

Meeting: Housing Sub-Committee

Date: 22 November 2021

Title: Crime and Disorder Priorities

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Service: Law and Governance

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

To remind the sub-committee of its role in relation to scrutinising crime and disorder issues and to prepare for a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

2. Recommendations

The sub-committee is recommended to consider the information provided in the report and identify some key issues relating to crime and disorder that will be discussed with the Police and Crime Commissioner at the meeting of the sub-committee on 24 January 2022.

3. Details

3.1 The Housing sub-committee has been designated as the Council's crime and disorder committee. This has been part of the sub-committee's terms of reference since it was established in June 2014. The requirement for the Council to have a scrutiny committee designated to scrutinise crime and disorder originates from the Police and Justice Act 2006. The committee must meet at least once a year to consider crime and disorder issues.

3.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Northumbria, Kim McGuinness, has been invited to attend the meeting of sub-committee on 24 January 2022 to give an update on the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and an outline of current key initiatives.

Police and Crime Commissioners

3.3 Police and Crime Commissioners are elected to make sure that local police meet the needs of the community. The PCC is the voice of the people and holds the police to account. Their aim is to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within their force area. The main role of the PCC is:

- Maintaining an efficient and effective Police Force.
- Setting the strategic direction and objectives of the force in a Police and Crime Plan.
- Holding the Chief Constable to account for police performance.

- Setting the policing precept.
 - Deciding the force budget allocating assets and funds to the Chief Constable.
 - Appointing the Chief Constable.
- 3.4 Northumbria Police and Crime Panel (the Panel) scrutinises the work of the PCC by acting as a critical friend – assisting through independent challenge. The Panel has a number of powers and responsibilities, including:
- Reviewing the draft Police and Crime Plan to ensure local priorities have been considered;
 - Scrutinising the Commissioner’s annual report;
 - Reviewing and scrutinising decisions and actions of the PCC;
 - Reviewing, and potentially vetoing, the Commissioner’s proposed policing precept (the part of Council Tax collected for policing); and
 - Reviewing PCC’s proposed appointment for Chief Executive, Chief Finance Officer and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 3.5 Members are invited to highlight any areas contained within the Police and Crime Plan that they would like to discuss with the Police and Crime Commissioner. The current Police and Crime Plan is appended to the report to help members identify priority areas to discuss. Members are reminded that the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner is to set policy objectives for the police force and therefore topics selected should reflect this and not focus on operational policing matters.

4. Appendices

Appendix A - Police and Crime Plan 2021-25

5. Background Information

Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025 <https://northumbria-pcc.gov.uk/v3/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Police-Crime-Plan-V3-FINAL-03.02.21.pdf>