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Mr Ron Hogg  
Durham Police, Crime and Victims' Commissioner  
Police Headquarters  
Durham  
DH1 5TT

5 July 2018

**PCP Response to Police, Crime and Victim's Commissioner's Annual Report 2017-18**

Dear Mr Hogg,

As Chair of the Durham Police and Crime Panel, I would like to thank you for attending the Panel's meeting on 29 June 2018 and presenting your Annual Report 2017/18.

The report clearly demonstrates work that has been undertaken by your office and with partners throughout the past year to deliver priority areas. The Panel note the achievements highlighted within the report and that following HMICFRS inspections Durham Constabulary was rated 'Outstanding' for Effectiveness in reducing crime and keeping communities safe and for Efficiency. In addition, the Panel acknowledged the achievements with support to victims, the launch of Local Criminal Justice Plan and proactive engagement with young people and communities.

The report illustrates the increase in recorded crime and following a request from the Panel at its development session, I would like thank you for presenting a report on crime statistics to the Panel's meeting. Members noted the rationale for these increases and commented on the demand placed on the Constabulary with reduced officer numbers and raised concern with the reported increase in arson within the past year. The Panel also acknowledges that within these challenges the improvement in confidence over recent years.

I note your ongoing campaigns with regard to funding, national drug policy, minimum unit pricing, drink drive limits and private sector landlords and ask that the Panel is kept apprised of this activity within its work programme.

Within its response to the 2016/17 Annual report, Members requested a progress report on Checkpoint and the Panel welcomed your report to its meeting in October 2017. Furthermore, I would like to thank you for the support

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with the Panel's Development Session on Cybercrime and I look forward to working with you and your office to deliver our work programme during 2018/19.

To conclude, I would like to pass on my appreciation to all involved with publication and delivery of this comprehensive report and 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, reading "Cllr Lucy Howells M.B.E.", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

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