Making Cheshire an even safer place to live



Foreword

As your Police & Crime Commissioner, my vision is to make Cheshire an even safer place to live. I recognise that this isn't something that the police and I can do alone – we need to work closely in partnership with a range of organisations to tackle issues at a local, regional and national level. This work will reflect the views of the people of Cheshire.

2012 marked a year of major change for the police service with the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners, replacing the role of Police Authorities. This change sees a reduction in the Government's hold and direction over policing and puts the mandate for what needs to be done locally to drive the fight against crime in the hands of the public. I have been elected as Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire on the basis of the priorities I set out in my manifesto. During my campaign and since being elected, I have been working hard to listen to the public to understand the key issues that are important to you and that you feel need addressing over the coming year. Alongside this, I have also taken into account those key areas of policing that will protect communities, especially those most vulnerable, and keep them safe from harm.

By using this information and working with key partners from across Cheshire, I have developed my first Police and Crime Plan for 2013-16, in which I have set out my objectives for the coming year and beyond. From these objectives you, the public, will be able to hold me to account for my performance over the coming years.

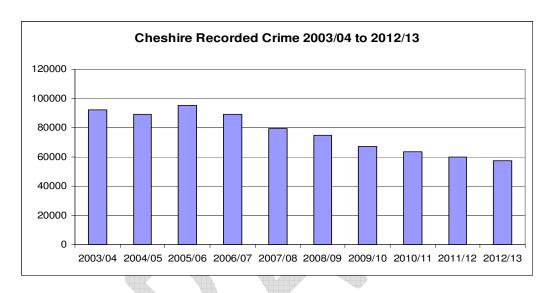
I have sworn an oath of impartiality to represent all sections of the public without fear or favour, ensuring that the police are able to cut crime and protect the public. I will work with the Chief Constable to protect the principle of operational independence and will not dictate to any officer regardless of rank on how they must use their police powers. Decisions I make will be transparent and made visible so that I may be properly held to account.

If you are interested in my work and want to find out more then please visit my website www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk, follow me on Twitter @cheshirepcc, or contact my office on Tel: 01606 364000.

John Dwyer
Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire

Making Cheshire an even safer place to live

Cheshire is already a fantastic place to live with low crime rates which have fallen by 38% over the last decade.



I want to provide a strong voice for policing in Cheshire to build upon this success. I will be relentless in ensuring that police officers are free from bureaucracy and are able to do what they do best instead – policing.

Key facts about Cheshire......

- 450,000 households
- Population of over a million people
- Pockets of extreme wealth contrasting with areas which are amongst the most deprived 10% of locations across the country
- Areas of great diversity, with large rural expanses, areas of extensive heavy industry, a number of urban areas including Chester and Warrington
- More than 200 miles of motorway and the West Coast Mainline railway also runs through the county
- The international airports of Manchester and Liverpool within close proximity

How does this impact on the way we police in Cheshire

Cheshire's position in the North West region means that as residents you have access to the beautiful rural landscape that makes up large parts of the county as well as being easily placed to travel outside of the area to the metropolitan locations of Greater Manchester and Merseyside for leisure and employment. However, our close proximity to these areas also has an impact on the patterns of criminality within Cheshire. Travelling criminals use the extensive road networks to enter and exit the county to commit crime, some of which is of a serious nature, providing a constant challenge to the way that the Constabulary needs to police the area.

I will work with the Chief Constable to develop policing services which are adaptable and responsive to the diverse landscape that makes up Cheshire.

In developing these services, I will ensure that the police remain responsive to the needs of different communities and know that equality, diversity and human rights are central to providing excellent public services. I will strive to develop innovative ways that we can advance equality and good community relations across Cheshire. I will also maintain oversight of the Chief Constable in his requirement to adhere to the general and specific equality duties and will make sure that information is published which evidences the work being completed.

I recognise that my role as your Commissioner is one of great responsibility, ensuring that the resources are in place in the most effective way to deliver the objectives that I have set out in this Plan. As part of this responsibility I will work with the Constabulary to ensure we have a robust joint risk management framework in place to identify any potential factors preventing me from achieving these objectives or help identify any opportunities to implement them more effectively.

How I have developed this Plan

In developing this Police & Crime Plan and the key areas I intend to focus on, I have taken into account a range of information, including:-

- Those priorities that the public have stated are important to them which have been sought via various forms of consultation with communities, including victims of crime and businesses.
- A strategic assessment carried out by the Constabulary which outlines key opportunities and challenges to policing in Cheshire, alongside analysis of current demand and performance information.
- Those issues which are important in protecting the most vulnerable people of Cheshire as well as those wider issues where the police service needs to ensure that sufficient capabilities are in place to respond to serious and cross border criminality (the Strategic Policing Requirement).
- A Cheshire wide analysis of community safety issues and priorities which have arisen from our partners' plans.
- Those issues included in my manifesto upon which I have been successfully elected.

Below is a short summary which highlights the key issues raised within each of these areas.

The issues you see as important.....

I spent a lot of time during my campaign and since coming to office to seek out and more fully understand the issues that are important to you. This is a vital part of my role if I am to be able fulfil my duty to you as Commissioner and ensure that you regularly have a say in how policing is run in Cheshire.

I have set out below a summary of the key issues that you have raised as a priority; these have been collected in a number of ways including roadshows, focus groups with diverse communities and surveys.

What you have said......

- Anti-social behaviour remains your number one priority
- Improving road safety
- Tackling alcohol related crimes and incidents including anti-social behaviour as well as violent incidents
- Reducing theft
- Targeting drug dealers
- More engagement with communities including more visible foot patrols and increased PCSO numbers
- Reducing unnecessary paperwork
- Overall reduce crime

I will be accessible as your Commissioner, so you can raise your issues or let me know how the Constabulary are doing. Your feedback will be key if I am to develop the services needed by the public. This approach is more important than ever as budgets continue to tighten and new ways of delivering services are sought.

I will work with the Constabulary to ensure that communication processes are in place for communities to have access to information regarding the delivery of policing and about how they can express their views, needs, expectations, compliments and where necessary disappointment in the services provided.

I will ensure that the Constabulary continues to arrange beat meetings which are at the heart of neighbourhood policing, allowing those officers working in the community to fully understand your local concerns.

Constabulary's Strategic Assessment

The strategic assessment is undertaken annually by the Chief Constable in order to better understand those issues which have the potential to cause harm to communities or have the biggest impact on the police service as a whole. The current assessment has highlighted the following major issues which I have taken into account when developing my objectives for inclusion in this Plan:

Key issue – Spending

As all public services prepare to enter the third year of the Coalition Government's spending review, the challenge to align shrinking resources with my clear commitment to provide frontline services to communities will be faced. I will be playing a lead role in ensuring that the services provided by the Constabulary are as efficient and effective as possible.

What I am committed to doing

I committed in my manifesto to instigate a root and branch review of the Constabulary to look for more efficient ways of working. I have set up a task force to look at the range of proposals in my manifesto and have asked them to report to me early in the year on their implementation. The savings found by this exercise will be made available to the Chief Constable for frontline policing. I will seek to build partnerships with neighbouring police forces and other agencies to drive down the costs of buying products and services. Where possible I will ensure that effective commissioning arrangements are in place to ensure the efficient use of public funds and to help achieve the objectives set out within this Plan.

Drugs and Alcohol

Drugs and alcohol use are clearly recognised as key causes of harm within our communities, leading to increased levels of crime, family breakdown and poverty. The impact can vary from being a victim of crime, living in an area where drugs and alcohol are creating anti-social behaviour or living with someone who is dependent on one or both of them, causing misery and pain to individuals and families and undermining communities.

What I am committed to doing

I will seek to reduce drug-related crime within Cheshire whilst nationally the National Crime Agency will lead the fight against organised crime and enhance the security of our borders. Joint Strategic Assessments with our partners have highlighted that this is a key issue and my role will help to further foster the relationships needed to deliver improvement for example with drug rehabilitation services to help offenders to break the cycle of dependence on drugs and alcohol. Where this does not work, I will ensure that robust targeted activity is undertaken when it is needed.

Preventative activity and getting messages across to those groups who are vulnerable to the influences of alcohol and drugs is a key way of tackling this issue. Schools and Health & Well Being Boards will be key partners in helping the Constabulary and me to tackle these issues and we will work together to develop new and innovative ways to get the message across regarding the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Protection of the vulnerable

Protecting vulnerable people and identifying and managing the risks that exist within our communities is a central role that lies at the heart of our approach to policing Cheshire. This is an area of activity which has also been consistently highlighted from our partners as we all strive together to ensure the protection of vulnerable people.

The Constabulary provide strong specialist support at both a local policing level and with partners to protect vulnerable individuals, families and communities from serious harm. Providing services which cover safeguarding children and adults, domestic abuse, stalking and harassment, honour based abuse, mental health, missing persons, human trafficking, and potentially dangerous persons to name just a few.

What I am committed to doing

I recognise the work that the Constabulary already undertakes in this area in close partnership with others and I will help to build on these partnerships that are essential to meet the needs of our local people throughout the diverse communities of Cheshire. I will work with the Constabulary to ensure that processes are in place to identify vulnerability at the earliest point of contact so that the most appropriate response can be given.

Virtual Communities/Cyber Crime

Technology is a central part of most people's lives and in most cases brings a very positive and welcome addition to many of us on a daily basis. The use of computers, mobile phones and the internet provides us with previously unimaginable access to information and services. The Constabulary has made huge advances over the last few years to make best use of this technology both in terms of the systems it uses internally to share and process information and also in the way that it communicates with communities. Facebook and Twitter provide instant access to information that can be used to help make Cheshire a safer place and also provide a mechanism to gain your views on the services being provided.

What I am committed to doing

I have pledged that I will continue to embrace these advances in technology for the benefits of the pubic and will be looking for new and innovative ways to improve the services that are provided. Unfortunately there remains a small section of our society who, as with all forms of crime, use these advances for their own gain.

I continue to hear from parents who are worried about their children using on-line chat rooms and social networking sites and through my Youth Ambassador, will work with the Constabulary to ensure that messages about internet safety are provided not only to schools but are also available to parents so we can ensure as many people as possible are aware and acting to prevent any potential crimes.

I will seek to develop a free smart phone application which you will be able to use to report crimes and send in pictures and videos which can be reviewed by the police.

Strategic Policing Requirement

Policing is an issue that crosses many boundaries, not only within Cheshire with our public service partners, but also regionally and nationally. We continue in our fight to tackle some of the more organised elements of crime such as large scale drugs supply and also those incidents where we are required to join resources in ensuring that the police service nationally can tackle issues. These include incidents such as the riots across London and other large cities in the summer of 2011 and more positively in providing the policing response to the Olympics and Paralympics in 2012. Forces often need to work collaboratively, and with other partners or national agencies such as the Borders Agency and Trading Standards to ensure such threats are tackled effectively.

In helping us to prepare for these issues the Home Secretary has issued a Strategic Policing Requirement. The Home Secretary has engaged with policing and other partners to develop the Strategic Policing Requirement which sets out the Government's views of the national threats that the police must address and the appropriate national policing capabilities they believe are required to counter those threats.

Key Threats.....

The current Strategic Policing Requirement has identified the following threats:

- Terrorism
- Organised crime
- Public disorder
- Civil emergencies, and;
- Cyber threats

These issues can impact at a local level where harm can be felt and escalate to a national level (often incredibly quickly and dynamically as seen with the riots during

2011). They often require a response that is rooted in local policing understanding issues at a neighbourhood level. Police forces also need to be able to come together to play a part on a local, regional and national basis to address threats.

I will work with the Constabulary to plan and prepare our response to these national threats. I will work in collaboration to ensure that the Constabulary is able to contribute in the most efficient and effective manner in order to maintain sufficient resources to meet these operational needs if so required. I will work with the Chief Constable to ensure that the most appropriate training, assessment and accreditation of key specialist roles are in place and that good working arrangements exist with those national agencies that help tackle those cross border and national threats that have the potential to impact on our communities. I will also seek to build upon the existing excellent collaboration work within the North West region and which Cheshire has undertaken with others.

Other key areas of importance

The following section of the Plan details some further areas of activity which I believe are important in progressing in order to achieve my overall aim of making Cheshire an even safer place to live. These key issues reflect a number of my manifesto pledges and priorities from other partner organisations.

Neighbourhoods at the heart of policing

As your Police and Crime Commissioner, for the first time, you will be able to hold a single directly elected individual to account for policing in Cheshire. I am dedicated to bringing communities closer to policing, building confidence and restoring justice in the policing and criminal justice system.

I often hear from residents in Cheshire that greater visibility and engagement within communities is one of those key issues.

I will be a strong voice for policing in Cheshire and have promised to be as accessible to you as possible through regular surgeries and public meetings as well as embracing modern forms of technology so I can establish and maintain an on-going dialogue with you.

I will support the Constabulary to build on the great work that has already been done to embed neighbourhood policing. This model of policing has already helped to address many of those incidents of crime that impact on you at a community level but we need to ensure that this is embraced further to ensure that local policing provides the right outcomes for victims and the community.

Special Constabulary and Volunteers

We are fortunate in Cheshire to have a wide range of volunteers who bring their skills and experience to different roles and enhance policing. The Cheshire Special Constabulary has 358 Special Constables as at the end of December 2012. The Constabulary also has over seventy police support volunteers who assist officer and staff in a number of activities.

My Office also appoints fifty three independent Custody Visitors who check on the welfare of detainees at the Constabulary's custody suites. In addition, three Dog Welfare Visitors are responsible for reporting on the conditions under which police dogs are kept, transported and deployed. Sixteen volunteers audit the services and information provided at police station front desks and act as critical friends in ensuring that public contact points are accessible and deliver a good standard of service.

The Constabulary currently has sixteen cadets attending a Police Cadet Programme which aims helps young people develop skills and social responsibility and facilitates links between the police and young people. I will work with the Constabulary to review the programme and increase the number of young people who benefit from participating in it.

I intend to expand the opportunities for volunteering, both to add to the Constabulary's skill base and to enable local people to make a positive contribution to policing. The total number of volunteers in the roles outlined above stands at 435, and I intend to significantly increase the number of volunteers in the Cheshire police family over the period of this Plan.

Victims

Being a victim of crime can be a traumatic and life changing experience and too often we hear stories where the offender is given greater priority than those of the victim or witness of those crimes.

In developing this Plan, I have specifically sought the views of victims of crime, which has provided this key group an opportunity to help shape how policing services are to be delivered in the future.

In addition, the Government intends that from 2014, I will be responsible for a large part of the associated budgets that are currently in place for victims' services. Over the next twelve months, I will carry out a stock take of victims' services within

Cheshire. I will work with victims to ensure that the services that are commissioned from 2014 onwards are as responsive to the needs of victims and witnesses as possible and focus on prevention, coping with the experience and helping them to recover from being a victim or witness. I will seek to develop a good working relationship with the Government's new Victims Commissioner to ensure any available national support is directed to Cheshire.

As part of my manifesto, I have committed to establishing a Sentencing Unit within my own office to help improve the confidence that communities have in every step of the criminal justice system. This Unit will closely monitor sentences passed by the courts and ensure that all opportunities to influence sentencing are taken. I will also engage with the National Sentencing Council to achieve the best possible outcomes for Cheshire.

Young People

Young people are an important part of our communities. Often when people try to involve communities in decision making, it is mainly adults who get involved. But it's important to make sure that young people are able to influence decision making too. Young people can bring very valuable experience and a different perspective on the issues communities face.

I set out in my manifesto my commitment for more effective engagement with the young people across Cheshire. I believe that engaging early and providing a bridge between young people and the police will help in the fight to prevent people from offending in the first place which is far more effective than dealing with the consequences once it has happened. I will appoint a Youth Ambassador to ensure that our young people have a point of contact to register their views as well as a champion to communicate key messages regarding issues such as internet safety and the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

In addition to this, I will also work with the Youth Justice Boards and local Youth Services to influence the commissioning of services and programmes which will help to prevent and reduce youth crime and anti-social behaviour.

Anti-Social Behaviour

I have made clear my intention get tough on the yobbish behaviour that at times blights all our lives. Drunkenness, graffiti, littering and allowing dogs to foul footpaths are all unacceptable. These crimes will only increase if we accept or ignore them.

I will work in partnership with the Constabulary and other agencies and communities to provide diversionary activities and resilience. Furthermore, I will encourage a restorative approach so that the message is clear to offenders of the impact of their actions and what they can do to retrieve the situation and improve their behaviour in the future.

Tackling re-offending

All too often, large numbers of crimes are committed by small groups of people and the common denominators are often drugs and alcohol.

Offenders who carry on committing crimes time after time create more victims and damage the communities where they live or where they are committing their crimes. If we are to have safer and stronger communities then we need to minimise reoffending, support people to pay back constructively for their crimes and build better lives for themselves, their families, and their communities.

I am committed to supporting and encouraging effective multi agency work to target and case manage offenders who become problematic due to substance misuse or other crime related factors. The Constabulary have already seen excellent results from this approach and I will be working closely with them to build on this success through the introduction of a '100 Team' for those offenders who are committing the most crime. The team will bring together partners from the Borough Councils, Drug Rehabilitation, Probation, Housing Officers, the Courts, mental health organisations, GPs' and the police to develop tailored solutions for those individuals.

Policing the roads

As members of the community most of you will be affected by the road network on a daily basis either as a driver, passenger, cyclist, motorcyclist or pedestrian. Whilst the number of road traffic collisions in Cheshire has declined over the last ten years there are still too many fatal and serious injuries on our roads.

I will ensure we continue to focus on highways policing to encourage users to be considerate of others on the road. In tackling many of the road related issues, the Constabulary will not be able to address them alone, and I will encourage continued partnership working in order to promote the 'safer roads' message to all drivers.

Drink driving is already unacceptable but I also want to take a strong stance against those people who also drive under the influence of drugs. During my term in office, I will be lobbying the Government to develop technology and introduce legislation

which will assist the police in determining whether a driver is under the influence of drugs.

Rural Crime

Crime can have a devastating impact on the community in which it happens. However, crime in a rural area can bring the community to a halt, especially where this is committed against a rural business as they may not be able to work as effectively as usual. The rural community often feel vulnerable due to the remote nature of their location and broad nature of criminality that affects them.

I have already mentioned the increased use of volunteers and Special Constables. Special Constables linked to small villages will play a key role in the battle against rural crime. I also see the importance of encouraging more representation from rural communities on local criminal justice boards and community safety partnerships. I will also seek to ensure that the Constabulary tackles any wildlife crimes which occur in Cheshire and work effectively with the national Wildlife Crime Unit.

Working together.....

Working in partnership remains critical to the delivery of effective outcomes in reducing crime, as is the need for all public services to better understand, and further embrace the culture in which we can all operate more effectively. At present work is underway across all public services to reduce any waste, duplication, and inefficiency which may exist, for example, where there is handover between individual organisations, so that processes are more aligned to a whole "public service system".

With even greater challenges to public finances anticipated in the years to come, effective partnerships can provide one of few opportunities to reduce cost without reducing the quality of service that is provided to the public.

As Police and Crime Commissioner it will be a central part of my role to further foster these relations with key partners to provide community leadership and ensure that we are all working to achieve common and effective outcomes for the public. In particular I intend to work with those public services that can help address the root causes of policing demand around drugs, alcohol, mental health and family breakdown amongst others.

As part of this role I will have available to me a Crime Reduction Fund which I will use in order to award grants and/or commission services from other partners to help me in achieving my vision of making Cheshire an even safer place to live. Where these agreements are put in place I will ensure that key delivery objectives are agreed in advance. This will ensure partners are clear on what information I need in order to be able to monitor their performance and be able to hold them to account.

The Constabulary already has established working arrangements with a range of partners including:

- Borough, Parish and Town Councils
- Probation Service
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Prison Service
- Health Trusts
- Youth Offending Teams
- Housing Associations
- Jobcentre Plus
- Drug and alcohol action teams
- Voluntary sector

Considerable work continues to progress across the region to develop more opportunities for police collaboration, building on to those already working successfully and delivering results. I will build on this strong platform of activity to ensure that wherever possible the capacity and capability of policing operations is increased and any cost savings realised.

In addition, I will also work in partnership to seek opportunities to align processes to ensure the consistency of approach and improved connectivity between forces and other partner agencies.



What I want to achieve - My objectives for 2013/14

I have already set out the range of information which has helped me in developing the objectives that I am committed to achieving during my term in office as your Commissioner. Whilst developing this Plan I have consulted with the public, victims of crime, the Chief Constable and with other key community safety partners.

This Plan, and the objectives contained within it, will be the key document that I will use to set the strategic direction for the Constabulary. It will also be the mechanism by which I will communicate my intentions with you the public as well as other key partners and stakeholders. Detailed below are the objectives and those measures that I will use to monitor progress in terms of implementation.

Objective One

Enhance frontline policing to enable the Constabulary to prevent and further drive down crime.

First and foremost the Constabulary is here to provide policing to the communities of Cheshire. This policing service needs to be flexible and adaptable to respond to the wide and varied range of crimes and incidents that affect you as residents. As part of this priority, I will work with the Chief Constable to develop the way we deal with the issues presented by anti-social behaviour, business crime and rural crime and to make our roads safer.

Measures

Total number of recorded crimes

Proportion of staff resources allocated to frontline duties

Total number of anti social behaviour incidents

Total number of rural crimes

Total number of business crimes

Proportion of people who perceive ASB to be a problem in their area

Number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions

Proportion of people to perceive drug use or dealing to be a problem in their area

Objective Two

Protect Cheshire's communities from harm

Crime is on the decline, however, there are still sections of our community who are more vulnerable to becoming the victim of crime. I want to ensure that the

Constabulary continues to develop services which protect these most vulnerable people and communities as well as tackling those more serious and organised crimes and civil emergencies which we may need to be able to respond to on a local, regional and national basis.

It is difficult to identify either one or a small number of measures which effectively highlight the wide ranging work that is completed by the Constabulary in protecting communities from harm. Performance against this area of work which is both sensitive in nature and subject to high levels of confidentiality will be effectively scrutinised through my governance arrangements.

Measures

Recorded number of rape offences

Recorded number of sexual assault offences

Number of incidents of domestic abuse

I will also consider periodic reports on human trafficking, child sexual exploitation and the operation of TITAN, the regional Serious and Organised Crime Unit, which is responsible for tackling some of the most serious criminals operating in the North West.

Objective Three

Support victims and witnesses of crime and take a robust stance in tackling those who continue to re-offend.

As your Commissioner, I want to ensure that victims and witnesses of crime are at the centre of the criminal justice system and are able to help me develop the services needed not only to support them but to improve services for the future.

Many offenders who continue to commit crimes within our communities have underlying factors which, if tackled, would help to prevent them from committing further crimes. These factors can range from alcohol and drug abuse to housing and social care problems as well as health related problems such as mental health. By taking a robust stance not only will we seek out the right criminal justice outcomes but also work in partnership to design and tailor individual solutions which will help to prevent further re-offending.

Measure

% of crimes solved

% of offenders dealt with who have been dealt with by the police previously (in the last two years)

Percentage of users satisfied with the service they received

% of victims of anti social behaviour satisfied with the action taken in response to their

Objective Four

Continue to build on the strong partnership between the police and the communities of Cheshire.

My success as your Police and Crime Commissioner will depend on me understanding those issues that are important to you and helping to shape the police service to address those issues. In doing this I am committed to being an accessible Commissioner who will hold regular surgeries and public meetings as well as embracing technology so I can undertake as many on-going conversations with residents as possible. I will work with the Constabulary to ensure that the tremendous work undertaken by Neighbourhood Policing Teams continues and we build strong community relationships and encourage participation in the development of local services.

Measure

The proportion of respondents that state that the police are interested in the issues that concern people living in this area

The proportion of respondents that state that the police in this area successfully solve problems in the long term

Total number of complaints and the number of complaints upheld.

Objective Five

Ensure the delivery of an efficient and effective police service. This will include building on the use of innovative technology to deliver better services to the communities of Cheshire

One of my core functions as your Police and Crime Commissioner will be to ensure that Constabulary provides not only a responsive policing service for the residents of Cheshire but one that is also as efficient and effective as possible. I will work with the Constabulary to focus on where and how we can work in partnership with other police forces or other agencies to drive down the costs of buying products and services.

We will look for ways to reduce bureaucracy to ensure officers are on the street and not behind a desk, ensure that we find the most cost-effective ways of delivering all of our services and look at ways to increase income streams all to help in closing the funding gap. I am committed to seeking out more innovative ways to use technology

and will also look at ways to maximise income generation in order to offset the impact of cuts to police funding.

Measure

The cost of delivering policing in Cheshire per head of population

Average working days lost due to sickness

PLEASE NOTE

Actions will also be included under each of the Commissioner's objectives which are detailed above. These actions are currently under development and will be included in the final version of the police and crime plan.



How I will monitor progress....

The Home Secretary has abolished the many targets that previously governed police performance and is committed to reducing the bureaucratic reporting systems, relying instead on one key measure – to cut crime.

It will be my role to ensure that this happens within Cheshire and I will be looking at a range of accurate, local information on how well Cheshire is performing.

As part of the strong governance arrangements that have been established between the Constabulary and my office I will be regularly monitoring a broad suite of information on all aspects of performance, including the measures that are set out in this Plan. In order for you to be able to hold me to account and understand how well the Constabulary is performing, I will be making a range of information available online so you can monitor performance during my term in office. This will include:

- Regular reports on finance, service performance, staffing matters, complaints and a range of other issues
- An Annual Report

The Police and Crime Panel, currently made up from 10 local councillors representing the four boroughs of Cheshire along with two independent persons, will support, review and scrutinise the functions that I carry out.

As well as the information that I have included above, you will also be able to keep updated through the wider information which is provided on the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner and Constabulary websites which will highlight the work being undertaken at a neighbourhood policing unit level to address those issues and priorities that you have raised about your area.

In addition to this there are also a number of independent performance assurances available to you to monitor police performance in Cheshire. These include:

- Inspections and audits which are completed both by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) and the external auditors.
- The Crimemapper website which displays local crime information allowing you to see what is happening in your local area.
- Crime and Policing Comparator website allows you to compare data on recorded crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), quality of service, finances and workforce numbers for all police forces in England and Wales.
- HMIC Value for money profiles provide benchmarking information on: what the police are spending in their budgets; staffing levels by grade and function; and outputs and outcomes in a comparable format.

PLEASE NOTE

The Police and Crime Plan must also include information on the financial and other resources which he will make available for policing and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Grants which he is to make.

Following the Home Office's announcement of the police grant settlement on the 19 December 2012, the Commissioner is currently developing the police budget for 2013/14 and details will be included in the final version of the Plan.

