

This matter is being dealt with by:

Keith Ford

T 0115 9772590

E keith.ford@nottsc.gov.uk

W www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/partnerships/police-and-crime-panel

Mr Paddy Tipping
Police and Crime Commissioner
Arnot Hill House
Arnot Hill Park
Arnold NG5 6LU

cc Kevin Dennis, Chief Executive

2 October 2020

Dear Mr Tipping,

OUTCOME OF PANEL'S CONSIDERATION OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

I am writing to confirm the outcome of the Police and Crime Panel's consideration of your latest Annual Report which you presented to the Panel meeting of 7 September 2020.

As you are aware, due to an already full agenda, we asked Members to consider the report outside of the meeting and to feed in their views to the support officers for collation. Members welcomed the opportunity to comment on the draft Annual Report which was felt to be a comprehensive survey of activity and reflected issues discussed at Police and Crime Panel meetings in the previous year.

In their responses, Members particularly welcomed:

- the graphic in your introduction which helps illustrate the changing local context of an increase in population alongside a 25% reduction in the workforce;
- the extensive efforts you make through consultation and engagement to keep in touch with the public and feedback to them. Members recognise that you personally attend events (such as Pride and Nottingham Carnival) as well as more local events and walkabouts and appreciate your approach to generally making yourself available to the public;
- the improvements in performance - notably the reductions in theft, hate crime, and vehicle crimes;
- the list of amended or completed strategic objectives is useful. It makes sense to incorporate particular projects and initiatives into normal day-to-day business where you are confident that the initiative is sufficiently established;
- the range of activities highlighted in the case study on missing persons. Members know that missing people can be particularly vulnerable or at risk of exploitation and that clear protocols were needed to mitigate this;

- your continuing support for domestic abuse services, and your speedy response to the increased demand during the Covid19 lockdown. As you know, the Panel has long had concerns about protecting victims of domestic abuse;
- the downward trend in violent knife crimes in contrast with the picture elsewhere;
- the extension of technology within the Force - notably the deployment of drones.

The Panel has regularly discussed regional working and partnerships. Members recognise that you have been a leading light in regional collaboration but note from the annual report that recently the emphasis has shifted from regional collaboration to partnerships with blue light services in Nottinghamshire.

The Panel recognises that you and the Chief Constable were quick to take advantage of Operation Uplift to both increase numbers and improve diversity in the workforce. Members are able to attest to the value of Neighbourhood Operation Reacher teams.

Members currently receive 'The Beat' newsletter on a regular basis and would also welcome receiving copies of the 'rural round ups' mentioned on page 2 of the Report.

In terms of possible areas of improvement and clarification within the Plan, Members highlighted:-

- the Introduction refers to Anti-Social Behaviour being down by 3.7% whereas the tables in the report state it is only marginally down by 0.2% in this period. Also, the 8.8% reduction in hate incidents of is highlighted but the 3% increase in hate crime is not underlined;
- page v of the Report covers recruitment, retention and promotion of Black And Minority Ethnic (BAME) staff – Members feel it would be useful to have overall figures for each of these areas alongside BAME figures to help assess whether there is more of an issue in one area, for example, retention;
- does the percentage of staff involved in frontline duties (referenced on page 2) include staff as well as police officers? How is that involvement defined and measured?
- how has the daily cost of policing to local taxpayers (referenced on page 2) reduced by a penny when the precept was increased?
- whilst recognising that the focus of the Annual Report will always be geared towards highlighting successes, it would be helpful for more details of some of the challenges faced and areas of under-performance to be detailed within the body of the Report – for example, details of the Requires Improvement efficiency rating from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services referenced on page 41 can only be accessed via the link included in the electronic version and is therefore not available to hard copy readers.

The Panel looks forward to continuing its positive working relationship with you, your new Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable, and to supporting and scrutinising your ongoing progress over the coming year.

Members appreciate the opportunity to hear from relevant officers about the various projects and initiatives you are progressing and are also keen to seek the views of representatives of other organisations with which you work in partnership to deliver your Police and Crime Plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christine Goldstraw', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Christine Goldstraw OBE
Chair of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel