

Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel – 17 October 2023

Questions to the Commissioner from Panel Members

1. *An officer in Folkestone told me recently that while the force locally is carrying out more recruitment than it has in years, the real issue is retention. Does the Commissioner recognise this as a particular challenge and, if so, what plans or measures are in place to address the problem of losing officers and the experience they take with them?*

Cllr Mike Blakemore, Folkestone and Hythe District Council

2. *In his role in holding the Chief Constable to account and following the statements by the Home Secretary recently which said police should 'follow every reasonable line of inquiry' can the Commissioner reassure the Panel that where in areas where CCTV services are provided by local authorities (or indeed by private holders) where crime or suspected crime is committed, the information, images and data captured are fully and 100% utilised as part of the investigative process by Kent Police for each and every report of a crime or incident as part of the commitment and requirement to investigate each and every crime and indeed there is proactive engagement between Kent Police and CCTV systems provided by local authorities to ensure that crimes are proactively investigated and action taken by Kent Police.*

Cllr Shane Mochrie-Cox, Gravesham Borough Council

3. *Can the Commissioner explain how he is holding the Chief Constable to account for the priority 'protecting people from exploitation and abuse' and the safeguarding of domestic abuse victims in particular?*

Cllr Richard Palmer, Swale Borough Council