

DYFED-POWYS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

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1. Chairman's foreword

I am delighted to be able to introduce the second Annual Report of the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Panel.

2018-2019 has again been a busy year for the Panel. The ever increasing demands on our police, together with cuts in central funding means that appropriate decision making by the Police and Crime Commissioner is more important than ever. As such my colleagues and I continue to be committed to holding the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys to account for the performance of his statutory functions and also supporting him to deliver to the public an efficient and effective service.

For the first time the Panel has looked not just at policing in Dyfed-Powys, but also the wider remit of the Commissioner in relation to commissioned services such as victim support.



Cllr. Alun Lloyd-Jones

(Panel Chairman)

2. Changes to Panel Membership

There has been one change to the membership of the Panel during the year, when Councillor Eryl Morgan from Carmarthenshire was replaced by his fellow Carmarthenshire Councillor John Prosser.

On behalf of my fellow Panel members I would like to thank Councillor Morgan for his valuable contribution to the work of the Panel since he was first appointed in 2017.

During the year there was much public and press comment regarding the overall composition of the Panel, in particular the under-representation of women, younger people and members of the BME community. Ultimately however the Panel itself has no control over who is nominated by the four local authorities in the force area to be members of the Panel. The Panel does however have control over who is nominated as independent/co-opted members. During the last public recruiting exercise in 2016 we received two applications from women, one of whom was appointed.

Further information regarding the Panel Members can be found at Appendix 1.

3. Our role:

The functions of the Police and Crime Panel are to;

1. Review the Police and Crime Commissioner's police and crime plan
2. Review the Police and Crime Commissioner's annual draft budget, with the power to veto the level of precept.
3. Deal with certain complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner or his deputy.
4. Scrutinise decisions and actions taken by the Police and Crime Commissioner
5. Review the appointment or removal of the Chief Constable and the appointment of certain senior staff in the Police and Crime Commissioners office

6. Support the Commissioner in the performance of his statutory functions
7. Make reports or recommendations to the Commissioner
8. Review the Commissioner's conduct

The statutory functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner are;

1. Setting the priorities for Dyfed-Powys Police;
2. Publishing a Police and Crime Plan;
3. Engaging with Communities and representing the public's voice on policing matters;
4. Working closely with community safety and criminal justice partners;
5. Supporting victims and bringing people to justice;
6. Commissioning services to make communities safer and to support the vulnerable;
7. Appointing and, if necessary, dismissing the Chief Constable;
8. Dealing with complaints and disciplinary matters against the Chief Constable;
9. Holding the Chief Constable to account; and
10. Setting the annual Police budget and precept level

Neither the Panel, nor the Police and Crime Commissioner has any role in the management of operational policing by Dyfed-Powys Police. Operational Policing is the responsibility of the Chief Constable.

4. Review of the year:

The Panel held 5 formal meetings during the year. The dates of those meetings and links to the agendas, reports and minutes are below.

18th May 2018

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/home/meetings/2018/18th-may/>

27th July 2018

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/home/meetings/2018/july-27-2018/>

16th November 2018

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/home/meetings/2018/16th-november/>

25th January 2019

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/home/meetings/2019/january-25-2019/>

15th February 2019

<http://www.dppoliceandcrimepanel.wales/home/meetings/2019/february-15-2019/>

During the year the Panel scrutinised the Commissioner in relation to a wide variety of topics including;

1. Serious violent crime
2. Rural crime
3. Mental health
4. Youth offending

Complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Police and Crime Panel must record any complaint against the Commissioner that it receives. However the Panel has only very limited powers to deal with these complaints and cannot 'investigate' any complaint that has been made. The Panel is obliged to refer any serious complaint (i.e. a complaint of criminal misconduct) to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) and has no power to compel the Commissioner to take any remedial action in respect of a complaint.

During the year the Panel recorded 2 complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner from members of the public. One of these complaints was concluded during the year and resulted in no further action being taken. The second complaint was carried over to 2019-2020.

Panel priorities for 2018-2019

In its annual report for 2017-2018 the Panel identified 4 priorities for the following year, each of which related to a statutory function of the Panel.

The priorities and outcomes achieved are set out below:

Priority 1	What we did	Our Objective	The Outcome
Scrutiny of the proposed police precept	<p>Reviewed the end of year accounts for 2017-2018</p> <p>Publically questioned the Commissioner about those accounts.</p> <p>Received a briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner and his Chief Financial Officer regarding the financial status of Dyfed-Powys Police and the demands upon it.</p> <p>Received information on the non-police services procured by the Commissioner</p>	To ensure Police and Crime Commissioner's finances are being properly managed and that the people of Dyfed-Powys are receiving value for money from the Police Precept	<p>The Commissioner proposed a significant increase in the precept to address cuts in Home Office funding and increased financial demands upon his budget.</p> <p>The Panel noted that Dyfed-Powys Police had not been able to operate within its allotted budget during 2017-2018 but that this was largely due to unforeseen 'one off' incidents beyond the Commissioner's control.</p> <p>The Panel also noted that the performance of Dyfed-Powys police was rated as generally good, that non-police services</p>

	Held a hearing to consider the proposed precept and made a recommendation to the Police and Crime Commissioner		<p>procured by the Commissioner were generally performing well and that the cost to council tax payers of the service that they received was lower than elsewhere in Wales.</p> <p>The Panel therefore recommended that the Commissioner formally adopt his proposed precept.</p> <p>The Commissioner accepted that recommendation</p>
Priority 2	What we did	Objective	Outcome
Scrutinise how the Police and Crime Commissioner holds the Chief Constable to account	<p>Observed meetings of the Policing Accountability Board</p> <p>Reviewed and scrutinised Agendas and Reports considered at the Policing Accountability Board</p> <p>Questioned the Commissioner about how he holds the Chief Constable to Account.</p>	To ensure that the Police and Crime Commissioner was holding the Chief Constable to account in a thorough and robust manner for the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the operational policing decisions that he(the Chief Constable) makes.	<p>The Panel were satisfied that there was clear evidence that the Police and Crime Commissioner was robustly challenging the Chief Constable where it was appropriate to do so.</p> <p>However, whilst the Panel accepted that the Commissioner performed this function in an open and transparent manner, it recommended that the Commissioner improve this further by publically adopting a criteria to determine when the public would be excluded from Policing Accountability Board meetings.</p> <p>The Commissioner agreed to consider implementing that recommendation</p>

Priority 3	What we did	Objective	Outcome
Scrutinise the impact of the Police and Crime Plan	<p>Received reports from the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the implementation of the Police and Crime Plan</p> <p>Received and noted relevant reports from HMICFRS/other regulators and questioned the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding them</p> <p>Sought the views of the 4 unitary authorities in the force area</p>	To ensure that the priorities in the Police and Crime plan continue to be fit for purpose and that their implementation is achieving the stated aims.	<p>There was clear evidence that the Police and Crime Plan Priorities continue to be supported by key Stakeholders and the public</p> <p>There was clear evidence that the operational performance of Dyfed-Powys police continues to support those priorities</p> <p>There was clear evidence that the commissioning strategies pursued by the Commissioner continues to support those priorities.</p> <p>In light of the above no recommendations were made to the Commissioner</p>
Priority 4	What we did	Objective	Outcome
Improve public awareness of the role and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Panel	We engaged directly with the public and their elected representatives to inform them of our work and seek their views on Policing and Crime in Dyfed-Powys.	To make more people aware of what we do and why we do it.	<p>During the year;</p> <p>490 people responded to our public consultation</p> <p>Webcasts of our meetings were viewed 226 times</p> <p>Our website was visited 1468 times</p> <p>8 questions were submitted by members of the public for consideration</p> <p>In light of this public engagement, during 2019-2020 the Panel will focus on issues identified by the public as being their priorities.</p>

5. OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2019-2020

Based upon the results of the public consultation conducted in 2018-2019 the Panel has determined that in addition to continuing the existing priorities relating to the setting of the police precept and increasing public awareness of and engagement with the Panel, it would also prioritise an examination of how the Commissioner seeks to address Anti-Social Behaviour issues.

Therefore our priorities for 2019-2020 will be

PRIORITY 1	OBJECTIVE	WHAT WE WILL DO	INTENDED OUTCOME
Scrutiny of the Police Precept	To ensure Police and Crime Commissioner's finances are being properly managed and that the people of Dyfed-Powys are receiving value for money from the Police Precept	<p>Review the end of year accounts for 2018-2019.</p> <p>Publically question the Commissioner about those accounts.</p> <p>Receive a briefing from the Police and Crime Commissioner and his Chief Financial Officer regarding the financial status of Dyfed-Powys Police and the demands upon it.</p> <p>Receive information on the non-police services procured by the Commissioner</p> <p>Hold a hearing to consider the proposed precept</p>	That the level of precept set for 2020-2021 is appropriate having regard to all the circumstances.

PRIORITY 2	OBJECTIVES	WHAT WE WILL DO	INTENDED OUTCOME
Anti-social behaviour	<p>To have an understanding of the level of Anti-Social Behaviour in Dyfed-Powys and the impact that it has on people's lives</p> <p>To satisfy ourselves that the Police and Crime Plan gives appropriate weight to the issue and is being implemented in such a way as to deal with it effectively</p> <p>To identify whether there needs to be any changes in the way that Anti-social behaviour is dealt with and make appropriate recommendations to the Commissioner.</p>	<p>Ask the Commissioner to provide the Panel with specific information regarding this issue</p> <p>To invite key stakeholders to give their views to the Panel</p> <p>Seek the views of the public</p> <p>Seek examples of best practice from elsewhere</p>	That the approach being taken by the Commissioner is effectively dealing with issues of anti-social behaviour in the force area and an efficient use of his resources

PRIORITY 3	OBJECTIVE	WHAT WE WILL DO	INTENDED OUTCOMES
Public engagement	To increase public awareness of and improve public engagement with the work of the Panel	<p>Promote the work of the Panel through webcasting and the increased use of social media</p> <p>Take steps to engage with those sections of the public who are unable or do not wish to engage online.</p> <p>Specifically engage with minority groups</p>	That the public are better informed about the work of the Panel and have engaged with the Panel to help hold the Commissioner to account and support him in the performance of his duties.

In addition to these 3 priorities the Panel has identified 5 further issues, prioritised by the public during the consultation exercise conducted in 2018-2019, that it wishes to focus on. Each issue will be a theme of one of the Panel meetings during the year.

These issues are;

1. Crime Prevention
2. Mental Health
3. Domestic and Sexual violence
4. Rural and Wildlife Crime
5. Fraud and Cybercrime

The objective of the Panel in considering these issues is to satisfy itself that the implementation of the Police and Crime Plan in relation to each issue is effective and contributing to the delivery of the overall priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan.

6. CONCLUSION

As I stated in the conclusion to the Panel's first annual report, policing and crime and disorder matters to everyone. We are fortunate that the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner presides over a service which overall is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of our communities.

However there can be no room for complacency. Our communities face ever changing and increasingly sophisticated threats which call into question the continued effectiveness of the traditional community policing methods which many of us value so much.

I firmly believe that modern technology can play an important part ensuring that our communities are protected. The welcome introduction of modern digital CCTV systems in several of our towns is just one example of where investment in such technology can help not just in the policing of our local communities but also in the fight against the significant threat posed by serious and organised crime.



The challenge therefore is to ensure that all the services that the Police and Crime Commissioner provides, not just those delivered by Dyfed-Powys Police officers, are as efficient and effective as possible.

I and my colleagues continue to be fully committed to doing our part to ensure that the people of Dyfed-Powys get the services that they need and deserve.

Alun Lloyd-Jones



APPENDIX 1 – MEMBERS OF THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

MEMBERS OF DYFED POWYS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

NAME	COUNCIL		CONTACT DETAILS
Cllr. John Prosser	CARMARTHENSHIRE		64 Springfields Llanelli Carms. SA15 2DD 01554 403192 email: JGProsser@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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