bids submitted by Kent Police officers and staff will only be accepted with the approval of the District Commander and where appropriate the Area Commander (refer to application form)</p> <p>The funding must only be used for the purposes documented within the bid and changes will be communicated to the OPCC for final decision</p> <p>A monitoring form must be completed demonstrating impact and outcomes achieved</p>		
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		Bids should demonstrate evidence of need, engagement with relevant partner agencies and or VCSE groups		
		The funding source should be referenced in any literature associated with the funded project		

Annual Reporting on the Mental Health & Policing Fund

The completed monitoring forms will be reviewed and used to formulate an overview report on how the funding has been spent, the outcomes achieved and impact the service has had on meeting the objectives of the Police & Crime Plan.

6. Commissioned Services

The following are the main commissioned services by the OPCC

6.1 Kent Victims Engagement and Support Service

PCCs are responsible for ensuring effective support services for victims of crime in their local area, which is facilitated through a grant allocation from the MOJ. The Kent Victims Engagement and Support Service is the core support service for victims of crime in Kent and delivers free and confidential support, information and referral to specialist services based on the individual's needs and circumstances. The service accepts referrals from Kent Police and from other routes for those Kent residents who have been a victim of crime regardless of whether that crime has been reported to Police or not. The primary aims of the service are to support victims in coping with the immediate aftermath of the crime and to empower them to recover from the longer terms effects of that crime.

Contract Provider	Contract Value	Contract start date and length	Payment Schedule	Monitoring Schedule
Victim Support (VS)	£880,000 Additional funding available for	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2019 3 years with an option for a yearly extension for a further 3 years	VS will be issued with a framework	Monthly, quarterly and annual performance reports are submitted to the OPCC Contract Lead.

	innovation		order number for the financial year and they will be required to invoice to the OPCC quarterly in advance	Contract leads for OPCC and VS meet monthly and there are quarterly review meetings with contract leads and strategic managers. Dates for both meetings are set in advance
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6.2 Interim Restorative Justice Adult and Young Person Service

The victim services grant provided to PCCs by the MOJ includes the ability to commission victim initiated and pre-sentence Restorative Justice (RJ). Currently, in Kent there are two separate services providing an interim RJ service model for both adults and young people, this interim service commenced on 1 October 2016 and is due to conclude on 30 September 2017. During this time the OPCC will be using the evidence from the interim service and engagement with a variety of stakeholders, including members of the public and victims to develop the specification for longer term RJ services. The aim will be to start a full procurement process in early 2017 for a long term RJ service to commence in October 2017.

The interim service consists of the following elements,

Salus is providing the interim youth justice RJ model, which involves providing volunteer support to the Kent Police Youth Clinics. These clinics are focused on delivering out of court disposals to young people with the aim that where appropriate and possible these outcomes are delivered restoratively. Salus's role is to ensure victims' views are represented through the process and where the victim wishes, to facilitate their attendance at the clinic.

Kent Mediation Service (KMS) is providing support to adult victims of any crime type across Kent. It will work in collaboration with Victim Support to receive the referrals whilst also accepting referrals from all partner agencies, including victim self-referrals. The focus is on ensuring that where victims wish to access RJ they are supported to do so but expectations are fully managed at all stages.

In total £200,000 has been allocated for RJ Services for 2017/18 which will be divided across the interim service and longer term commissioned RJ service for the financial year 2017/18. This is an indicative total only and the exact funding may vary depending on the service to be delivered.

Contract Provider	Contract Value	Contract start date and length	Payment Schedule	Monitoring Schedule
Salus	£25,000	1 April to 30 September 2017 (6 months)	£25,000 paid by 30 April	For both organisations - Monthly performance reports submitted to the OPCC by 10 th of every month. Contract leads for OPCC and service providers meet bi-monthly to review performance. Dates for both meetings are set in advance Final exit meeting of interim service in September 2017 with OPCC, procurement specialist and service providers
Kent Mediation Service (KMS)	£25,000	1 April to 30 September 2017 (6 months)	Upfront costs paid by 30 April and monthly payment based on RJ activity undertaken	

6.3 Independent Sexual Violence Advisers (ISVA) both for children and adults

The OPCC has worked closely with NHS England and other partners to ensure provision of a Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in Kent. The SARC provides free and confidential services to anyone who has been a victim of sexual assault (SA). The services range from medical care through to signposting to other services such as counselling. Victims accessing services through the SARC are referred to an Independent Sexual Violence Adviser (ISVA). However, there is also a need for those victims of SA who have not accessed SARC services to be able to access support from an ISVA.

Funding for ISVA services has historically been based on short term grant funding from various sources and as a result there is a need to put these services on a more sustainable and longer term platform. However, it is essential to understand the type and scope of the service to be funded which will be formally procured. Due to the continued need for an ISVA service, funding needs to be in place from 1 April 2017 so an interim approach must be established to enable the specification for a more formally procured service to be developed.

The interim service will be supported by a grant agreement which will document the service to be delivered, the outcomes to be achieved and the governance processes.

In total £200,000 has been allocated to this service but this is an indicative amount and details regarding the exact allocation will be made available in early 2017.

Contract Provider	Contract Value	Contract start date and length	Payment Schedule	Monitoring Schedule
Approaches will be made to East Kent Rapeline and Family Matters as the two current specialist providers in Kent	To be confirmed	1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018	To be confirmed	To be confirmed

7. Ad-hoc Funding Requests

Ad-hoc funding requests which sit outside of the funding streams documented above will not be accepted by the OPCC.

If you wish to discuss any funding opportunities please contact the Commissioning Team in the OPCC to be advised accordingly.

8. Kent Police Funding Requests

Kent Police will, at times have a business need to approach the OPCC for additional funding which is not available from within the operational policing budget provided to the Chief Constable by the Commissioner. These funding approaches will tend to fall into the following two categories,

- Internal Force developments e.g. IT projects, pump priming for new posts or team, equipment etc.
- Support for partnership projects, both at a county and district level

These two categories are managed through separate processes but both will require full details to be submitted to the OPCC to enable effective and transparent decisions on funding to be made.

Internal Force Development Funding Requests

To access funding for an internal force development will require the submission of a 1068 form, which sets out the following information,

- Name of the Project to be funded and the funding amount requested
- How the project supports the Police & Crime Plan objectives
- Project Outline, which should consist of the following
 - Proposed start date, duration and delivery location
 - Research undertaken to identify the need for the project
 - Other resources being used to help deliver the project e.g. use of volunteers, match funding etc.
 - Details of any partner agencies involved or who support the bid
 - How the project will be sustained beyond the funding being requested
 - The impact of not receiving the funding for the project
- Project Outcomes
 - Details of the outcome measures to identify whether the project has been successful including considerations for wider social value
 - Demonstrate how this will be reported to the OPCC

All funding requests of this type must be endorsed by a Kent Police Chief Officer and submitted to the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) within the OPCC.

Bids will be signed off jointly by the OPCC CFO and Chief of Staff (CoS) before being presented to the PCC for final approval.

The force will be expected to report back to the OPCC regarding the delivery of the project being funded at the end of each financial year, which can be via a 1068 form.

This report should document the outcomes achieved, progress update and actual funding spent.

Should there be a likely underspend or overspend the CFO should be informed as soon as this is identified so there is agreement as to how this will be managed.

It should be noted that for any posts funded through this route the funding will only be provided for a defined time period. The force will need to consider the long term options for funding those posts if they are deemed as being required to support on-going operational delivery.

Partnership Projects

Funding for partnerships projects is the responsibility of the OPCC and the force should not be funding these types of projects directly. This is to ensure there is no duplication and consistency of approach in this area. The force also does not have the budget available to support external funding requests as this function is managed by the OPCC.

However, it is recognised that Kent Police may like to access funding to support partnership projects and / or community based activities. In these scenarios officers and staff will need to complete a funding application form to access funding under the Safer in Kent Fund or Mental Health & Policing Fund. These applications will need to follow the same application process as defined above and will be assessed through the same processes. In addition the same grant conditions will be applied, including the return of monitoring information.

Kent Police applications must be endorsed by the District Commander for district-based bids, Area Commander for divisional-based bids and the relevant Chief Officer for countywide bids. If it is a cross border bid within the same division it will need to be endorsed by the relevant Area Commander. If the cross border bid crosses two divisions it will need to be endorsed by the relevant Area Commanders from the divisions that apply.

If there any queries relating to bids or funding provided to partnership projects they need to be raised directly with the Commissioning Team in the OPCC.

9. Funding Exit Strategy

The commissioning approach of the OPCC varies depending on the need and the service to be delivered and as a result exit strategies will vary. Importantly it should be recognised that the availability of funding from the OPCC to commission services is dependent on yearly grant settlements from the HO and MOJ. This inevitably means that there can be no guarantees that monies will be available for subsequent years for those services that have been funded.

The OPCC will provide medium term certainty for grant allocations under the Community Safety Fund, as potential reductions in the policing grant settlement will be taken into consideration when making those allocations. These will be indicative only and the Commissioner reserves the right to amend these dependent on the outcome of the grant settlement.

For contracted services there is a clear indication of the contract start and end date with exit strategies being developed as standard to ensure where possible continuity of service delivery.

For the commissioning prospectus approach bidders are made aware that funding cannot be guaranteed beyond the grant period. Bidders are also asked to report on sustainability of the service as part of the bidding process. This is to ensure that consideration is given to how the service can continue to be delivered once funding has ceased and enable the OPCC to assess the long term viability.

Regardless of the commissioning approach taken the OPCC will ensure that there is clear communication about the length of the funding or contract from the outset.

10. Key Contacts

To discuss this Commissioning Strategy, how to access the available funding or associated processes please contact the Commissioning Team.

Claire Gatward – Head of Partnerships

Lisa Breeze – Partnerships & Commissioning Officer

The above can be contacted on 01622 677055 or email contactyourpcc@pcc.kent.pnn.police.uk titling the email Commissioning Query.

Appendix One - Funding Streams Timeline

Funding Stream / Commissioned Service	Fund Open / Notification of Grant Award Sent	Fund Closes	Award / Regret Notification Letters S	Payment Due Date 1	Payment Due Date 2	Monitoring Due Date 1	Monitoring Due Date 2
CSF	27/02/17			01/06/17	01/12/17	30/05/17	28/11/17 EOY 30/04/18
VSS	01/02/17	03/03/17	23/03/17	30/05/17		30/09/17 (half year)	30/04/18
The Safer in Kent Fund	1 st round – 01/03/17 2 nd round – 01/07/17	1 st round- 30/05/17 2 nd round- 01/09/17	Within 1 month of bid closing	As soon as award is made			30/04/18
Mental Health and Policing Fund	1 st round – 01/03/17 2 nd round – 01/07/17	1 st round- 30/05/17 2 nd round- 01/09/17	Within 1 month of bid closing	As soon as award is made			30/04/18

Appendix Two - Example Monitoring Form

Community Safety Fund Monitoring Form

Name of organisation and person completing form

Contact email and telephone number

Funding requested from Police and Crime Commissioner for period
[April-October / October-April *delete as necessary]

Framework number

Project/Service	Overview	Cost	PCP & CSP Priority	Expected/achieved outcome
<i>Please specify the project/service you are/or will be delivering- these should relate to the local CSP and PCC priorities</i>	<i>Please outline detail of the priority/service (Include details of other partnership support or work which crosses district boundaries</i>	<i>Include a breakdown of allocated cost/spend relating to this</i>	<i>State which priority this project/service seeks to achieve Refer to the Police & Crime Plan and your local district priorities</i>	<i>Detail the expected outcomes you hope to achieve by investing in this project/service. OR provide an actual update of outcomes already achieved. Detail the impact achieved by this</i>

<i>Include the time frame of the project (start and end)</i>	<i>where applicable</i>	<i>project and detail any additional match funding</i>		<i>project/service on communities, individuals and/or crime/ASB and Social Value etc.</i>

Other Spends and Carry over spends (Please include details of any spend which does not link to a project/service listed above or list any funding carries over from your previous allocation).

This section should also be used to report back on progress of your Partnership fund projects.

Sign and Print name of person completing this form:

Date:

Appendix Three - Example Funding Application Form

**KENT POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
FUNDING APPLICATION FORM**

A: Details About Your Organisation

Name of Organisation:

What are the aims and objectives of your organisation? *(Who is your work aimed at, what benefits do you seek to achieve?)*

Please tick the type of organisation that best defines you

Registered charity (please provide registration number):

Community Safety Partnership

Local Authority

Criminal Justice Organisation

Voluntary or community organisation/group

Social Enterprise

Company limited by guarantee (please describe & give your registration number)

Other (please define)

Is this a partnership bid? Y/N

If yes please provide details of the other partner organisations involved:

Name and address of project / service lead submitting the funding application:

Name:

Address:

Telephone No:

Email:

Website:

Position in organisation:

B: Project / Service Details	
Name of the project / service?	
Proposed start date of project / service?	Proposed duration of project / service?
Which of the following criteria does your project set to achieve? <i>(tick all that apply)</i> List the funding criteria and also the Police and Crime Plan Priorities	
Give an outline of your project / service including details of how this will support delivery of the criteria you have highlighted in the previous question (maximum 500 words)	
Where will the project / service be located? <i>e.g. What geographical locations in Kent will your project located in and identified venues?</i>	
What research has been undertaken to identify the need for this project /service? Please also highlight the reasons for delivering in the locations identified.	
Please list the outcome measures you will use to identify whether this project / service has been successful and demonstrate how this will be reported to the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner? Use this section to also highlight your considerations around the Social Value Act and Social Impact	
Total cost of project?	
How much are you requesting through this funding application? (if this amount is different to the total cost of the project please highlight how the remaining monies will be funded)	

Is this grant for a new project / service or to support/extend existing work?

If it is to extend existing work how has the project / service previously been funded?

How will the grant be spent? *Please provide a breakdown of how the funding will be spent e.g. staff costs, venue hire etc.*

Please give details of any other resources or funding that you are using to support this project/service? *e.g. match funding, use of volunteers etc.*

Please describe how the project / service will be sustained beyond the period of the requested funding?

If you do not receive the full amount of funding requested how will this impact on the delivery of the project / service?

Please note the following:

Appendix Four - Example Scoring Matrix & Funding Cover Sheet

Credible History Score

1. No previous experience with projects of this kind
2. One project previously run or one-year experience
3. Two projects run or two years' experience
4. Three-four projects or three-four years' experience
5. Well established project / projects exceed 5 years

Sustainability Post Funding Score

1. Not sustainable past expiry of funding
2. Hoping for project to continue but no funds secured as yet
3. Sustainable (short term – 1 year) past expiry of funding. Use of reserve funds
4. Sustainable (medium term – 1-2 years) past expiry of funding
5. Sustainability positive (long term) – due to continue after term of funding

Clear strategy & success measurement score

1. No clear deliverables set, no success measures or known outcomes in place
2. Demonstrates clear aim of project with objective outcome measure
3. Demonstrates clear aim of target group, project to be delivered and some measures to identify positive outcome.
4. Demonstrates higher than 3 score but not enough for 5. (EG. no use of external data but uses own measures and analytical data etc.)
5. Thorough understanding of target group, aim, delivery and full evaluation planned (subjective measure) – reward and recognition can be included/use of 3rd party stats to review success etc.

Localism score

1. Local priorities not identified – project doesn't work towards local district plan
2. Local priorities identified but concentration on smaller geographical area only
3. Local priorities identified – some consideration given to them in the application
4. Local priorities identified and project being delivered by local agencies
5. Local priorities identified, all criteria met and meets needs of community by specifically catering to needs of local people/local issues/local priorities/co-operates with local agencies

Kent Police & Crime Commissioner
Funding Request Cover Sheet – Office Use Only

Date Funding Request Received:

Organisation Name:

Name of the Project to be funded:

Funding Amount Requested:

Funding Criteria (please tick the criteria that applies to the application)

(list relevant funding round criteria and or the Police & Crime Plan priorities)

- *Fight crime, ASB and reduce re-offending*
- *Support victims of crime and abuse*
- *Tackle abuse, exploitation, violence, organised crime and gangs*
- *Invest in schemes that make communities feel safer and support the engagement of residents*
- *Support initiatives that reduce pressure on policing due to mental health*
- *Invest in schemes that makes offenders pay for the harm they have caused*

Clarification Questions and Associated Answers

Contextual Information from the Commissioning Team

Commissioners Funding Decision Date:

Commissioners Comments:

Funding Approved by Commissioner Y/N

Agreed Funding Amount:

Rationale if agreed funding differs from the amount requested

Funding Stream to be paid from:

Grant Settlement for Policing – National Picture

1. In the Autumn Statement on the 23 November 2016 the Chancellor announced that the departmental spending totals outlined in 2015's comprehensive spending review would be honoured. This reiterated that the budget for policing would be protected in real terms and that local force budgets would be protected in cash terms. Both of these statements required each Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to set the maximum precept increase allowed in each year of the spending review period.
2. On the 15 December, the Policing Minister announced the draft general grant allocation for each force area for 2017/18. The consultation on this settlement closed on 26 January and we are currently awaiting details of the final settlement. Therefore all of the figures included in this report relating to government funding are still provisional. The highlights of the Minister's announcement, in line with the earlier Spending Review decisions set out by the Chancellor, are as follows:

- In 2017/18, no PCC will face a cash reduction in "direct resource funding" from 2015/16 levels assuming that precept income was maximised in 2016/17 and will be again in 2017/18. For policing, direct resource funding is deemed by Government to be the sum of formula funding plus legacy council tax grants plus precept. The assumption of maximum precept increase is crucial to the Government's promise of a flat cash settlement.
- The Policing Minister announced that each PCC would receive the same reduction of 1.3% to their settlement (formula funding plus grants). Funding for one year only was announced with no details of funding assumptions beyond 2017/18.
- From the total allocation to the Home Office for policing from the Spending Review, the Home Secretary has top sliced £812m for schemes or initiatives to be managed centrally by the Home Office or for related national organisations such as the Independent Police Complaints Commission and College of Policing or to be decided centrally but with monies subsequently allocated to forces. This is a 42% increase over the amount top sliced in 2016/17.
- Examples of funding set aside or top-sliced to be subsequently allocated to PCC's in 2017/18 are:

Top-Slice	2017-18
PFI	£73m
Police Technology Programmes (including ESN)	£417m
Arm's length bodies	£54m
Strengthening the Response to Organised Crime	£28m
Police Transformation Fund	£175m
Special Grant	£50m
Pre-Charge Bail	£15m
Total	£812m

- The value of the Transformation Fund has risen to £175m from £131.4m, an increase of 33.2% and now includes the funding for the Innovation fund. Allocations from the Transformation Fund will depend upon successful bids.
- Arm's Length Bodies includes increased funding for HMIC and for the GLAA (Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority). The pre-charge bail is a top slice from policing grant to Magistrate's Courts for the increased cost of pre-charge bail, effectively a move from Home Office funds to the Ministry of Justice. The special grant can be claimed by PCC's in times of extreme events usually once costs above 1% of the force's budget have been incurred. This has been doubled to cater for the increased costs of preparing for the policing of the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in 2018. The National Crime Agency and Regional Organised Crime Units will receive the same level of funding as they did previously but this involves a further top slice from police grant.

- In respect of capital grants to PCC's, the national total in 2017/18 is £45.9m, a reduction of 29% on the equivalent total for the current year. This is on top of a reduction of 40% the year before.
- The precept increase limit (before referendum is required) is 2%, but the 10 force areas with the lowest precept can raise their precept by £5.00 before a referendum needs to be held.

Grant Settlement for Policing – Kent

3. Locally, as a result of the settlement, in 2017/18 Kent will receive a total of £183.8m in general grants and council tax grants. This is a reduction of £2.4m on the current year's formula grant element.
4. Kent PCC is in the bottom quartile of current police preceptors and is therefore allowed to increase the precept by a maximum of £5.00 (3.3%) before a referendum is required.
5. Kent's capital grant allocation for 2017/18 is £1.1m, a reduction of £0.2m on 2016/17.

Funding Formula Review

6. Early in 2016/17 the Policing Minister announced their intention to develop a new funding formula for the Police Settlement with the intention of implementing it in time for the 2018/19 financial year. The timescales for completing their work is challenging with numerous working groups examining the evidence that will form the building blocks for the new formula.
7. It is anticipated that the proposed new funding formula will be with the Policing Minister for a final decision in early 2017. The Minister will then issue the funding formula for consultation during 2017 for implementation in the Police Settlement for 2018/19 announced in December 2017.
8. The funding formula review increases the uncertainty over future funding levels in policing. It is hard to predict whether Kent will gain or lose funding through this change. Any gains or losses are likely to be phased over a period of time although the mechanism for achieving this is still unclear. This means forecasting the level of government grant that Kent will receive over the medium term is difficult. It means we have to strike the right balance in our financial decisions between spending and saving without jeopardising future service provision once those funding levels are known.
9. The PCC and his team are helping influence the development of the formula through various national organisations (Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, Police And Crime Commissioners Treasurers Society, Association of Police And Crime Commissioners Chief Executives), regional responses and through our own personal formal and informal channels to ensure Kent's voice is heard, highlighting the unique financial pressures and policing challenges we face in trying to ensure we receive a fair share of police funding through the new formula.

2017/18 Budget - Cost Pressures for Kent

10. The draft budget for 2017/18 is based upon the following key spending assumptions:
 - General pay award of 1% (plus 1% for increments).
 - Average 2.5% for general price inflation.
 - A revaluation by the actuary of our pension has led to an increase in the employer's pension contribution of 1.6% an increase of £1m per annum. In discussion with the actuary this change in contribution will be made in stages, building to the additional £1m by 2019/20. The increase for 2017/18 is 0.5% (£0.3m).
 - Estimated net cost £0.5m for the Apprentice Levy, a government initiative that applies to all organisations with annual pay bills over £3m.
 - An estimated cost of £0.5m for pension auto enrolment, a government scheme to ensure that all employees have a personal pension.
 - The estimated latest position on the council taxbase and collection fund. Final figures are due from billing authorities by 31st January.

11. The Chief Constable set out his plan to the PCC on how Kent Police can meet the challenges facing Policing now and in the future. This includes investment in new, and the realignment of existing resources into the following areas; mental health; investigation of domestic abuse, child and adult abuse and sexual offences; vulnerable investigation; community safety units; CID; a missing and child exploitation bureau and a wanted person's bureau. The Chief Constable has confirmed to the PCC that this new model will not be to the detriment of neighbourhood policing. In light of this assurance the PCC is supportive of the changes to the model. Therefore, a new allocation of £6.2m has been included for the new policing model. £4.3m of this allocation is the reinvestment of over-achieved savings in 2015/16, with an additional £1.9m being provided as growth. This reflects the cost of implementing and running the new police model.
12. The Ministry of Justice (MOJ) announcement of the continued specific victims' grant of £2.1m is welcome. This will be allocated as per grant conditions on vital services for victims, including those delivered through Compass House. In total the combined commissioning and victims support budget is £4.2m next year, the same as 2016/17. However, the position over the medium term will need to be adjusted in light of future MOJ and Home Office grant decisions.

Budget and Precept Strategy for 2017/18

13. The Force have a good track record of delivering savings ahead of schedule and the Chief Constable has delivered £12.0m of savings to meet the gap next year with no impact on front-line policing and this has been removed from the 2017/18 budget figures. Approximately £4m has been achieved from non-pay budgets through reductions in mobile rental, income opportunities and IT consumables amongst others. The remaining £8m of savings were identified from pay budgets through more sophisticated budgeting for posts or the early identification of vacancies.
14. Taken together the reduction in grant, the spending pressures and the already delivered savings leaves a £6.3m funding gap in 2017/18 after a 2% increase in the precept for policing as per previously published assumptions. In order to maintain funding for Kent in line with the government settlement, increasing the precept to £5.00 would generate a further £1.2m.
15. The gap remaining amounts to £5.1m. To deal with this gap the PCC proposes to use £5.1m of reserves in 2017/18. This does not absolve the Force from making those savings but allows the Chief Constable to smooth the impact of the additional savings required over the medium term to avoid any precipitous service decisions ahead of any expected new funding formula in 2018/19.
16. Further to this the PCC has notified the Chief Constable that any revenue underspends will be taken back into reserves in order to fund the capital programme. Any in-year reallocations of underspends will only be considered by the PCC where an exceptional business case is made.
17. Accordingly, the proposed precept for a Band D property would be £157.15 per year, an increase of £5.00 per year or 3.3%, the equivalent of 9.6 pence per week for a Band D property.

Medium Term Financial Plan – 4 years to 2020/21

18. As previously indicated, the Home Office has yet to issue specific local allocations for future years. For the purpose of current planning, it is assumed that the current reduction in grant will continue so that Kent loses an additional £2.4m in grant each year from 2018/19 onwards. The employer's pension contribution will continue to be increased in steps until there is an additional £1m contribution in 2019/20 and it is assumed that Kent will maximise the benefit from the Apprenticeship scheme and will therefore 'break even' on the levy in 2018/19. A further contribution from reserves is likely to be required in 2018/19 to continue to smooth the impact of savings over the medium term.

19. If these grants (and special levy) assumptions are combined with a roll forward of normal wage and price assumptions, the savings gap to 2020/21 is £37.9m. As has been noted above, Kent Police have delivered savings ahead of time and £12m savings for 2017/18 have already been delivered. Therefore a further £25.9m of savings is required by 2020/21.
20. This figure is based upon modest assumptions based on previous trends and scanning the financial horizon. Further top slicing of grant and/or increased cost pressures would add to this gap. Furthermore, as previously mentioned, this gap does not take into account the possible impact of the Funding Formula Review.
21. A summary of the medium term plan is set out in Annex 2. On the basis of these assumptions the savings profile would be as follows before any change caused by the Formula Review in 2018/19:

Savings	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/201	Total
Delivered	£12.0m	-	-	-	£12.0m
Required	-	£9.8m	£9.9m	£6.2m	£25.9m
Total	£12.0m	£9.8m	£8.2m	£4.5m	£37.9m

22. The reality is that savings of £37.9m means the Force having to consume its own inflation and cost pressures. This reflects a 13% real cut on the net budget over the period that has to be managed.
23. In December the Policing Minister citing the HMIC stated clearly that there is still considerable scope for forces to continue to 'improve the efficiency of their organisations' and 'some forces have reduced the pace and ambition of their plans'. The government expects PCC's and Chief Constables to do everything in their power to drive efficiencies and the settlement received reflects that view.
24. These are themes well known to the PCC and Chief Constable, and are at the heart of the new Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan and the policing model to manage the challenge over the medium term. Key strategies and initiatives currently being planned in the short to medium term include:
- The implementation of a new policing model
 - Continued investment in our culture and our people
 - Continued investment in mobile technology
 - Investment in new business systems in collaboration with seven other forces
 - Investment in demand management initiatives
 - The development and delivery of estates transformation
 - Maximising collaborative and efficiency opportunities

Reserve Strategy and Planning

25. The PCC's reserve strategy has the following key elements:
- Earmarked reserves, those set aside for specific purposes, are grouped into three categories, namely risk, change and policy/investment opportunities.
 - A general non-earmarked reserve of 2% of the net budget will be maintained for unknown and/or unforeseeable events.
 - A prudent approach to risk management will be maintained and accordingly earmarked reserves will be created to cover for possible significant risks.
 - A prudent reserve to provide for the costs of change, especially in respect of redundancy and related issues will be maintained.
 - In the interest of the council tax payer, the PCC will seek as far as possible to protect its 'non-debt' status and instead of borrowing for investment, build up and rely on reserves for that purpose over the long term.
 - The PCC will take a long term approach to protecting, maintaining and investing in all its assets supporting policing for the long term as well as short term.
 - Reserves not required for the above purposes will be clearly identified as available for other discretionary policy opportunities.

26. The Panel will be aware of these key strategy elements from annual budget reports presented in the past. The policy of building up reserves for short and long term capital investment, to avoid borrowing costs, is a long established policy inherited from the previous Police Authority.
27. The total non-earmarked and earmarked reserves as at 1 April 2016 were £62.5m. Of this, non-earmarked reserves amounted to £5.6m or broadly 2% of the net budget in line with normal practice. The remaining reserves were all earmarked. It should be noted that £31.6m of those total earmarked reserves, were there to support investment and capital spending over the medium to long term as opposed to more costly borrowing. This capital reserve has been built up from accumulated underspends, capital grants and capital receipts over the years.
28. It is worth putting police reserves into context. The risks facing police are around operational risks such as a murder, or public order/safety incidents, which can consume major cost unexpectedly and future funding risks with the uncertainty over the funding formula. Using reserves as a proportion of net budget as an indicator, Kent are towards the upper end of PCC's across the country; however this reflects the prudent financial management over the years and the policy to avoid borrowing on capital expenditure for which substantial reserves are required.

Use of Reserves

29. As at 31 March 2017, due to normal movements and adjustments during the year, total earmarked and non-earmarked reserves are expected to fall to £52.2m. The non-earmarked provision will be kept at 2% of the net budget. As stated previously, the PCC will be releasing £5.1m in 2017/18 to help the Force avoid any precipitous service saving decisions ahead of the new funding formula. The reserves position in 2017/18 is set out below:

Summary of Reserves

	£m	
Non Earmarked:		
General Fund	5.6	Set at 2% of net budget (PCC decides)
Earmarked:		
<i>Risk</i>		
Council Tax Benefit support	0.5	Incentive scheme in concert with other preceptors
Public Order provision	2.0	For use by CC with PCC agreement
Budget and Grant volatility	4.0	Risk of grant volatility (PCC decides to use)
Insurance fund	3.1	In line with actuarial guidelines for self-insured risks
<i>Change</i>		
Invest to Save (CC and PCC)	1.4	To assist future savings, for use by CC
Redundancy etc.	4.0	For use by CC with PCC agreement
<i>Policy Opportunity and Investment</i>		
Policy Opportunities (PCC)	5.9	To help smooth Force savings plans
Investment Reserve	24.8	To support capital and innovation investment
Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA)	0.6	Proceeds of Crime (CC)
Other	0.3	Miscellaneous
Total Earmarked	46.6	
Grand Total	52.2	

30. Over the medium term, after consultation with the Chief Constable, the PCC will be releasing £46.7m in the four years to 2020/21 for major transformational investment in IT and other innovations as well as ensuring proper facilities and equipment for the Force. In part this will be funded from targeted capital receipts over the period and from the investment reserve.

31. In light of the formula funding review, a £4m grant volatility reserve is being retained for the purpose of potential grant reductions from formula changes in 2018/19 onwards and it is assumed it will be used for that over the period. This will be reviewed once the result of the new formula is known.
32. Taking all these plans and provisions into account results in total earmarked reserves falling to £20.1m or 32% of the current level by 2020/21. The investment reserve will be reduced to £7.1m by March 2019 increasing the likelihood that that the Force will need to borrow externally for significant capital investment from 2020 onwards. As has already been stated the PCC has notified the Chief Constable that any revenue underspends will be taken back into reserves in order to boost the investment reserve to fund future capital programmes. The forecast use of reserves over the medium term is set out in Annex 3.

Capital Planning

33. The key themes driving investment can be summarised as follows:
 - Policy led with clear linkages to operational requirements and the Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan.
 - Using technology and innovation to reduce demand and increase the time and focus officers can devote to core policing.
 - Putting victims at the heart of the service.
 - Ensuring sound and reliable equipment and facilities for officers.
 - Exploiting tangible efficiency and effectiveness opportunities in partnership with others.
34. A summary of the planned schemes and projects for 2017/18 to 2020/21 is set out in Annex 4. As per normal practice, actual release of funding next year and in future years will depend on the completion of sound business cases.
35. The planned capital programme for 2017/18 is ambitious. It is dominated by IT projects, which include national obligations (i.e. ESN), joint projects with Essex (e.g. SAP) and Kent only projects. The implementation of these IT projects is key to modernising the Force and the way it works and help drive savings from the organisation. The PCC appreciates the ambitious nature of the programme and has sought assurances from the Chief Constable that the Force can deliver this programme where full control resides with the Chief Constable. This recognises the fact that certain capital projects are reliant on national projects and may be outside of the Chief Constable's control. The Chief Constable has given the PCC this assurance. The PCC will be holding the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of the capital programme and in particular the IT projects on a regular basis throughout the year.
36. The Force is currently developing an Estates Transformation Strategy for consideration by the PCC. Any agreement of the strategy is reliant upon it meeting the objectives laid out in the PCC's Safer in Kent: The Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan and subject to future financial requirements. Once approved this will impact on the figures shown in Annex 4.

Professional Statement

37. It is a statutory requirement that the designated Chief Finance Officer must issue a professional statement on the adequacy of reserves, the robustness of estimates and the overall effectiveness of the systems of financial control and risk management.
38. For Kent, Government grant makes up 63% of net funding excluding specific grants. Consequently, reductions in grant will inevitably have an impact on policing operations. Although the level of grant reductions are not as severe as was originally feared before the CSR they are still substantial with the consequence of handling inflation and other known cost pressures requiring the Force to find £37.9m of savings or 13% of its net budget over the next 4 years. The Force have a good track record of delivering savings early through effective financial management and planning but this still leaves a pressure of £25.9m of savings to be found by 2020/21.

39. The government's planned review of the formula for distributing the national pot of general police grants between forces is a significant risk on the funding received by Kent. There is a need to have some protection against this risk and the use of £5.1m reserves in 2017/18 with further support from reserves in 2018/19 ensures that spending decisions taken now can be made with a medium term view and a stable financial position and avoids any potential disruptive service changes that may or may not be required once the settlement is known.
40. I am satisfied that the estimates have been drawn up in a robust way, recognising that medium term forecasts beyond 2017/18 will inevitably carry more uncertainty. At the time of the budget we have assumed pay awards are capped at 1% for the four years 2017/18 to 2020/21 and an average 1% for increments. We now have certainty over the Local Government Pension Scheme valuation which has led to an additional £1m pressure on the budget. The fact that we have a fully funded pension scheme enables the increase in contributions to be staged over the next 3 years smoothing the impact over the medium term.
41. For non-pay we are assuming general inflation at 2.5% for all four years but with additional pressures for the new "Apprenticeship Levy" and auto enrolment into the pension scheme. Both of these are central government initiatives and are dependent on a number of factors. We have been prudent on our assumptions. The key assumption on grant resources is the provisionally announced cash cut of 1.4% in general grant for 2017/18 and a presumed repeat of this cash cut in each of 2018/19 through to 2020/21. The key factor for future grant levels is the impending funding formula review and we have £4m set aside in reserves to help reduce any negative impact. The precept increase in 2017/18 is proposed to be £5.00 or 3.3% on a Band D property, future assumptions are included at 2% (rounded) thereafter, up to and including 2020/21. The original CSR announcement stated that the £5.00 referendum limit for the lowest 10 precepting PCC's will be in place for the entire CSR period. However, in light of potential funding changes and any transitional arrangements that may feature alongside this, future assumptions are included at the more prudent 2% limit.
42. As already mentioned, ear-marked reserves have been designated into three categories; risk management, costs of change and support for policy opportunities. A significant element of total reserves is the investment reserve built up from accumulated underspends and accumulated capital receipts. This reserve, in conjunction with targeted capital receipts, is vital to help finance the major planned capital spend by the Chief Constable of £46.7m over the next 4 years, even with this it is likely that the PCC will have to borrow to fund the capital programme from 2020 onwards leading to debt charges falling on the revenue account and having to be financed from further operational savings.
43. The size of the capital programme in 2017/18 is a bold statement by the Force, showing its desire to modernise the way the Force works and unlock potential service benefits and savings. Any slippage or non-delivery of this programme could have a significant impact on the future financial plans of the PCC including the timing of any potential need to borrow. The PCC has received assurance from the Chief Constable that the programme is deliverable during 2017/18 and I have put plans in place to provide substantial scrutiny on the programme during the year.
44. The Force and the OPCC maintain active risk registers and associated risk management processes for operational and management risks which are monitored by the Independent Joint Audit Committee. As well as the financial challenges described above, many of the key risks inevitably fall on the Force, rather than the OPCC, from both existing and newer threats. Examples of the latter include the local response to counter terrorism threats, child sexual exploitation, organised crime and cybercrime. Within the OPCC, on-going strategic risks relate to ensuring the core statutory functions of the PCC are met; this includes overall financial governance and value for money.

45. Overall, I have considered the level and need for reserves against the strategic risk registers of the Force and the OPCC. On the whole, existing reserves are sound and in each case I am satisfied that they are prudent and appropriate after consideration of the latest key risk assessments.
46. I am also satisfied that the operation of internal and external audit and the operation of financial controls are sound. Regular monitoring and review of delivery plans and active risk management, including via the Independent Joint Audit Committee, remain vital parts of the local governance arrangements.

Rob Phillips
Chief Finance Officer
Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner
February 2017

Supporting information:

Annex 1 – Proposed 2017/18 budget.

Annex 2 – Summary of Medium Term Plan, 2017/18 to 2020/21.

Annex 3 – Planned use of Reserves over the Medium Term.

Annex 4 – Summary of Capital Programme to 2020/21.

Proposed 2017/18 budget

	Proposed Budget 2016/17	Inflation or Growth		Savings	Proposed Budget 2017/18
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Pay	240.4	10.3			250.7
Overtime	4.7	0.6			5.3
Premises Related	20.5	0.4			20.9
Transport	6.1	0.4			6.5
Other non pay costs including IT, supplies etc.	32.5			-3.6	28.9
Cost of the OPCC	1.5	0.0			1.5
Commissioning and Victim Services	4.2	0.0			4.2
Savings Required *					0.0
Total Gross Spending on Police and Commissioning	309.9		11.7	-3.6	318.0
less:					
Specific Grant - Victims Funding	2.1			0.0	2.1
Specific Grants - Counter Terrorism (see note)	12.2			0.0	12.2
Locally Generated Income	17.2			0.4	17.6
Contribution from Reserves - new policies	0.0	5.1		0.0	5.1
Total Net Spending	278.4		6.6	-4.0	281.0
General Policy and Legacy Council Tax Grants	186.2	-2.3		0.0	183.8
Estimated Council Tax Surplus	1.6	0.0		0.0	1.6
Council Tax Precept	90.7	4.9		0.0	95.6
Total Net Financing	278.4		2.6	0.0	281.0
Council Tax Base	596087				608010
Band D Precept	152.15				157.15
£ Increase in Precept	5.00				5.00
% Increase in Precept	3.4%				3.3%
% Growth in Tax Base	1.9%				2.0%

* Savings of £12m have already been identified for 2017/18 and removed from the budget headings

Summary of Medium Term Plan, 2017/18 to 2020/21

	Proposed Budget 2017/18	Inflation or Growth	Savings	Forecast 2018/19	Inflation or Growth	Savings	Forecast 2019/20	Inflation or Growth	Savings	Forecast 2020/21
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Pay	250.7	6.4	0.0	257.1	5.5	0.0	262.6	5.2	0.0	267.8
Overtime	5.3	-0.4	0.0	4.9	0.2	0.0	5.1	0.2	0.0	5.3
Premises Related	20.9	0.5	0.0	21.4	0.5	0.0	21.9	0.5	0.0	22.4
Transport	6.5	0.2	0.0	6.7	0.2	0.0	6.9	0.2	0.0	7.1
Other non pay costs including IT, supplies etc.	28.9	1.9	0.0	30.8	0.5	0.0	31.3	0.6	0.0	31.9
Cost of the OPCC	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5
Commissioning and Victim Services	4.2	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	4.2
Savings Required *	0.0	0.0	-9.8	-9.8	0.0	-9.9	-19.7	0.0	-6.2	-25.9
Total Gross Spending on Police and Commissioning	318.0	8.6	-9.8	316.8	6.9	-9.9	313.8	6.7	-6.2	314.3
less:										
Specific Grant - Victims Funding	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.1
Specific Grants - Counter Terrorism	12.2	0.0	0.0	12.2	0.0	0.0	12.2	0.0	0.0	12.2
Locally Generated Income	17.6	0.4	0.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	18.0
Contribution from Reserves - new policies	5.1	3.5	-5.1	3.5	0.0	-3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Net Spending	281.0	4.7	-4.7	281.0	6.9	-6.4	281.5	6.7	-6.2	282.0
General Policy and Legacy Council Tax grants	183.8	-2.4	0.0	181.4	-2.4	0.0	179.0	-2.4	0.0	176.6
Estimated Council Tax Surplus	1.6	-0.4	0.0	1.2	-0.1	0.0	1.1	-0.1	0.0	1.0
Council Tax Precept	95.6	2.8	0.0	98.4	3.0	0.0	101.4	3.0	0.0	104.4
Total Net Financing	281.0	0.0	0.0	281.0	0.5	0.0	281.5	0.5	0.0	282.0
Council Tax Base	608010			614093			620234			626437
Band D Precept	157.15			160.29			163.48			166.74
£ Increase in Precept	5.00			3.14			3.19			3.26
% Increase in Precept	3.3%			2.0%			2.0%			2.0%
% Growth in Tax Base	2.0%			1.0%			1.0%			1.0%

* Savings of £12m have already been identified for 2017/18 and removed from the budget headings

Planned use of Reserves over the Medium Term

	01/04/2016	01/04/2017	01/04/2018	01/04/2019	01/04/2020	01/04/2021
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Non Earmarked:						
General Fund	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
Earmarked:						
<i>Risk</i>						
Council Tax Benefit Support	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Public Order provision	2.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Budget and Grant Volatility	4.6	4.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Insurance fund	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
<i>Change</i>						
Invest to save (CC and PCC)	1.9	1.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Redundancy etc.	6.0	4.0	4.0	3.5	3.0	3.0
<i>Policy Opportunity and Investment</i>						
Policy Opportunities (PCC)	5.9	5.9	4.3	0.8	0.0	0.0
Investment Reserve	31.6	24.8	7.1	8.2	9.7	7.1
POCA	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.2
Other	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
Total Earmarked	56.9	46.6	23.1	17.6	17.1	14.5
Grand Total	62.5	52.2	28.7	23.2	22.7	20.1
	100.0%	83.5%	46.0%	37.1%	36.4%	32.2%

Summary of Capital Programme to 2020/21

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
IT Related					
Athena	3.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	3.6
Emergency Service Network - local costs	0.9	4.6	0.1	0.0	5.6
Channel Shift Programme	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.8
Infrastructure Modernisation	5.5	1.0	0.7	0.4	7.6
Mobile Working	1.2	0.4	1.6	0.4	3.6
SAP and Business Objects development	1.4	0.8	0.1	0.1	2.4
Specialist Business Systems	1.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	2.2
Multi-media evidence and capture	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Total IT Related	15.0	7.7	2.7	1.0	26.3
Estates					
Force HQ Renewal Works	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Site Upgrades incl. DDA	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Major Build Schemes	1.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	2.5
Security Upgrades incl. CCTV on sites	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	1.0
Environmental Works	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.0	1.0
Structural Maintenance - emergency provision	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.6
Total Estates Related	3.5	1.3	0.8	0.5	6.1
Total Vehicle Replacement Programme	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.6	7.0
Total ANPR related*	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	1.7
Total Other	2.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	5.6
Grand Total - New Approvals	23.9	11.9	6.5	4.5	46.7

* Automatic Number Plate Recognition

Record of Decision

ORIGINATOR: Chief of Staff

REFERENCE: OPCC.D.011.16

TITLE: Extension to the Chief Constable's contract

OPEN **CONFIDENTIAL**

Reason if Confidential:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chief Constable's (CC's) contract runs to 3 January 2019. The Commissioner (PCC) may extend this. The maximum amount permitted at one time is 3 years, extending the CC's term of office to 3 January 2022.

The following are key points that support such an extension:

- The CC enjoys the strongest support from his Force, and is valued as a leader in Kent. He has a regional and national profile, including the lead on undercover policing.
- The recent reports from HMIC have highlighted his excellent leadership, and the Force has, in two consecutive years, been rated outstanding for legitimacy. He has personally led a significant shift in the culture, instilling his Mission, Vision, Values and Priorities across the organisation.
- HMIC have also consistently rated the Force very highly for use of resources and managing demand, which in times of reduced funding evidences expertise to lead during challenging times. The Force has also been rated consistently 'good' with outstanding elements during his time as CC.
- The PCC and CC share a joint vision, expressed through the Police and Crime Plan, to cut crime and reduce reoffending and place victims at the heart of the justice system.
- In times of uncertainty, challenge and increased threat, the extension provides stability and reassurance for Kent Police, and the residents of the county. It's also an important foundation for effective medium term planning and development of new ways of meeting policing challenges.
- The CC has led on innovation within Kent Police. This includes collaboration with Essex Police, the Seven Force Strategic Collaboration programme and other Blue Light services. He has also overseen transformative internal projects such as body worn video and mobile tablets.

Other legal and financial considerations include:

- Extending the CC's contract negates the need to run a lengthy and costly recruitment process.
- The extension will cover the next PCC elections, providing certainty and stability for the Force.
- The momentum behind collaboration, and good relationships that help drive them, will be sustained.
- The terms and conditions that the CC is employed under will not change, and his pay will only increase in line with statutory provisions. As he is no longer in the pension scheme, this saves circa £115,000 over three years.
- Any decision must be taken in line with the Police Regulations 2003, as amended.

RECOMMENDATION


Not applicable.

DECISION

To extend the Chief Constable's contract by the maximum amount permitted at one time - three years - to take his term of office to 3 January 2022.

Chief Finance Officer:


Comments: Extending the CC's contract avoids the costs incurred in recruiting a new ^{chief} constable. The terms of contract remain the same so there is no budgetary pressure incurred from the extension.

Signature: 

Date: 21.12.2016

Chief of Staff:

Comments: Pcc, you are legally responsible for the appointment of the Chief Constable. As he is currently in post the regulations allow for you to extend the contract for a maximum of 3 years. You may extend any duration within that limit, it is a matter for you alone.

Signature: 

Date: 21.12.2016

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR KENT

Comments: I believe this provides stability for Kent Police and can be justified on the grounds of consistent good independent external inspections, so long as strong ethics and culture remain.

Signature: 

Date: 25/1/17

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

Police and Crime Plan
(please indicate which objectives decision/recommendation supports)

The Chief Constable is responsible for supporting the PCC in the delivery of the strategy and objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been completed?

Yes No *(If yes, please include within background documents)*

Will the decision have a differential/adverse impact on any particular diversity strand?
(e.g. age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion/belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy/maternity)

Yes No
Extending the Chief Constable's contract is administrative in nature. Therefore, it does not have a differential/adverse impact on any particular strand of diversity.

Record of Decision

ORIGINATOR: Chief Of Staff

REFERENCE: OPCC.D.012.16

TITLE: Variation to the Victim Support contract

OPEN **CONFIDENTIAL**

Reason if Confidential:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The victim's services contract was awarded to Victim Support (VS) in December 2015 for 3 years, with the service commencing delivery on 1 April 2016. This service includes the requirement to make initial contact with standard and medium risk domestic abuse (DA) victims who report to Kent Police or self-refer into the service. The contact includes safety planning, welfare discussion, signposting and information provision. In addition, VS provide community support to standard risk DA victims.

The DA commissioning landscape in Kent is currently undergoing a significant change with a newly commissioned offer incorporating the previous disparate strands of refuge, outreach and IDVA support into a more holistic, community based model. To ensure more effective initial point of contact for DA victims, reduce duplication in the system and join two significant victim services commissioning approaches, the VS contract can be varied to include contact for high risk DA victims. This would effectively result in VS becoming the initial point of contact for all DA victims that report to Kent Police. VS will then work collaboratively with the Kent County Council (KCC) commissioned DA service, who will be providing the community led support.

By varying the VS contract we can build on the initial contact work already being delivered for medium and standard risk DA victims to include high risk victims. This will support consistent service delivery and alignment of services separately commissioned by the Police & Crime Commissioner and KCC.

RECOMMENDATION


The Commissioner is recommended to vary the Victim Support contract to include high risk DA victims and working with the KCC commissioned DA service.

DECISION

To vary the Victim Support contract to include initial contact with high risk DA victims and to work collaboratively with the KCC commissioned DA service.

Chief Finance Officer:

Comments: Its variation to the contract provides a much more streamlined and efficient process and ensures that Victims are receiving the best support available. The costs & the variation are kept within the current budget

Signature:  **Date:** 13.12.2016

Chief of Staff:

Comments: I see this variation to the VS contract has my full support. By having VS provide the central contact for all levels of risk actually provides an enhanced service, ensuring the best support to victims in this important area.

Signature:  **Date:** 13.12.2016

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR KENT

Comments: This will help us provide a high level of service to some of our most vulnerable people, no matter where they live.

Signature:  **Date:** 13.12.2016

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

Police and Crime Plan
(please indicate which objectives decision/recommendation supports)

Supports delivery of the Commissioner's Six Point Plan by providing a service that supports all victims of crime, treating them as individuals and putting their needs first and foremost.

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been completed?

Yes No *(If yes, please include within background documents)*

Will the decision have a differential/adverse impact on any particular diversity strand?
(e.g. age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion/belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy/maternity)

Yes No
Victim Support delivers free and confidential support, advice, information, signposting and referral to any Kent resident who has been a victim of crime. Therefore, it does not have a differential/adverse impact on any particular strand of diversity.

By: John Lynch: Head of Democratic Services, Kent County Council
Mike Overbeke: Head of Public Protection, Kent County Council

To: Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel – 2 February 2017

Subject: Proposed National Association of Police and Crime Panels

1. Introduction

1.1 This report asks the Panel to decide whether to express interest in the creation of a national association of Police and Crime Panels.

2. Background

2.1 The Vice-Chair and officers attend a meeting of Panel members and officers in the Eastern Region. This meeting is arranged by Frontline Consulting. At the most recent meeting there was discussion of the merits or otherwise of establishing a National Association of Police and Crime Panels and it was agreed that each Panel would be asked to consider the idea. The issue was also discussed at a recent national conference of Police and Crime panels. The Chairman asked officers to prepare this report to enable a discussion.

2.2 Historically there have usually been national associations of bodies involved with oversight of policing. Police authorities formed the Association of Police Authorities (APA) and Chief Executives of Police Authorities formed the Association of Police Authority Chief Executives (APACE). Following the changes to police governance in 2012, Police and Crime Commissioners formed the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and PCC Chief Executives formed the Association of PCC Chief Executives (APCE). These bodies have sometimes provided comment on matters of national interest and would be consulted by Government if changes are being proposed. Similar arrangements exist within local government (e.g. Local Government Association (LGA) and Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE)).

3. Existing arrangements

3.1 Up to now liaison and discussion between Panels has been undertaken informally. As noted above the Vice Chair and officers attend meetings, about 3-4 times per year, with a selection of other Panel representatives across the East region (Kent, Thames Valley, Bedfordshire, Essex, and Cambridgeshire). Officers have joined an informal network of Panel officers across the South East, which meets 2-3 times per year (Kent, Hampshire, Thames Valley, Surrey, and Sussex). Similar informal arrangements exist in some other parts of the country (e.g. East Midlands). Frontline Consulting have arranged three national

conferences of Police and Crime Panels some of which the Chairman and Vice-Chair and officers have attended.

4. Benefits of a National Association

4.1 Panels currently have no corporate voice in discussions with the Home Office or other parties so any concerns that Panels about their role, responsibilities and powers have no means of national expression.

4.2 The benefits of having a national association include:

- having a recognised voice to represent views at a national level
- providing support and development to Panel members
- being better able to provide national leadership and influence change
- consulting members to develop consolidated views
- disseminating best practice and identifying efficiencies by working together
- providing a forum for debate
- representing and promoting the interests of panels to key stakeholders and partners
- increasing the visibility and status of panels
- providing support and guidance
- enabling panels to prepare for change, for instance if/when PCCs become responsible for oversight of the Fire service.

5. Other points to consider

5.1 Members may wish to consider whether the above benefits (which are largely those put forward in support of any national association within local government or policing) justify the creation of a national association of Police and Crime Panels. Existing informal arrangements provide a means to discuss common concerns and exchange information so members may wish to consider the extent of any added benefits provided by a national association. Unlike PCCs, Police Authorities, and local authorities, Panels have very few formal powers and therefore the number of issues on which Government are likely to seek the views of Panels nationally or on which Panels might wish to speak with a national voice is quite limited.

5.2 A national association would presumably require a subscription from members. At present the Home Office grant provided to the Panel to meet its running costs is significantly underspent so any subscription could be accommodated within the existing grant. It would not cause additional cost for any Council in Kent or Medway.

6. Conclusion and recommendation

6.1 As all Panels in the Eastern region are being asked to consider the idea, officers will provide a verbal update at the meeting of any known decisions by other Panels.

6.2 That the Panel decides whether to support the formation of a national association of Police and Crime panels or not at this time.

Contact: Anna Taylor/Joel Cook Tel: 03000 416478/416892
Mike Campbell Tel: 03000 413346

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By: John Lynch: Head of Democratic Services
Mike Overbeke: Head of Public Protection

To: Police and Crime Panel – 2 February 2017

Subject: Panel Annual Report 2016

Introduction

1. The Panel has considered and agreed an Annual Report on its work each year since 2013. This report summarises the Panel's work in 2016.

Police and Crime Commissioner Election

2. For the first part of the year, the Panel continued to review and report on the actions and decisions of Commissioner Mrs Ann Barnes. PCC elections were held across England and Wales in May. Panel officers provided information on the role and work of the Panel to include in a briefing pack provided by the Commissioner's Chief of Staff to all Kent PCC candidates. Following the election of Mr Matthew Scott as Commissioner in May the Chairman held an early informal meeting with the new Commissioner to start the process of establishing a sound working relationship with the Panel.

Meetings

3. During the year the Panel met 5 times and the Complaints Sub-Panel met once. The Chairman and Vice-Chair held meetings with the new Commissioner from time to time to assist and support the smooth running of Panel business. An informal briefing for Panel members with the Chief Constable took place in November, at which the Chief Constable explained the work of the Force and engaged in discussion with Panel members about policing in Kent and Medway. Panel members found this to be a very useful discussion.

Panel business

4. The Panel met its statutory duty in February to consider and make recommendations on the outgoing Commissioner's draft Police and Crime plan and her proposed precept. The Panel supported the Police and Crime Plan and approved the recommended £5 per household (average) precept increase, although advising caution about the retention of a high level of reserves. The Panel noted that the increase was, in part, to enable the Chief Constable to recruit additional firearms officers. The newly elected Commissioner presented his revised Police and Crime Plan in September which the Panel also supported, while noting that the Commissioner intended to present a fuller 4 year Plan and proposed precept in 2017. The Panel sought and obtained an assurance from the new Commissioner that the funding for additional firearms officers remained in the budget.

5. The Panel met its statutory duty to consider the outgoing Commissioner's Annual Report for 2015 at her last meeting. The Panel subsequently noted the Commissioner's accounts for 2015/16.
6. The Panel held a confirmation hearing for the Commissioner's Chief of Staff to consider the extended appointment of Mr Harper until 2018. The Panel supported the appointment. The Panel also held a confirmation hearing for the Commissioner's Chief Finance Officer, Mr Phillips, and supported the appointment.
7. The Panel discussed a report from the outgoing Commissioner about her work with young people and the establishment of the Youth Advisory Group. While the Panel were supportive of her efforts to engage with young people they continued to feel that more use should be made of existing arrangements and were pleased to hear from the new Commissioner later in the year that he intended to engage with the Medway Youth Parliament and the KCC Youth County Council, among other existing groups.
8. The new Commissioner briefed the Panel at his first meeting on his initial thoughts and the emphasis he was placing on mental health. The Panel has discussed mental health with the Commissioner at all subsequent meetings and fully supports the emphasis he is placing on this subject. The Panel has also received and discussed reports on roads policing and support for victims.
9. In September the Panel introduced a new regular agenda item of "questions to the Commissioner". The Panel welcomed the Commissioner's willingness to answer questions, of which he had been given prior notice. The agenda item has provided a greater opportunity for Panel members to raise issues with the Commissioner that do not form part of his formal reports.

Complaints

10. The Panel received a report on complaints against the previous Commissioner and was pleased to note that, as in every previous year, the number of complaints was very low and none had been upheld. The Panel also submitted comments in response to the Government's proposals to change the procedure for dealing with complaints against a Commissioner. To date none of the proposed changes have been implemented.

Commissioner's decisions

11. Both the outgoing and the newly-elected Commissioner met their responsibility to inform the Panel of decisions of significant public interest at each meeting. The new Commissioner has adopted a much fuller statement of the business case and reasons for his decisions which the Panel has found very helpful. Both Commissioners also published details on their website of expenditure in excess of £500. The new Commissioner has also provided a report to the Panel drawing attention to some of these items and their significance. The Panel welcomed this increased level of openness and transparency. Panel members were also briefed by officers on expenditure of particular interest.

Payments to Panel members

12. The Panel agreed to pay an allowance of £500 per annum to independent members, after considering that a number of other Panels made payments to independent members and that members nominated to the Panel by their Council were able to claim an attendance allowance for Panel meetings.

Panel terms of reference

13. The Panel's terms of reference require them to be reviewed annually. It is considered convenient to do this at the same time as the Panel reviews its work over the past year. The terms of reference were amended in April to clarify the arrangements for nominating independent members and also to clarify the period for which independent members could serve without the need for further advertisement and competition. . No further changes to the terms of reference are required at this time. The full terms of reference can be found by following this [link](#).

Panel budget

14. The Panel's terms of reference also require the Panel to review its budget on an annual basis. Finance for the Panel's work comes from a Home Office grant which has been constant at £63,340 since the Panel was established and is likely to be the same in 2017/18. In 2014/15, expenditure was £30,344 and in 2015/16 it was £31,715. Expenditure consists of reimbursement of Members' expenses and the cost of administrative and policy support to the Panel. It estimated that the outturn for 2016/17 will be similar - approximately half of the grant. The Panel can therefore be assured that its costs are contained well within the money provided by the Home Office.

Conclusions

15. This has been a year of transition for the Panel because of the change of Commissioner. Panel members have commented favourably on the constructive relationship that has developed with the new Commissioner and on the Commissioner's willingness to engage with the Panel.

Contact: Anna Taylor/Joel Cook

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Mike Campbell

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Police and Crime Panel Forward work programme (as at 2nd February)**28th March 2017**

Items will be added to this and future agendas after the Panel has considered Police and Crime plan for 2017-2020.

Police Cadet Scheme - progress report	Requested by Panel (Sept 2016)	PCC
Mental Health - verbal update	Proposed by PCC	PCC

20th July 2017

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman	Annual requirement	N/A
HMIC report on vulnerable persons - follow-up report	Requested by Panel	PCC
Complaints against the PCC and policy review	Requested by Panel	Panel officers
Possible additional powers for PCSO's - further report	Requested by Panel	PCC
PCC's Annual report 2016/17	Statutory requirement	PCC
Update on PCC's expenditure to support the police and Crime Plan	Proposed by PCC	PCC

28th September 2017

Subject	Reason for report	Author
PCC's Accounts 2016/17	Statutory requirement	PCC

15th November 2017

Subject	Reason for report	Author
Update on PCC's expenditure to support the police and Crime Plan	Proposed by PCC	PCC

8th February 2018

Refreshed Police and Crime plan 2017/20	Statutory requirement	PCC
Budget and precept proposal 2018/19	Statutory requirement	PCC
Panel Annual report	Requested by Chairman	Panel officers

Standard item at each meeting

Questions to the Commissioner

Items to note at each meeting

Commissioner's decisions

Governance Board minutes



Meeting Notes

Title: Governance Board

Date & time: Monday, 7 November 2016, 1400hrs

Venue: County Room, Kent Police Headquarters, Sutton Road, Maidstone, ME15 9BZ

Attendees: **Office of the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner:** Matthew Scott (Police and Crime Commissioner), Adrian Harper (Chief of Staff), Rob Phillips (Chief Finance Officer)

Kent Police: Chief Constable Alan Pughsley, Deputy Chief Constable Paul Brandon, Assistant Chief Constable Tony Blaker

1. Welcome & Introduction

The Commissioner welcomed everyone to the Governance Board.

2. Notes of Previous Meeting

The Meeting Notes from the Governance Board held on 2 August 2016 were noted as a true and accurate record.

The Commissioner provided the following updates:

- The Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat Steering Group had secured £59,000 in funding from the Department of Health to improve Places of Safety provision for those in a crisis.
- Helen Greatorex, the Chief Executive of Kent & Medway Partnership Trust had joined him in observing a mental health training session for student constables.
- Following a review of portfolios, he was now the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Lead nationally for mental health - the Chief Constable expressed his delight at this news.

3. Safeguarding Domestic Abuse Victims

The Chief Constable provided a summary of the supporting [paper](#).

The following points were discussed:

- There were 34,403 Domestic Abuse (DA) incidents recorded in Kent to year ending September 2016. Five years previous, the number of incidents recorded was just over 18,000. The increase can be attributed to improved crime recording accuracy and greater public confidence to report.
- In 2015, Kent Police ran an award winning campaign encouraging individuals to report DA. The Commissioner asked for more information on this. The Chief Constable explained that the campaign stemmed from experience that DA incidents increase during national sporting events due to alcohol. The Force used videos, posters and worked alongside partners to help raise awareness of the campaign.
- DA incidents tend to peak during the summer months.
- The ratio of male to female offenders is approximately 4:1. Around 25% of cases relate to family members, 10% to BME groups, and 1% to the LGBT community.

- The Commissioner asked what work is taking place to ensure male victims feel confident to report incidents. The Chief Constable said a range of campaigns focus on promoting confidence in reporting, and the Force also works with organisations such as Domestic Abuse Victim Support Services (DAVSS), to encourage reporting.
- The Force is also focussing on the impact of DA on children who witness such incidents. The Commissioner asked whether incidents involving those under 16 are recorded as DA. The Chief Constable confirmed they are not.
- On route to DA incidents, officers are provided with information about any previous incidents recorded. On arrival, officers complete a Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment (DASH) assessment – this information supports effective decision making.
- The Force is focused on ‘doing the right thing’ and providing a quality service - not arbitrary targets.
- The arrest rate at DA incidents is around 66%. The Commissioner noted this was much higher than when last reported by HMIC.
- Perpetrators will be taken away from the situation to help safeguard the victim. The Chief Constable described an incident where a victim blamed herself, but once the perpetrator was removed from the scene, she opened up to officers and showed extensive bruising to her body.
- Body worn video is increasing first time guilty pleas and also proving helpful in providing evidence at court.
- There is an Op Unity hub in the FCR to ensure DA calls are responded to in a timely and effective manner. Response times to DA incidents have improved.
- A supervisor’s guide to investigating DA has been provided to all officers.
- In July, 34 Domestic Violence Prevention Orders were applied for at court, and all were granted. These help to keep the offender away from the victim.
- The Chief Constable explained the governance arrangements in relation to Op Unity.
- The Chief Constable wants his officers to respond to the most serious incidents and most vulnerable victims, whilst managing public expectations and risk.
- The Commissioner asked if the increase in arrests has had a knock on effect for the wider Criminal Justice system. The Chief Constable said that there have been delays in getting cases to court, which unfortunately sometimes leads to issues with offenders not attending, or victims not supporting. However, body worn video is increasing the number of first time guilty pleas and the Force is working with partners to resolve issues.
- The Commissioner explained that there have been 17 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) in the last year and he has had to provide extra funding to help manage these. He asked the Chief Constable if he has confidence in the DHR process. The Chief Constable said that he believes the process has improved but there are still challenges that the Force is trying to tackle.

Actions

- **Force: update at next meeting on arrests, charges and convictions for DA.**
- **Force: outline at next meeting work to support male victims of DA.**

4. Policing the County’s Roads

ACC Tony Blaker gave a presentation on [roads policing in Kent](#) and the following points were discussed:

- The Force’s main priorities with regards to roads policing are reducing collisions, tackling organised crime and preventing terrorism.
- The partnership with Highways England and local authorities is integral to the work of the Force.
- It is estimated that freight traffic coming through Kent will double over the next few years.
- 55 people were killed on Kent roads in 2015, and there were 492 fewer injuries than 2014. Since January 2016, 36 people have been killed.
- Trends indicate that the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) on Kent roads will increase in 2017. However, it is anticipated that they will decrease by 2020.

- The Safer Roads for Kent Board are working with Kent Police to make the roads safer. The License to Kill video is being shown to teenagers across Kent as they reach the legal driving age. The Road Safety Experience, based in Rochester Fire Station, provides an interactive educational input for young people to deter them from drink and drug driving.
- There is a lot of interest in illegal HGV parking and the Force continues to tackle the issue through the use of fines, awareness raising and education in partnership with other agencies. The Force hopes that the proposed lorry park on the A20 will provide some relief to the problem.
- The Commissioner asked whether the Force targets those areas affected by illegal HGV parking. ACC Blaker stated that there are particular areas targeted, but officers also respond to calls from the public.
- The Commissioner asked whether there was increased activity in relation to mobile phone use whilst driving. ACC Blaker stated that Kent Police officers are encouraged to deal with drivers they observe illegally using a mobile phone.
- He added that the Force is working with young people to warn them about the consequences, and that in the future, there is the potential for the public to be able to upload footage of phone use and dangerous driving.
- The Commissioner asked ACC Blaker if he was confident that Dover TAP would be removed by Spring 2017. ACC Blaker said he was confident and that Highways England are keen to install a permanent solution, which they are prioritising.
- The overall approach to Op Fennel had been reviewed in the past six months, including how to operate Op Stack and Op Perch, as well as how the lorry parks may assist.
- The Force is striving to improve the quality of service provided to those involved in serious road traffic collisions, as well as improving the response time in rural areas.
- Community Speed Watch is considered important and effective, with 68,000 drivers caught last year, and 9,000 receiving a warning letter from Kent Police. 86.6% of those who receive a letter don't re-offend within a twelve month period.
- The Commissioner asked about the requirements for an individual to be sent a warning letter. ACC Blaker explained that a driver will receive a warning letter if they are driving at the speed limit plus 50%.
- The Chief of Staff asked whether the Force would like to expand Speed Watch. ACC Blaker said that the Force is open to its expansion and that it is already promoted on the Kent Police website. He would also welcome the Commissioner promoting Speed Watch through his engagements.

Actions

- **Force: outside of meeting, update on North Wales pilot that allows public to upload webcam footage.**
- **Force: update at next meeting on activity to target specific drivers to reduce crime.**

5. Emerging Risks and Cross Border Crime

The Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) provided a summary of the supporting [paper](#).

The following points were discussed:

- The Commissioner asked whether Kent Police was making progress in relation to addressing vulnerability. The DCC stated that he is confident progress is being made and, for example, HMIC has inspected Kent Police and been impressed with on-going work in relation to this issue.
- The Chief Constable outlined two recent operations which had resulted in Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) being dismantled by partners, including the local authority, with assistance from the Force.
- The Commissioner asked about the children and young people who were left behind or moved elsewhere following the Calais camp being dismantled, and whether this had had a disproportionate effect on resources. The DCC explained that Kent Police had known about the plan for some time and in conjunction with partners, were able to assess the impact and ensure appropriate resourcing levels.

- In relation to digital forensics, the Commissioner asked about the back log, development of local hubs and the outsourcing of some examinations. The DCC explained that the hubs were being set up because demand could not be managed quickly enough and this was putting vulnerable people at risk. The Forensics Manager was currently undertaking a recruitment campaign for 13 new staff. The DCC added that he believes outsourcing had helped with managing the significant demand for examinations.
- The Commissioner said he would like to discuss the Policing and Crime Bill, particularly the implications for those in a mental health crisis at the next Governance Board.
- The DCC explained that the Force had seen vulnerable refugee children housed in Thanet away from their families. For Kent County Council and the Force, this had generated work in terms of challenging the issue and ensuring appropriate safeguarding measures. He said there was no intelligence to suggest serious gang crime was taking place.

Actions

- **Force: outline at next meeting preparations for the Policing and Crime Bill (particularly implications for those in a mental health crisis).**
- **OPCC: update at next meeting on representation at Health & Wellbeing Boards.**

6. Financial Monitoring and Savings Update

The DCC provided a summary of the supporting [paper](#).

The following points were discussed:

- The Commissioner was very pleased that more PCSOs were being recruited.
- The Commissioner asked for more information surrounding the legal case 'Allard and others v Devon and Cornwall Constabulary'. On behalf of the DCC, Mr Ian Drysdale (Director of Corporate Services) explained that the case related to payments for working overtime and that pending the final judgement, there may be a financial impact for police forces - £500,000 had been set-aside by Kent Police.
- The Commissioner said that the live animal exports case had not been discussed in Parliament as expected, and that this matter affected the potential savings.
- The Chief Finance Officer asked whether the funding initiatives had already been planned to ensure no overspend. The DCC confirmed that this was the case.
- He also asked whether recruitment will ensure the number of police officers is maintained and both the DCC and Mr Drysdale provided reassurance that this would be the case.
- The Chief of Staff confirmed that the Commissioner would be receiving monthly updates on staffing levels.

7. HMIC & Other Inspection Report(s) and Performance Update

The Chief Constable summarised the supporting [paper](#).

The following points were discussed:

- The Chief Constable highlighted that the PEEL Efficiency Report was only published last week, and therefore had not been included in the paper. However, the Force had received an overall judgement of 'Good'.
- The Chief Constable also said that the PEEL Legitimacy Report was due out in December, and he anticipated that this would also be very positive.

- The Commissioner said he was concerned at the decline in overall victim satisfaction, but would also like to understand why there had been a decrease in Hate Crime victim satisfaction. The Chief Constable agreed and stated that a contributing factor was the follow-up action taken by officers and staff.
- The Commissioner asked if there was a reason for the increase in serious violence. The Chief Constable said that the definition of intent was a contributing factor and the DCC added that the Force may be over-recording based on this this element.

Actions

- **Force: update at next meeting on review of victim satisfaction survey.**
- **Force: outside of meeting, provide overview of Hate Crime victim satisfaction and activity to address decline.**

8. Topical issues and update on significant operational matters

- The DCC explained that the Force had seen an increase in illegal encampments, from 176 (Oct-Sept 15) to 263 (Oct-Sept 16).
- The number may have increased as members of the public know how to report incidences, and have greater confidence to report.
- The Rural Task Force and Gypsy Liaison Team work very closely with travellers across the county.
- Primacy for dealing with illegal encampments does not sit with Kent Police, but the Force can serve notices to move along. However, the problem is often with finding alternative accommodation.
- It was noted that whilst Kent Police had 176 reports, Essex Police had over 700.
- The Commissioner asked how many of the 87 extra reports related to repeat offenders rather than new families. The DCC could not give a specific breakdown but agreed that this may be the case.
- The Commissioner asked for an update on the investigation into General Election expenses in South Thanet. The Chief Constable stated that it was an on-going live investigation being led by the Serious Crime Directorate. As an operational matter, he could give no further update.

The Commissioner thanked the Chief Constable and DCC for the papers and for presenting them. He also thanked ACC Blaker for his presentation.

Date of next meeting: 1 March 2017

Overview of Actions

	Status	Owner	Due date
Provide an update on arrests, charges and convictions for DA	Open	Chief Constable	01/03/2017
Outline work to support male victims of DA	Open	Chief Constable	01/03/2017
Update on North Wales pilot that allows public to upload webcam footage	Open	Chief Constable	01/03/2017
Update on activity to target specific drivers to reduce crime	Open	Chief Constable	01/03/2017
Outline preparations for the Policing and Crime Bill (particularly implications for those in a mental health crisis)	Open	Chief Constable	01/03/2017
Update on representation at Health & Wellbeing Boards	Open	Commissioner	01/03/2017
Update on review of victim satisfaction survey	Open	Chief Constable	01/03/2017
Provide overview of Hate Crime victim satisfaction and activity to address decline	Open	Chief Constable	01/03/2017