

Observations on Policing Plan Consultation for Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Panel

28 June 2021.

Preamble

- 1.1 Preparation of the next policing plan has started, with a presentation on the consultation to the panel on Friday 19 June. The current timetable was shared, with a likely completion date for February / March 2022. The Commissioner shared key points on the current delivery of the policing service and invited panel members to contribute individually to the survey monkey information collection exercise. He intended taking a three tier approach to consultation and shared his initial ideas on content, including an increased emphasis on victims.
- 1.2 The panel recognises that the commissioner has a legal requirement to prepare a Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Plan arising from Section 5 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and to issue the plan to police and crime panel and that the setting of policing priorities in this new plan will be the basis for the commissioner to hold the new Chief Constable to account.
- 1.3 Therefore, the panel acknowledges the responsibilities of the Commissioner in setting the priorities in the plan and his mandate for doing so.
- 1.4 The panel is pleased to have early engagement with the Commissioner and shared insights into the consultation plans and the preparation of the policing plan and its content. As the panel comprises elected members with a deep understanding of local needs and priorities, they will respond to the consultation individually reflecting the views of their communities. Similarly, the two independent members will contribute individually. This paper is therefore intended as a collective response from the panel on more general aspects of the Plan.

2. Consultation Response

The collective response from the Panel focusses on issues of presentation, accessibility, and accountability, rather than the specific priorities that should be included in the plan. The Panel believes that in formulating his plan the Commissioner should ensure that

- 2.1 The plan explains the respective roles of the commissioner and the chief constable, with the process of accountability clear.
- 2.2 The plan seeks to inform people about the main threats to individuals and communities in the geographical area of Dyfed Powys in a proportionate way.
- 2.3 The plan sets out why each priority has been selected and included (eg. If tackling fraud and cybercrime is a priority the plan should explain how much of a threat it is to residents in the force area.)

2.4 Each priority is be backed by measurable and realistic performance targets against which achievements can be measured.

2.5 Each priority is be linked to an explanation of its financial implications - including the likely cost and how it will be funded. We believe that this will improve the understanding of local communities and help inform the public debate about the funding of policing, and other related services, such as local mental health services.

2.6 The presentation of the plan and its priorities is clear, concise and easy for the public to understand and avoids the use of jargon.

Prof Ian Roffe JP