

APPENDIX 1 (i)

DYFED-POWYS POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – FINANCE SUB -GROUP REPORT REGARDING COMMISSIONED SERVICES

Section A - Background

1. In the Annual Report issued by the Police and Crime Panel for the period 2022-2023 the Panel identified as one of its priorities for the upcoming year the scrutiny of the level of police precept proposed by the Police and Crime commissioner ('the PCC') for the 2024-2025 financial year.
2. As part of that scrutiny process the Panel identified the commissioning of non-police services as an area that required additional scrutiny.
3. The panel delegated this piece of work to a subgroup of 7 members, led by Councillor Keith Evans of Ceredigion County Council. The full membership of the subgroup is.

Councillor Keith Evans (Ceredigion County Council) – Chair
Professor Ian Roffe (Independent co-opted member)
Councillor Dot Jones (Carmarthenshire County Council)
Councillor William Denston Powell (Powys County Council)
Councillor Simon Hancock (Pembrokeshire County Council)
Councillor Les George (Powys County Council)
Councillor Elizabeth Evans (Ceredigion County Council)

4. It must be stressed at this stage that the role of the Panel is to scrutinise the PCC's role. It is not to scrutinise the commissioned services themselves.

Section B - Objectives

5. The objectives of this piece of work were to
 - (a) facilitate an understanding of how non-police services are commissioned,
 - (b) the cost of doing so and
 - (c) how they contribute to the delivery of the priorities contained in the Police and Crime Plan.

6. It is intended that these objectives will feed into the wider piece of work being undertaken by the subgroup in relation to the setting of the precept for 2024-2025.

Section C - What have we done?

7. In carrying out this piece of work, members of the subgroup have taken the following steps.
 - (a) Received a presentation from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner ('the OPCC').
 - (b) Attended meetings of a Board established by the Commissioner to exercise oversight of commissioned services ('the Commissioning Advisory Board')
 - (c) Reviewed publicly available documents regarding the commissioning of services by the PCC.
 - (d) Scrutinised decisions made by the PCC regarding the commissioning of services at quarterly Police and Crime Panel meetings.

Section D - What are commissioned services?

8. The responsibilities of PCCs go beyond just policing. In addition, PCCs are also responsible for.
 - (a) Delivery of community safety and crime reduction.
 - (b) Making crime and disorder reduction grants.
 - (c) Delivery of criminal justice in their area.
9. Commissioned services are services which are performed by non-police organisations, and which have been procured by the PCC or delivered collaboratively with other organisations.
10. In practical terms, commissioned services often include such matters as victim support, substance misuse and offender diversion.

Section E - How are services commissioned?

11. The PCC has published a Commissioning Strategy (dated June 2022) which sets out the approach taken when commissioning services.
12. Services are commissioned in 3 main ways.
 - (a) *Direct commissioning* – where the PCC awards a contract to a service provider following a formal procurement exercise.

- (b) *Co-commissioning* – where the PCC works with partner agencies to jointly procure a service which is then delivered to all those partners.
- (c) *Grants* – where the PCC establishes schemes that make grant funding available to charities, voluntary groups, and community organisations.
13. The strategy sets out the process for commissioning services and the criteria that is applied.
14. Oversight of decisions relating to the commissioning of services is exercised by the Commissioning Advisory Board, established by the PCC and by the Police and Crime Panel, when scrutinising decisions made by the PCC. Councillor Keith Evans of Ceredigion County Council, and vice-chair of the Police and Crime Panel, is a member of the Commissioning Advisory Board.
15. The commissioning of services by the PCC is subject to strict legal requirements contained the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Subsidy Control Act 2023.
16. The commissioned services themselves are subject to ongoing contract performance monitoring by the PCC’s staff.
17. The PCC publishes information regarding all items of expenditure over £500 on his website [expenditure-over-500-term-2-and-3.xlsx \(live.com\)](#).

Section F - What services are commissioned by the PCC?

18. The following services are currently being contracted for by the PCC.

Provider	Service	Annual Value	End date
Dyfed Drug and Alcohol Service	Substance misuse - Dyfed	£215,000	2025
Kaleidoscope	Substance misuse - Powys	£75,000	2025
Calan DVS consortium Dal I Godi	Domestic Abuse	£552,903	2026
Dyfed-Powys Police	Victim Referral Service	£363,579	2024
New Pathways	Sexual Abuse	£316,369	2024
Llamau	Missing Young People Debrief	£93,000	2025
Pobl	Offender Diversion Scheme	£253,000	2025
Youth Offending & Prevention Teams	Victim Liaison for young people	£125,000	2025

19. This highlights just how much the responsibilities of PCCs goes beyond just policing and extend into the wider aspects of the criminal justice system.
20. The contract awarded to Llamau in relation to missing young people is also a reminder of the role that PCCs and the police play in helping missing and vulnerable people of all ages in our communities.

Section G - What do these services cost?

21. The overall budget for commissioned services for the 2022-2023 financial year was £2,245,808. This represents a small proportion of the overall budget that the PCC has.
22. It is difficult for the subgroup to come to any firm conclusion as to whether this expenditure represents value for money. To do so would require an in-depth examination of contract performance, something which falls outside the remit of the Panel.
23. The subgroup is however of the view that governance and contract management arrangements put in place by the PCC are robust and therefore give a degree of confidence that the contracts are well managed and do generally represent value for money. Cllr Keith Evans as a member of the Advisory Board can confirm that reviews are undertaken on the performance of contracts.

Section H - How do these services contribute to the delivery of the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan?

24. Pages 20-21 of the Police and Crime Plan specifically addresses the issue of Commissioned Services and their relevance to the delivery of the priorities in the plan.
25. The Police and Crime Plan identifies the PCC's 3 key priorities. These are.
 - (a) Priority 1 - Victims are supported.
 - (b) Priority 2 - Harm is prevented.
 - (c) Priority 3 - Our justice system is more effective.
26. In relation to Priority 1, the commissioned specialist support for victims of crime, anti-social behaviour, domestic and sexual violence are important to the delivery of that priority.
27. In relation to Priority 2, several elements of that priority are in practice delivered by some of the contracted services listed above. These contracted services are therefore central to the delivery of this priority.

28. In relation to Priority 3, elements of that priority are in practice delivered via contracted services, particularly the service delivered by Pobl for an Offender Diversion Scheme.
29. However, it is not always clear from the Police and Crime Plan which elements of a priority will be delivered by a commissioned service.

Section I - Acknowledgements

30. Members of the subgroup would like to thank Alison Perry, Director of Commissioning and Partnerships for the PCC and Carys Morgans his Chief Executive for the open, transparent, and constructive way in which they have provided information to the subgroup and answered the many questions posed by its members.

Section J - Conclusions

31. The role of commissioned services in delivering the priorities in the Police and Crime Plan is crucial but largely unknown to the wider public.
32. The PCC has robust systems in place to ensure that services are commissioned appropriately and properly managed.
33. The impact of commissioned services would appear to be positive and be likely to offer value for money.

Section K – Recommendations

34. That future Police and Crime Plans are clearer about which elements of a priority are going to be delivered by commissioned services.
35. That Police and Crime Commissioners do more to highlight to the public the role of commissioned services.