

Contact: Kamila Coulson-Patel
Direct Tel: 03000 269674
email: K.Coulson-Patel@durham.gov.uk
Your ref:
Our ref:

Mr Stephen White
Acting Durham Police Crime & Victims' Commissioner
Durham Constabulary Headquarters
DURHAM
DH1 5TT

13 November 2020

Dear Mr White,

Police and Crime Panel Response to Police, Crime and Victim's Commissioner's (PCVC) Annual Report 2019-20

As Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel, I would like to thank you as Acting Police, Crime and Victim's Commissioner for attending the Panel's virtual meeting on 16 October 2020 and presenting your Annual Report 2019/20.

The Panel acknowledged the format to provide a concise report that is focused on key priority areas within the current PCVC Plan and reports information on achievements and challenges throughout the year and priorities for 2020/21.

The Panel welcome Durham Constabulary's continued rating of 'Outstanding' for Efficiency and Effectiveness within the HMICFRS PEEL inspection for the fourth consecutive year. In addition, Members note the excellent successes in the checkpoint scheme winning the Goldstein award and that resources produced within Durham to support victims of crime are being adopted internationally. Conversely, within a separate agenda item, Panel members raised concern with confidence levels, restorative measures and re-offending to which I look forward to a response from your office on these areas.

Within our response to the 2018/19 annual report, panel members welcomed the announcement of additional officers as part of the national uplift programme and note your concerns in awaiting confirmation of government funding of years two and three within the forthcoming finance settlement. I would like to also take this opportunity to thank you for the invite to visit the Police Training and Development centre. Sadly, due to the impact

Resources

Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UF
Main Telephone 03000 26 0000

Text Messaging Service 07860 093 073

of coronavirus this could not take place, but I welcome the opportunity for arrangements to be made at more appropriate time.

The annual report includes your priorities for 2020/21, to which I would welcome an update on progress against these areas at the Panel's meeting in February 2021.

I note and understand the impact and sadness to the passing of Mr Ron Hogg CBE on your office and on behalf of the panel I would like to pass on my appreciation to you all for your continued work during this challenging and unprecedented time.

To conclude, I would like to pass on my appreciation to all involved with publication and delivery of the annual report I look forward to working with you to deliver the Panel's work programme for 2020/21. In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I trust you find the Panel's views are constructive and I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cllr Lucy Hovvels M.B.E." The signature is written in a cursive style.

Councillor Lucy Hovvels M.B.E.
Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel

Cc

Sharon Caddell, Acting Chief Executive, Office of the Police, Crime and Victims'
Commissioner

Cllr Lucy Hovvels, Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel

Helen Lynch, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Durham County Council

Luke Swinhoe, Assistant Director, Law and Governance, Darlington Borough Council

Ian Croft, Senior Committee Services Officer, Durham County Council