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West Yorkshire Police Authority Legacy Reports

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Make the Panel aware of the key issues that the West Yorkshire Police Authority asked the Commissioner to take forward once appointed
- Prompt the Panel to contemplate the extent to which it wishes to keep informed about the Commissioner's approach to addressing these key issues

2. Background

- 2.1 As part of the Police Authority's transition programme, which prepared for the arrival of the Police and Crime Commissioner, a risk was identified around the Commissioner's potential failure to carry forward important pieces of work.
- 2.2 To mitigate against this risk, the Police Authority produced a series of legacy documents which highlighted the key areas it believed the Commissioner should consider once appointed in November 2012.
- 2.3 Summarised below are the main recommendations from within these documents (a full copy of the reports can be sent to Panel Members upon request.)

3. Legacy Reports

3.1 Key Themes

In addition to the specific recommendations made by the Police Authority's various committees, a number of key overarching themes/ 'asks' were also put forward by Authority Members.

These themes were as follows:

- Continuation of scrutiny, particularly around:
 - The Private Finance Initiative and National Police Air Service
 - Safeguarding and the Strategic Policing Requirement
 - Policing that effects the service the public receives at a local level
 - Specific issues around performance
 - Risk management
 - Resourcing issues (money and people)

- Appointment of senior statutory officers (Deputy PCC and Chief Constable)
- Issues relating to standards and conduct
- Improving Public Confidence
- Balancing the budget through the pursuit of organisational change
- Risk management
- Maintaining/ improving performance in the context of reduced budgets
- Keeping West Yorkshire safe
- Working with partners

3.2 West Yorkshire Police Authority

The Police Authority's legacy report recommended that the Commissioner:

- Continues to maintain **strategic oversight of the PFI scheme** to ensure the benefits are realised and value for money is obtained
- Takes a proactive role in the **strategic governance of the National Police Air Service** to ensure savings and operational benefits are realised

3.3 Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee recommended that the Commissioner:

- Meets with the Chair of the Independent Audit Committee and Treasurer on a regular basis to **ensure appropriate practices are undertaken**
- Meets with the Chief Constable/ Command Team at least quarterly to **scrutinise Force reports on complaints, Police conduct and quality of service**
- Keeps up to date about Force matters in relation to **strategic risk management** (both general and specific)
- Monitors information relating to **novel, contentious and repercussive issues** which are currently under-reported within the Force

3.4 Capital Programme Oversight Board

The Capital Programme Oversight Board recommended that the Commissioner:

- Ensures the **overall direction of the capital programme** remains aligned with strategic priorities whilst monitoring the progress of key projects
- Oversees a **refresh of the Estates and IT Strategies**, including estate rationalisation and the national IT infrastructure project

3.5 Local Policing Committee

The Local Policing Committee recommended that the Commissioner:

- Monitors issues such as **hate crime** and the **operation of the independent custody visiting scheme**
- Regularly **scrutinises the Force's approach to stop and search/** implementation of the Committee's suggested action plan
- **Assesses the Force's response to the HMIC report** relating to necessary improvements **around anti-social behaviour**, particularly vulnerable and repeat victims
- **Recognises the public interest in local policing matters** and designs future engagement activity accordingly

3.6 Resources

The Resources Committee recommended that the Commissioner:

- Meets the Chief Constable/ Command Team regularly to **scrutinise Force reports on spend against budget** and workforce trends.
- **Keeps up to date about Force matters** such as staff satisfaction, health and safety, training and equality and diversity
- Addresses the issue of the **absence of a Human Resources professional** on the Command Team
- Considers the **future governance and management** of the Police National Legal Database and Video Identification Parade Electronic Recording (VIPER.)
- Monitors the **impact on the Force budget of reviewing medical pensions**
- Considers mounting a campaign to **press the Government to review the police share of the Proceeds of Crime Act proceeds**

3.7 Senior Appointments Committee

The Senior Appointments Committee clarified that the Commissioner must:

- Make arrangements for all **employment matters relating to OPCC staff**
- Carry out the **annual review of the Chief Constable's locally agreed package**
- **Hold the Chief Constable to account** for his personal actions
- **Oversee ACPO appointments**, including determination of pay and conditions

3.8 Specialist Policing Committee

The Specialist Policing Committee recommended that the Commissioner:

- Has regard to **the Strategic Policing Requirement**
- Conducts a review to ensure the **Safeguarding Strategy is fully implemented**
- Contributes to the effective management of sexual and violent offenders through **involvement with Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA.)**
- Considers his **approach to Counter-Terrorism** and its impact on the Region

3.9 Strategic Planning and Performance Committee

The Strategic Planning and Performance Committee recommended that the Commissioner:

- Continues to **focus on increasing public confidence, improving satisfaction levels and reducing overall crime and burglary**
- Addresses the marked **deterioration in the serious sexual offences sanction detection rate**
- Monitors the **impact of Operation Transform** on performance.
- Scrutinises **HMIC value for money profiles**
- Has regard to the HMIC Police and Crime Monitoring Group which **reviews performance across all forces**
- Monitors the **Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Grant** (performance and spend)
- Addresses the **difference between white and black/ minority ethnic victim satisfaction rates** using the agreed the action plan.
- Guarantees public is sufficiently confident that **crimes and incidents are being correctly recorded and appropriately dealt with** (in line with 2011 HMIC Inspection Report)

4. **Next Steps**

4.1 Although it must be recognised that the Police Authority Legacy Reports are designed to hand work over to the Commissioner, and not the Police and Crime Panel, there are clear merits in understanding what the Police Authority believed the Commissioner should focus on during his term in office.

4.2 It is not suggested that the Panel receives regular updates on all the issues highlighted within this report but it is recommended that the Panel considers what, if any, are the critical priorities that they would like to ensure the Commissioner addresses/ support the Commissioner to address from November 2012 onwards.

4.3 Once the most pertinent issues have been identified by the Panel it will be possible to integrate them into the Panel's work programme as agreed at the final meeting of the Shadow Panel.

For example, the Panel has already agreed it wishes to look at the Commissioner's approach to local policing on a quarterly basis and so the relevant issues highlighted in 3.5 would be picked up as part of this.

4.4 Any detailed discussions about the Commissioner's planned response to these legacy reports will clearly need to be delayed until he has had sufficient time in office to consider all the recommendations made by the Police Authority. However, this is not to say there isn't value in referring to some of the key priorities as part of the discussions around the Precept and Police and Crime Plan.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The Panel is asked to:

- Note the contents of this report
- Identify the key issues from within the Police Authority Legacy Papers, which they wish to monitor as part of their efforts to both support and assess the performance of the Commissioner.