



**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Executive

**Date:** 22 July 2013

## **ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. To update the Board on recent and planned public engagement events and developments.

### **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1. The Board notes the update.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1. In April 2013 the Board received a report titled 'Commissioner's approach to engagement' which summarised the Commissioner's broad aspirations for engaging with the public both individually and collectively as well as identifying some specific tactical initiatives to support those aspirations.
- 3.2. The report identified voluntary organisations, young people, businesses, and parish and town councils as key groups of people with whom the Commissioner wishes to engage further. It also highlighted some of the methods by which this would be done. This report updates the Board on recent and planned engagement activity.

### **4. Recent and planned activity**

- 4.1. The first of the Commissioner's street surgeries took place on July 11 in Market Place in Wisbech, supported by the local policing team. Several members of the public spoke to the Commissioner or sought advice from local officers. The highly visible pitch, supported by the force's marketing department, was complemented by the

work of the mobile police station which was also present on the day to appeal for help from the local community in relation to the murder of 86-year-old Una Crown.

- 4.2. Further street surgeries are planned for July 22 in Huntingdon and September 5 in Peterborough.
- 4.3. Following a very successful recruitment campaign, during which the OPCC received more than 50 applications, six candidates were shortlisted and interviewed for the position of Outreach Worker – Peterborough & Fenland. The two stage process identified two candidates for a further interview and presentation to the Commissioner. Nicola Fenton has been given a provisional start date of July 29. She will initially be based at Cambourne to familiarise herself with the work of the OPCC team, the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner. In the longer term a workstation has been identified at Bayard Place in Peterborough, working alongside the Safer Peterborough Partnership to ensure a joined up approach.
- 4.4. Nicola's initial objectives will include making contacts in Peterborough and Fenland to establish public engagement opportunities and challenges in each area. This will include responding positively to the offer from Sainsbury's to provide a regular community drop-in session at a high footfall venue, allowing members of the public an opportunity to raise any concerns with the Commissioner.
- 4.5. She will also be tasked with working through existing channels and partnerships to both support and introduce innovative mechanisms to effectively engage with volunteers, young people, businesses and parish councils within Peterborough and Fenland. Her over-arching objective will be to support the Commissioner to be the voice of the public in Peterborough and Fenland, allowing him to respond to any concerns, individual cases and themes.
- 4.6. The Commissioner has continued to attend numerous public and partnership meetings by invitation, providing updates on his work and priorities when required.
- 4.7. Since April 2013 the Commissioner has received and responded to some 400 items of correspondence, ranging in content from invitations to events and individual cases to issues of regional and national importance.
- 4.8. The Commissioner continues to hold his monthly surgeries which rotate around Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. Feedback from those who have attended has been very positive. The most recent surgery was held in Peterborough, the next will be held in Cambourne on August 8.

## **5. Recommendation**

- 5.1. That the Board note the report and planned future activity.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<b>Source Document (s)</b>	<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Location</b>
'Commissioner's approach to engagement' April 2013 BCB	Anna Horne Head of Engagement & Communications, OPCC	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner, South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA