

# Agenda item 6

## Police and Crime Panel

29 January 2016

### Covering Report - Serious Sexual Offences

#### Summary

1. The Panel will question the PCC about what he is doing in order to improve the Constabulary's Serious Sexual Offences (SSO) solved rate performance.

#### Focus of the agenda item

2. Specific areas of focus by the Panel, including items identified by members of the Panel at an informal workshop on 2 December 2015:
  - The continued poor SSO solved rate
    - o What was the impact of the 2015/16 precept increase of 2% in improving the solved rate performance of Serious Sexual Offences?
  - HMIC rape [report](#) (November 2015)
  - How Child Sexual Exploitation is being addressed
    - o What evidence is there of networked grooming activity?
    - o What liaison takes place with the Metropolitan Police and with local agencies?
    - o How effectively is the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) operating?
    - o What is the PCC's role in supporting whistleblowing and reporting of suspected incidents in Suffolk?

#### Recommendations

3. The Panel is recommended to:
  - (i) Have regard to all the information in this covering Report and Evidence Set.
  - (ii) Ask questions of the PCC, and make any recommendations to the PCC, in relation to the content of this Report.
  - (iii) Make any resolutions, or identify any further actions required, in relation to the content of this Report and responses to questions made at the meeting.

#### Background and Key Lines of Enquiry

4. At its meeting on 9 October 2015, the Panel recommended to the PCC, in light of the concerns about solving serious sexual offences (SSO), that a review of the Constabulary's investigative processes should be undertaken as part of a report from the PCC to the Panel in January 2016 on what the PCC was doing in order to improve

the constabulary's SSO solved rate performance. The Chairman referred to page 9 of the PCC's Annual Report and the extremely low solved rate for serious sexual offences (SSO) and asked the PCC what he was doing in order to improve this. The PCC agreed that the solved rate was unacceptable and that he would continue to hold the Chief Constable to account. The PCC advised that there was a need to categorise the data with further investigation into the figures. The Deputy Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner explained that one reason why there was an increase in SSOs was that the HMIC had now stated that more types of offences needed to be included under the heading of SSO. She advised that an intensive piece of work with the Constabulary was underway in order to understand all of the complexities.

5. In November 2015 HMIC published a report "*Rape Monitoring Group - Local area data for 2014/15 - Suffolk*". An extract of the Report for Suffolk is attached as Evidence Set 4. Response to questions raised within the 2014/15 HMIC Rape Monitoring Group report are shown within the Constabulary's report in Evidence Set 1.
6. The performance measure for solving Serious Sexual Offences is in the latest [performance report](#) available on the PCC's website. The figures as at October 2015 and September 2015 were as follows:

## October 2015

### Police & Crime Plan Objectives

Objective	Measure	12 months to 31 Oct 15	Baseline <sup>1</sup>	Comparison to baseline <sup>1,2</sup>	Status <sup>3</sup>	National ranking <sup>4</sup>
Solving Crime	Violence with Injury – Solved	38.9%	50.1%	-11.2%	⬇️	
	Domestic Burglary – Solved	13.9%	21.2%	-7.3%	⬇️	
	Robbery – Solved	21.6%	33.4%	-12%	⬇️	
	Serious Sexual Offences – Solved	12.4%	20.6%	-8.2%	⬇️	
	Drug Trafficking – Solved	87.9%	94.3%	-6.4%	⬇️	

## Police & Crime Plan Objectives (September 2015)

### Police & Crime Plan Objectives

Objective	Measure	12 months to 30 Sep 15	Baseline <sup>1</sup>	Comparison to baseline <sup>1,2</sup>	Status <sup>3</sup>	National ranking <sup>4</sup>
Solving Crime	Violence with Injury – Solved	40.1%	50.1%	-10.0%	⬇️	8th
	Domestic Burglary – Solved	14.9%	21.2%	-6.3%	⬇️	4th
	Robbery – Solved	22.1%	33.4%	-11%	⬇️	11th
	Serious Sexual Offences – Solved	13.3%	20.6%	-7.3%	⬇️	38th
	Drug Trafficking – Solved	93.3%	94.3%	-1.0%	⬆️	15th

## Supporting Information

### 7. Evidence Set (attached as Appendix)

- (i) Evidence Set 1 - [30 pages] - Serious Sexual Offences, Report from Constabulary / Office of PCC, as presented to the PCC's Accountability & Performance meeting, 15 Dec 2015

- (ii) Evidence Set 2 - [3 pages] – Extract from the draft, unconfirmed Minutes of the the PCC’s Accountability & Performance meeting, 15 Dec 2015
- (iii) Evidence Set 3 – [2 pages] - Report from Office of the PCC addressing additional questions raised at the PCP workshop on 2 Dec 2015.
- (iv) Evidence Set 4 – [2 Pages] – Extract of HMIC Report

8. **Background Information** (For reference; not attached)

- (ii) The latest Constabulary [performance report](http://www.suffolk-pcc.gov.uk/about-us/monitoring-performance) available on the PCC website <http://www.suffolk-pcc.gov.uk/about-us/monitoring-performance>:
- (iii) HMIC rape report <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/publications/rape-monitoring-group-digests-and-data-2014-15/>
- (iv) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-31703432>

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