



Cllr David Stewart
Chair, Police and Crime Panel

Via email

Tuesday 12th November 2019

Dear Cllr Stewart,

Hampshire Police and Crime Panel (PCP) Proactive Scrutiny – effective and efficient operational policing

Thank you for your letter outlining the findings of the panel's Proactive Scrutiny work.

The Commissioner welcomes this proactive scrutiny of a key part of his role, and is pleased that his commitment to champion the welfare and development of Hampshire Constabulary staff and officers, and the investments he has made to support the frontline in many areas, were commended by the Panel.

Below are specific responses to the recommendations made in the Panel's report.

Recommendations a), b), c), d) and g)

The Commissioner's evidence to the Panel's proactive scrutiny detailed the range of stakeholder and communications activity undertaken by him and his team to ensure that the value of the Commissioner is more widely understood and recognised. There is always more to do but I would urge any stakeholder who gave evidence to the Panel that they have not had the level of engagement they would like to please contact me directly so that this can be arranged.

Communicating to the public, and stakeholders, the balance between local policing visibility and addressing serious crime is another key priority for the Commissioner and is a particular focus of the budget consultations we do each year. I will continue to look at other ways we can do this.

Recommendation e)

The Commissioner's evidence to the Panel set out the range of ways in which he challenges the Chief Constable and holds her to account, including regular 121s and COMPASS meetings. I would be grateful if you could provide examples of technological equipment purchased by Hampshire Constabulary that was 'obsolete and not fit for purpose' by those who gave evidence to the Panel. The Commissioner can then consider whether this requires further scrutiny at COMPASS.

Recommendation f)

The Commissioner sees Community Safety Managers as integral to the success of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU). The two core outputs of both the Pan-Hampshire and local VRUs are a 'problem profile', identifying the drivers of serious violence, and a 'response



strategy' setting how the VRU will tackle them. These will be developed in consultation with community safety teams and must be signed by the Community Safety Partnership Chair. Narinder Bains, deputy Chair of the Community Safety Practitioner's Forum, sits on the VRU 'core group' – which drives the work of the VRU - to represent the views of CSPs.

A range of other partners are also involved with the VRU representing education, policing, NHS and public health and local authorities and, and there will be further consultation with a wider range of stakeholders who have insight into the drivers of serious violence.

I trust that this letter reassures you that we are taking the Panel's recommendation on board. Thank you again for your letter and the recommendations from the Scrutiny Report.

James Payne
Chief Executive