

**POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

**16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2017**

**REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR DERBYSHIRE**

**Update on Strategic Priority 5 of the Police and Crime Plan 2016-21:**

*Working with young people, including those who have been either victims of crime or offenders, to understand their needs and prevent them becoming involved in criminal activities*

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide the Police and Crime Panel with an update on the work undertaken by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), and his office, towards delivering this strategic priority.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Police and Crime Plan for Derbyshire 2016-21 contains seven key strategic priorities.
- 2.2 Strategic Priority Five deals with young people, both as victims and offenders, and working with them to try and prevent/divert them away from the Criminal Justice System and supporting younger victims of crime.
- 2.3 Below the headline priority there are five sub-objectives designed to support its delivery.
- 2.4 The sub-objectives are:
- a) I will develop new ways to engage with young people to understand their concerns about crime and community safety and use this feedback to further develop services
  - b) I will work with partners to ensure advice is freely available for young people and their families about keeping themselves safe online or using social media, including education around Sexting, online exploitation and cyber-bulling
  - c) I will work with partners to support those young people who have been a victim of sexual exploitation
  - d) I will continue to commission a speciality service to support victims of crime who are under 18
  - e) I will support diversionary activity, such as sport, to prevent young people engaging in Anti-Social Behaviour or criminal activity

### **3. Engagement Activity**

3.1 Over the past twelve months the PCC has worked on a number of engagement initiatives to better understand the priorities and concerns of younger people in Derbyshire. Highlights include:

- Working with the County Council and the Youth Takeover initiative I held a 'Youth Strategic Governance Board' meeting in October 2016. This was chaired by young people and included reports from the Force on issues that the young people had highlighted were of concern. Topics ranged from Child Sexual Exploitation/Online grooming through to issues of Gun, Gangs & Knife Crime. Feedback from those involved was very positive and the young people chairing felt they had received the assurance they were looking for and at an appropriate level of detail. It is hoped that they will then be able to report back to their peers, through channels such as the Youth Council, and further disseminate what they had learned.
- The Commissioner has attended a number of events across the City and County as part of Operation Zao – an operation looking at the issues of Knife Crime.
- The PCC and the DPCC have been engaging with the Youth Justice Partnership Board to better understand how the work of the PCC can support the delivery of the Board's objectives. Work is still ongoing in this area. The OPCC have been invited to join the Youth Offending Service Management Board in the County which will strengthen this area of partnership working.
- Engagement with the University has continued with around 400 new students signing up for the Citizen Card that will enable them to prove their age in licensed premises without having to take valuable documents such as passports out with them. This is part of the wider Safe Night Out work has been previously reported to the Panel.
- Work has taken place to promote the work of CORE (Victim Services), and in particular the Got Your Back service that supports young victims of crime.
- The PCC has been involved in a video project in collaboration with the Got Your Back service which it is hoped will be launched later this month.
- The PCC chose Shirebrook Academy to launch the Hate Crime Survey for Derbyshire which will help further develop the provision of services to those who have been a victim of this type of crime.
- Whenever the PCC has been at an event we have also tried to use the opportunity to encourage young people to complete the Listening to You surveys which will help us understand the issues that are important to communities and ensure that the Police and Crime Plan reflects these.

3.2 The PCC has also continued to develop the use of social media as a way to publicise the work of the OPCC and engage with communities. Traditionally social media has been seen as a tool that allows engagement with a younger demographic, though it is not exclusively the case.

3.3 The PCC has, in conjunction with the Police and Students' Union at Derby

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University, supported an initiative called the Drinkaware CREW. Its aim is to target 18 – 24 year olds within licensed premises to raise awareness of vulnerability and promote safer drinking.

- 3.4 The Deputy PCC has met with the Derbyshire County Council Director of Children's Services to discuss closer partnership working. In particular to forge a closer working relationship with schools so that PCC commissioning and grants are tailored to the needs of the schools and plug gaps rather than us just assuming that we know what schools want. We are also hoping for a greater focus on LAC's (Looked After Children) and to see how the Force can help the Local Authority in its role as corporate parent.
- 3.5 The PCC has agreed terms of reference for a Derby City Council Concordat Group to look at how that authority can reduce the number of LAC's entering the criminal justice system, with the next meeting likely to be in December. The DPCC will chair this group.
- 3.6 It is hoped over the coming years to be able to repeat the Youth Survey that was undertaken a few years ago to see if the priorities of young people have changed.

### **4.0 Online Safety and exploitation**

- 4.1 The PCC continues to fund the work of Safe and Sound as part of a co-commissioning arrangement with the City and County councils. This approach has been seen as something of a template for other areas of work where pooled resources are able to tackle issues against a backdrop of cuts and austerity.
- 4.2 As the festive season approaches the PCC with the Force and other partners will look to repeat work from previous years highlighting issues of online safety and sexting. It is particularly important at this time of year as young people may be receiving new mobile phones or other online devices.
- 4.3 Safe and Sound in Derbyshire and Derby City are supporting a number of young people as victims of sexting, on line exploitation and cyber bullying and several VCSEs (CORE Victims services providers - <http://www.core-derbyshire.com/> ) are working together, with Safer Neighbourhood Teams to promote personal safety and how to report/seek help. This includes engagement specifically with schools and youth groups
- 4.4 A separate, but related work-stream, has been the PCC's involvement in the procurement of paediatric SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centres). This work is being delivered through a partnership with NHS England and the deputy PCC, representing the PCC, has been the principle PCC lead for the region on the procure of this service.

### **5.0 Younger Victims**

- 5.1 The PCC continues to fund a bespoke younger victims' service, not something that is widely available to young people across the country.

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- 5.2 The support service for young victims of crime is about to be retendered, for delivery from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. It will have a greater emphasis on reaching those young people and their families in communities who do not engage with statutory organisations, looking at new ways to reach out. This service will remain free and available to everyone, regardless of whether they have reported to the police.
- 5.3 Between April and August 2017 238 young people were referred into the service. Violence (with or without injury) were the highest cause for referral followed by theft of bicycle. As expected the largest number of referral came from Derby City with a fairly even spread across the rest of the county. Victims were mostly aged between 11 and 16, though victims as young as 7 or under were referred. Most of the referrals were for young men.
- 5.4 Follow up work with those who have received a service is showing around a 97/98% satisfaction rate.
- 5.5 Work is ongoing within the office to better understand and demonstrate the effectiveness and impact of victim services.

### **6.0 Diversionsary Activity**

- 6.1 The Derbyshire PCC was a national lead PCC on a successful bid into the Police Transformation Fund. The funding will be used to continue to develop the collaborative work with Street Games and Sport England to identify the hallmarks of effectiveness for commissioning and delivering quality Youth Diversionsary Activity. To date 26 PCCs have signed up to this project, work continues to encourage the other to come on board.
- 6.2 The PCC will be speaking at the national Crime Prevention and Sport Conference in December. This will be an opportunity to address over 100 people who are involved in sport, criminal justice and diversionsary/prevention activities. Places at the event may still be available if Panel Members would like to attend
- 6.3 On a local level the PCC continues to fund Sporting Futures for delivery in Derbyshire as part of a 3 year funding arrangement and has awarded a number of grants to projects across the County and City that offer diversionsary activity to young people.

### **7.0 Recommendations**

- i That the report and the work that the PCC has undertaken on this objective be noted.

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