

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

23rd March 2017

REPORT OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR DERBYSHIRE

Police & Crime Plan Strategic Priority 1: Working to keep the most vulnerable in our communities safe from crime and harm and supporting those who unfortunately find themselves a victim of crime.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Police and Crime Panel (the PCP) of progress made against Strategic Priority One of the 2016-2021 Police & Crime Plan for Derbyshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the Commissioner to publish a Police and Crime Plan, setting out their police and crime objectives.
- 2.2 The Plan needs to be published by the end of the financial year in which the Commissioner is elected, in this case by the end of March 2017. In September 2016 the PCP agreed the proposed plan, which now forms The Police and Crime Plan for Derbyshire 2016-21 (The Plan).
- 2.3 The Plan builds upon the work of the previous Commissioner, and contains seven strategic priorities.
- 2.4 Historically the Commissioner has reported on each of the Strategic Priorities through a Performance Framework developed by the PCP. Currently a revised framework is being developed for approval by the PCP.
- 2.5 In order that the PCP can understand work undertaken in the first six months of the Plan, the Commissioner is using this report to give an update on work towards Strategic Priority 1.

3. Victim Services

- 3.1 On the 1st of October 2014, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Derbyshire took over responsibility from the Ministry of Justice for commissioning victims services.
- 3.2 The Commissioner's primary function in respect of victims is to deliver the Victims' Code of Practice in line with EU regulations i.e.
- Free of charge
 - Confidential
 - Non-discriminatory
 - Available whether or not a crime has been reported to the police, and

- Available before, during and for an appropriate time after any investigation or criminal proceedings

3.3 The approach to commissioning has seen a generic service commissioned to support victims of crime along with specialist provision for hate crime, domestic and sexual violence, young people and restorative justice.

3.4 Under the terms of the grant from the Ministry of Justice, the funding was only available to those who were victims of crime – this distinction meant that work with victims of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) could not be funded through this revenue stream.

3.5 As part of the 'Quality of Life' agenda, the PCC is keen to ensure that all victims are supported, whether a crime has been committed or not, and to this end has recently commissioned a service to support these victims. The provider is the same as for the generic support service and it has hoped this should allow for a more seamless pathway. Community safety partner, housing providers and the Constabulary are assisting in this service.

3.6 To date the following contracts have been let around supporting victims:

Contract	Value 17/18 (pa)	Partners	Start Date	Expiry date	Extension Options
Restorative Justice (Remedi)	£141,000	PCC	April 2015	March 2018	1+1 years
Child Sexual Exploitation (Safe and Sound)	£40,000	PCC/City and county councils City host	August 2015	July 2019	0
Generic , Hate Crime and ASB provider (Remedi)	£416,250	PCC	April 2016	March 2018	2 years
Domestic Violence City service (Refuge)	£140,750	PCC	April 2016	March 2019	1+1
Domestic Violence – County service Action and Trident)	£139,000	County Council/PCC Council host	April 2016	March 2019	1+1
County IDVA service (Annual Grant) (DDVSAS)	£89,000	County Council Host , PCC, Derbyshire Constabulary, Community Safety and Public Health	April 2017	March 2018	0
Sexual Abuse and Violence – General emotional and practical support (SV2)	£50,000	PCC	April 2016	April 2018	0
Young people (Remedi)	50,000	PCC	April 2016	March 2018	0
Total	£1,066,000.00				

- 3.7 A shift from an automatic 'opt in' to victim services from those who contact the police to report a crime, to a system that asks if people want to be contacted by a support service has allowed for a more efficient way of working.
- 3.8 Should people wish to self-refer, or change their minds about wanting a service at a later date, all services are expected to take, and encourage, self-referrals.
- 3.9 In order to maximise outcomes and ensure value for money, the generic service, restorative justice, youth service and ASB service are based at Force HQ and co-located with the Force's Witness Care team – this means that all of the money granted can be used to pay for services as there are no rent or utility costs charged to the providers.
- 3.10 A Victims website 'CORE' <http://www.core-derbyshire.com/> was established as a central resource for victims, to provide a branding for all commissioned victims providers in Derbyshire, local service providers and statutory partners to ensure increased access to advice, information, direct links to commissioned service websites, and options for self-referral into those services for help.
- 3.11 The Constabulary's 'Think Victim' programme has been expanded. This seeks to provide information, guidance, training and raising awareness of the needs of victims to those working on the 'frontline'. This supports greater joint working between the support providers and the police to improve the experience of victims using all those services.
- 3.12 In addition to commissioning plans in Derbyshire, there have been ongoing conversations and meetings across the region to develop and identify further opportunities for regional approaches.

4.0 Restorative Justice

- 4.1 The PCC has commissioned a specialist provider to undertake Restorative Justice (RJ) work within Derbyshire.
- 4.2 Since starting in July 2015 330 victims have taken part in RJ work. 99.05% of whom have been satisfied with the service they received and 97% of whom would recommend RJ to others.
- 4.3 The service in Derbyshire sees RJ work facilitated across all stages of the Criminal Justice System from out of court disposals to post-court sentences.
- 4.4 Remedi, the specialist service provider commissioned to deliver this service, considers that Derbyshire Constabulary have an excellent system in place to ensure that officers are clear about which cases should be referred through for an RJ intervention. They also note that the Force have a dedicated RJ lead demonstrating a genuine commitment to the approach.
- 4.5 Feedback from those who have been through the process has included:

"I've finally got answers to the questions I've had for such a long time."
"I never expected to get an apology so I am thankful for that. I am relieved to

know that we weren't targeted."

"Last night was the first time I feel that I've truly slept in a long time."

5.0 CORE Website

- 5.1 The victim services website – CORE, continues to grow and develop.
- 5.2 The hope is that this information hub will allow victims of crime, or their friends/families, to understand what services are out there to support them and help them cope and recover.
- 5.3 The office has commissioned a piece of work to develop an assessment framework to ensure that the PCC has confidence in the quality of service delivered by those agencies it promotes via the website.
- 5.4 During a recent visit to the OPCC Baroness Newlove, the Victims' Commissioner, was very interested in this approach to ensure a high quality of service and we have shared our work to date with her.

6.0 Recommendations

- i) That the Panel notes the progress made against Strategic Priority 1 of the Police and Crime Plan.
- ii) That for further information the Panel notes the specific reports made to the Strategic Governance Board at its meeting on 27th March 2017.
- iii)

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