



COMMISSIONER CAROLINE HENRY

Ref: SC/CH

12th October 2022

Christine Goldstraw,
Chair of the Police and Crime Panel.
Sent by email: cgoldstraw@talk21.com

Dear Christine,

Annual Report – response to recommendations from Police and Crime Panel, in compliance with Section 12 (4) (a) Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

Many thanks for your report and recommendations on the Annual Report that was presented to the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel meeting of 21 September 2022. I am grateful to you for the points that have been collated by you in your report.

I set out my response to those points, in order.

I have been keen to positively engage with Community Safety Partnerships and maintain regular and proactive dialogue with them in respect of our joint efforts to combat crime and disorder. However, I also have a fiduciary duty to the public in respect of ensuring best use of public monies, and we are also subject to regular audits in terms of our internal controls and financial governance. A review of our grant activity found that in previous years, some monies granted to partners were for posts that had in fact been vacant or were duplicating funding streams that partners received separately for services they delivered. That was a driving force for reforming the way in which we defrayed grants and other incidental funds from my Office. This was not a withdrawal of financial support, but it was a transformation, and this was communicated at early stages to key personnel within the CSPs, including at a meeting I had with local strategic leaders on 9 March 2022.

In respect of the crime data integrity concerns and impact on data mentioned by members at the meeting, I agree that this remains an area of concern and one which I regularly revisit during my Accountability Board and other regular meetings with the Chief Constable. I confirm that I am happy to provide a report to Panel on this matter at a future meeting and

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would welcome the Panel Secretariat furnishing my Office with a revised forward work programme in order that we can effectively plan production of such a report in advance of whichever Panel meeting you wish it to be presented at. I welcome your comments in respect of my Accountability Board and agree that it provides a rich seam of information in respect of the reports I provide to Panel.

I welcome your interest in my Local Criminal Justice Partnership Board and am able to provide a discrete report on progress so far, as well as issues discussed and actions that we are collectively working on. You will be aware that Part 2 of the national PCC Review strongly suggested that such boards are to be placed on a statutory footing, convened and chaired by PCCs. Subject to finding an appropriate slot within your work programme, it may be helpful for us to provide such a report during 2023, when it appears that such changes may come into effect.

I would be very willing to work with local councillors in respect of promulgating good news stories, and invite them to make contact with me, via my Office, in order that we can ensure the good work of our Police force and community safety partners is shared as widely as possible. This is critical to feelings of safety and perceptions of effectiveness and efficiency.

I am grateful to the former Commissioner, Mr Paddy Tipping, for his work and decisions on the Nottinghamshire Police estate, and I am proud to have ensured that these significant capital projects have been completed with appropriate oversight and monitoring by my Office. I am delighted at the warm reception that these projects have received and have no doubt that they will enhance the service delivery to the public and particularly to victims of crime.

On the matter of grants, particularly to third sector partners, I remain committed to minimising disruption as far as possible and to ensuring longer settlement periods to facilitate stable conditions in which key services can be delivered and staff delivering them can feel relatively assured of their employment.

May I thank you for the informal suggestions on how the Annual Report might be enhanced, and I can assure you that my Office continues working hard to improving and ensuring greater accessibility to our published information.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Henry
Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner

