

This matter is being dealt with by:

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

Commissioner Caroline Henry
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Joint Headquarters
Sherwood Lodge
Arnold
Nottingham
NG5 8PP

28 September 2023

Dear Commissioner Henry

Police & Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2022/23

Questions were raised about the positive messaging within the report about reducing crime rates and perceptions of increasing crime, notably within the city. There was also discussion around the changing nature of crime, including increased rates of acquisitive crime and particularly theft from shops. A number of members also highlighted trends they had identified of increasing anti-social behaviour in their local areas.

The Panel noted the importance of working in partnership and ensuring stakeholders are consistently represented to enable continuing dialogue. Members were interested in how you navigate the different partnerships in which you are involved, given that there may not be alignment between the priorities in your plan and the priorities and resource allocation of the different partnerships. Members took some comfort from the work you have underway to map all partnerships, their terms of reference and how they align to your delivery plan. We also note the greater alignment that has been creating by using more joined up analytical work and needs assessments.

Members were interested on the impact of resource allocation on trust and confidence, citing specific areas where confidence had been affected by a lack of visible police presence and the impact of officers travelling out of that area to one of the two custody suites that served the police force area. Anecdotal evidence was given about the perception of residents who lived in those areas who did not report matters because they did not believe there was resource to respond or if they did call for support, the officers would take no action so that they did not have to travel to a custody suite. Your comments around the value of larger custody suites that gave access to a wider range of resources and facilities was noted, as was your encouragement for people to telephone the police to report issues and concerns. A comment was also made about front desk provision and a suggestion raised to install safe point cameras alongside yellow phones provided for members of the public to report incidents.

Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel, c/o County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7QP

Questions were raised about the additional police officers who have been recruited and the comment that not all of them would be staying in Nottinghamshire. Panel members would be grateful if you could please provide additional information about this, including the percentage of officers who would not remain in Nottinghamshire. Members were also interested in the relationship between the Uplift figure and the number of officers leaving the force. Please can you provide some narrative for the Panel about the net loss/benefit you are expecting to see moving forwards.

The bodies to which you awarded various grants were noted. Members requested additional information around this; specifically information that shows the spread of the grant funding around the police force area. Members accepted your assurances around the work allied to the award of grants, including monitoring work and requirements around the development of a theory of change.

Your application for further Safer Streets funding was welcomed by members of the Panel and we look forward to hearing the outcome of your latest bid.

Members of the Panel requested information on the following:

- Prosecution and conviction rates for domestic abuse
- An update on tackling rural crime
- The staffing structure of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Latest results of the Police and Crime Survey

Members recognised the achievements of the Office of the Police and Crime Panel with regard to commissioning and bringing in additional funds but suggested that it would be helpful to include within the report greater commentary around the budget delegated to the Chief Constable and how you were holding her to account. The suggestion was made as a means of supporting the budget-setting and precept process as a way of demonstrating to people how their precept was being used.

The approach you used when recruiting a new Chief Constable was commended. Members look forward to hearing a roundup of the Chief's achievements against the objectives you set for her at the point she has been in post for a year.

Thank you very much for sharing your annual report with the Panel; I'm sure members enjoyed the robust discussion about the areas it covered and I am grateful to you for answering the questions raised by members.

Yours sincerely,



Christine Goldstraw OBE
Chair of the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel