



WEST MERCIA POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 15 SEPTEMBER 2021

DRAFT POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2021 - 2025

Recommendation

1. Members of the Panel are asked to review and comment on the draft Safer West Mercia Plan (the Police and Crime Plan) in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Background

2. By virtue of Section 5 (1) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) must issue a Police and Crime Plan (the Plan) within the financial year in which their election is held. The Plan is the PCC's key document and sets out the overall strategic direction and long-term vision for policing in West Mercia.

3. Once prepared the Act requires the PCC to consult with the people of West Mercia and victims of crime on the draft plan. As part of the statutory process the Police and Crime Panel must be sent a copy of the draft plan. The Panel have a responsibility to review the Plan and make comments to the PCC on the plan. The PCC must have regard to the Panel's comments and respond to them prior to issuing the finished plan.

Plan Development

4. The priorities, commitments and outcomes in the attached draft Plan have been developed from the PCC's pre-election principles and commitments, along with issues and concerns raised through consultation, engagement and correspondence, national policing priorities, local policing priorities, partner priorities and an analysis of inspections, audits and the performance of the police.

5. The priorities, commitments and outcomes in turn support the vision and strategic aims that were successfully established by the PCC in his first Safer West Mercia Plan and have been retained for the new plan. These are:

- a. Putting victims and survivors first
- b. Building a more secure West Mercia
- c. Reforming West Mercia
- d. Reassuring West Mercia's Communities

6. The current and future Chief Constable along with the Chief officer team were consulted on the draft document prior to its publication and changes made as a result of their feedback.

7. As part of the development of the new Police and Crime Plan, the PCC is working with the force to develop a performance framework which not only shows how the force is contributing to achieving the national priorities for policing but also the outcomes set out in the Police and Crime Plan. This framework will not be included in the final version of the plan, as it will need to be capable of evolving during the life of the plan but will instead be reported on the PCC's website. A review of the supporting delivery plan's function and format is also being undertaken.

8. A copy of the draft Safer West Mercia Plan is attached at appendix 1.

Plan consultation

9. The consultation for the Safer West Mercia Plan opened on 9th August and will close 12 weeks later on 1 November. Details of the consultation were published on the PCC's website along with an online survey to coincide with media releases to the press and notification to contacts on the PCC's email list. Recipients of this email included, MPs, partner organisations, stakeholder, victims' service providers, town and parish councils and the leaders of top tier local authorities. The survey has also been promoted internally.

10. Since opening, the survey link has been shared on all social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram), via a press release (which has been picked up by the local newspapers). The link has also been shared via the newsletter, on the PCC's website and in the coming weeks the PCC and DPCC will be attending late summer events to further promote the Plan and encourage conversations with West Mercia's communities.

11. As part of the PCC's Holding to Account Programme a Facebook Live event is being planned for October which will focus on the priorities in the draft plan and provide further opportunity for public questions and engagement.

12. The online survey asks a small number of free text questions seeking respondents' feedback on the plan. The questions are:

- a. Having read the draft version of the plan. Do you have any comments on 'Putting Victims and Survivors first'?
- b. Do you have any comments on 'Building a more secure West Mercia'?
- c. Do you have any comments on 'Reforming West Mercia'?
- d. Do you have any comments on 'Reassuring West Mercia's communities'?
- e. Recognising that this plan is a strategic document and it was never my intention to include every crime type or incident. Do you have any further comments to make on the draft plan?

A number of demographic questions are also asked.

13. An analysis of all consultation feedback received via the survey, social media, summer events etc will be undertaken once the consultation closes. The feedback from this consultation will be taken into consideration when preparing a final draft of the Plan which will be submitted to the Panel's November meeting.

Risk Management Implications

None.

Financial Implications

None.

Legal Implications

None

Equality Implications

None.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1 – Draft Safer West Mercia Plan 2021 - 2025

Contact Points for the Report

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