

Agenda item 7

Police and Crime Panel

17 March 2017

Covering Report – Exploitation - Protecting Vulnerable People

Summary

1. The Panel will question the PCC on progress in relation to protecting vulnerable people and addressing aspects of 'hidden harm' crime such as domestic abuse and exploitation.

Focus of the agenda item

2. Specific areas of focus by the Panel include items identified by members of the Panel at an informal workshop on 22 Feb 2017. These are:
 - i. What has been the progress on giving Domestic Abuse training to police officers?
 - ii. How satisfied is the PCC that the quality of police officers is ensured by adequate funding of police officer training?
 - iii. How is the PCC measuring success in the area of domestic abuse and exploitation?
 - iv. What is the PCC's view on the effectiveness of cross-agency working to tackle domestic abuse and exploitation in Suffolk, including the youth offending teams and probation service?
 - v. Who is seen as leading on tackling domestic abuse in Suffolk? Is it the Safe and Stronger Communities Group (SSCG)?
 - vi. What is the PCC views on the recommendations regarding domestic abuse arising from the Health and Wellbeing Board [see Evidence Set 1]
 - vii. Ten years on, is the PCC satisfied with the current level of strategic focus on combating street prostitution and the use of any specialist teams?

Recommendations

3. The Panel is recommended to:
 - a) Have regard to all the information in this covering Report and Evidence Sets.
 - b) Ask questions of the PCC, and make any recommendations to the PCC, in relation to the content of this Report.
 - c) 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

4. The Panel has previously looked at and heard from the PCC about aspects of 'hidden harm' such as domestic abuse and exploitation.
5. On [24 April 2015](#), the Police and Crime Panel considered a report written by Dr Emma Bond of University Campus Suffolk (UCS) "*Understanding domestic abuse in Suffolk: a study of the experiences of survivors*". The Minutes of that meeting show that, "*Members of the Panel recognised that in Suffolk there was a need to find better ways of dealing with the problem of domestic abuse, and of supporting victims. ... However, the Panel was aware that many of the issues highlighted in the report related to agencies outside the remit of the PCC. ... The Panel therefore considered it appropriate to ask the County Council's Scrutiny Committee to scrutinise the Council's performance with regard to domestic abuse*".
6. The Suffolk County Council Scrutiny Committee considered this topic on [28 July 2016](#). The minutes of that meeting were attached for information as part of the Information Bulletin for the PCP meeting on [7 Oct 2016](#).
7. The [Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board on 8 Sep 2016](#) considered a report on the interim findings from a 'deep dive' into Domestic Abuse in Suffolk. The papers for that meeting are available online (see Reference below). The recommendations from that meeting are attached as Evidence Set 1.
8. Reports on 'protecting children', 'county lines' and 'performance data' were provided by the Constabulary to the PCC's A&P mtg on 24 Feb 2017, and are attached as Evidence Sets 2-4.
9. The SCC Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee on 1 March 2017 scrutinised 'Children Needing Help and Protection'. The link to the meeting papers, Agenda Item 6 of that meeting, is in the References below. The key focus areas and draft outcomes from that meeting are attached as Evidence Set 5.
10. In March 2017 HMIC published their latest Report 'PEEL: Police effectiveness 2016 - An inspection of Suffolk Constabulary'. Suffolk Constabulary's rating from HMIC was 'GOOD'. An extract of the findings in relation to the question '*How effective is the force at protecting those who are vulnerable from harm, and supporting victims?*' is attached as Evidence Set 6.

Supporting Information (attached)

- (i) Evidence Set 1 – [3 pages] H&W board 8 Sep – Extract of Recommendations regarding Domestic Abuse [Annex 4]
- (ii) Evidence Set 2 – [6 pages] '[Protecting Vulnerable People – Children and Young People Update](#)', Constabulary report to the PCC's A&P meeting on 24 Feb 2017.
- (iii) Evidence Set 3 – [7 pages] '[Exploring County Lines in Suffolk](#)', Constabulary report to the PCC's A&P meeting on 24 Feb 2017.
- (iv) Evidence Set 4 – [3 pages] – Extract of Performance Data from the Constabulary report to the PCC's A&P meeting on 24 Feb 2017.
- (v) Evidence Set 5 – [2 pages] Key focus areas and Draft Outcomes from the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee meeting on 1 March 2017
- (vi) Evidence Set 6 – [1 page] Extract from HMIC Report, March 2017.

Background Information (available online)

- (i) PCP meeting 7 Oct 2016:
[http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/meeting.aspx?d=07/Oct/2016&c=Police%20and%20Crime%20Panel%20\(Joint%20Committee\)](http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/meeting.aspx?d=07/Oct/2016&c=Police%20and%20Crime%20Panel%20(Joint%20Committee))
- (ii) Health & Wellbeing Board 8 Sep 2016:
<http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/meeting.aspx?d=08/Sep/2016&c=Suffolk%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Board>
- (iii) PCC 24th Feb A&P meeting: <http://www.suffolk-pcc.gov.uk/public-meetings/accountability-and-performance-panel/accountability-and-performance-panel-24-february-2017>
- (iv) Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Committee meeting, 1 March 2017, Agenda Item 6, Children Needing Help & Protection:
<http://committeeminutes.suffolkcc.gov.uk/meeting.aspx?d=01/Mar/2017&c=Education%20and%20Childrens%20Services%20Scrutiny%20Committee>
- (v) HMIC Report 'PEEL: Police effectiveness 2016 - An inspection of Suffolk Constabulary': <https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/publications/peel-police-effectiveness-2016-suffolk/>
[NB. The Summary section of the HMIC Report is reproduced for ease of reference within Agenda Item 8, Information Bulletin]

Contact Details

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H&W Board 8/9/16 – Recommendations regarding Domestic Abuse

Actions/decisions recommended

31. The HWB is asked to agree to:

- a) support the recommendations in the report (Appendix C), summarised as follows:

Commissioning Recommendation 1

Facilitate a discussion between the statutory commissioners across the county to achieve a common goal for commissioning Domestic Abuse services

Commissioning Recommendation 2

Create a medium term plan for coordination of non-statutory funding bids to help support the Suffolk Domestic Abuse System and make the most of the envelope of resources available in Suffolk.

Commissioning Recommendation 3

Develop common minimum dataset for all commissioners to use as a baseline point for the collection of data and information about Domestic Abuse in Suffolk.

Commissioning Recommendation 4

Create a comprehensive guidance package to support all organisations to make the application process as equitable as possible to statutory commissioners in Suffolk. Sign-post organisations to training courses running in Suffolk that provide advice and support for writing bids to commissioners.

Commissioning Recommendation 5

Build training for frontline practitioners and professionals into commissioning bids to create a more sustainable training model for Domestic Abuse support functions in Suffolk.

Data and Information Recommendation 1

Start a discussion between all partners about how we can work toward a joint /shared case working system that will eliminate duplication, double counting, enhance practitioner's knowledge about the client, increasing confidence with victims that enter the system.

Data and Information Recommendation 2

Develop a minimum data set based on current recording practises within the system. Use the minimum data set to start a baseline of useable data to inform commissioners, practitioners and decision makers on the best course of action to improve services and direct training and development needs.

Education and Prevention Recommendation 1

Coordinate a long-term plan for Suffolk with local delivery. Focusing on the education of young people and communities about abuse. Specifically, what it is, how to identify it and how to report it and get help.

Education and Prevention Recommendation 2

Coordinate the identification of employers within Suffolk that could adopt an enhanced Domestic Abuse Policy for their organisation. Using successful policies as a guideline. Produce a countywide employer policy, clearly detailing the aspects of support required for victims of Domestic Abuse at work.

Coordination and Communication Recommendation 1

Re-launch the Suffolk Domestic Abuse Partnership as a forum for professionals and practitioners to exchange information, contribute to the delivery of the recommendations in this report and co-design solutions.

Coordination and Communication Recommendation 2

Identify an executive group which will be responsible for developing and co-ordinating the implementation of a multi agency action plan for domestic abuse. Ideally this would be an existing forum.

Coordinate a comprehensive review of all action plans across Suffolk collating countywide actions relating to Domestic Abuse. Identify a sustainable way to coordinate this work and keep the countywide action plan up-to-date.

Coordination and Communication Recommendation 3

Utilise the Suffolk Domestic Abuse Partnership to develop the requirements of the practitioner support system (website) fully. Create a plan of action of how this will be achieved, considering resources, timings and all the features of the system required.

Coordination and Communication Recommendation 4

Coordinate a countywide training survey/review supported by the Suffolk Domestic Abuse Partnership. This will in part, determine future training needs for the Suffolk System.

Professional support training to be embedded as part of Suffolk Domestic Abuse Partnership, such as the learning from Suffolk Domestic Homicide Reviews.

Continued coordination of training and staff development in Suffolk, keeping up-to-date records of those trained, in what disciplines and their area of operation in Suffolk.

Coordination and Communication Recommendation 5

Facilitate and coordinate discussions to progress the idea of a Suffolk Domestic Abuse Hub, connecting all stakeholders including the Suffolk Domestic Abuse Partnership, local Forums and public, private and third sector.

Coordinate development of the Suffolk Domestic Abuse Hub with the One Front Door within the MASH, supporting and complimenting its operation.

The HWB is also asked to agree to:

- b) the governance arrangements proposed within the covering report
- c) a principle of co-funding the implementation of the recommendations, subject to a further report to the Board once the costs are established.
- d) That the Suffolk Commissioners Group is asked to 'broker' the funding discussions
- e) align existing resources in the short term to ensure more effective commissioning

----- End of Evidence Set 1 -----

