

## **Police and Crime Plan Variation – Page 7**

The Constabulary has identified the need to understand the impact migration and the establishment of new communities, with their own cultural differences, has on criminality and community cohesion. The law must be upheld without exception. Establishing and then maintaining communities' trust and confidence in the police and other agencies is crucial to enable joint working to stamp out exploitation and provide support to victims of this and other offending behaviour.

### **Building safer, stronger and supportive communities**

The Commissioner wants to work with partners to build safer, stronger and supportive communities in Cambridgeshire. Communities with low crime rates, low numbers of victims and high numbers of people willing to be witnesses. Residents with good wellbeing and mental health who are engaged with, and confident in, statutory agencies.

This agenda is shared by members of the public, private and third sector who are working together to achieve this vision through several key workstreams.

### **Victims and witnesses**

An evidence-based Strategic Vision of Support for Victims in Cambridgeshire will drive the future commissioning of support services for the 30,000 people who report crime each year in the county, the funding for which transfers to the Commissioner from October 2014.

At its heart the vision aims to champion the needs of victims and provide victim-driven support which enables them to cope and recover and where possible return to the life they had before the crime occurred. It reinforces the drive to create safer, stronger and supportive communities for victims. It also recognises some victims (often as a result of the crime) have multiple and complex needs and would benefit from an 'Integrated Victim Management' approach.

### **Offenders**

A multi-agency Offender Group aspires to prevent offending at all, and stop the revolving door of offending through an integrated approach to offender management which effectively manages the risks to our local communities. Every contact offenders have with services must reduce the likelihood of offending. The group will seek to engage with the new providers of probation services to ensure they become part of this landscape.

This paradigm shift in the management of offenders involves upstream work to divert young people and adults away from offending and re-offending. It builds on safer, stronger and supportive communities. The Commissioner's new Youth Fund will aid local projects with young adults. The use of restorative justice will give young adults the chance to repay their debt to society and save policing hours too. Young adults aged 16-24 make up a disproportionate number of victims and offenders making this agenda an important one.

Integrated Offender Management and MAPPA arrangements must be safeguarded to ensure all appropriate agencies continue work with the most prolific and chaotic offenders at both a strategic and operational level.

### **Vulnerable people**

Poor mental health, learning disabilities or difficulties, substance misuse (drugs and/or alcohol) and homelessness are some of the multiple and complex needs displayed by both victims and offenders. These people, in particular those with mental ill health, are over represented in the Criminal Justice System with repeated contacts. The Commissioner is working with the county council, unitary authority and health colleagues to look at the public sector approach to vulnerable adults to ensure it transcends the barriers of siloed budgets.

In particular alcohol misuse costs the public purse an estimated £21 billion a year in healthcare, crime and lost productivity costs. The Commissioner has brought partners together to develop joint solutions to tackle the supply (in particular of super strength products), the enforcement of licensing laws and the support available for people who are alcohol-dependent.

More than 20,000 women a week experience alcohol-related domestic abuse showing the clear linkages between its misuse, offending and the impact upon families as a whole. The Commissioner will be responsible for commissioning support for these victims from October 2014.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough partners are taking both a traditional, and more modern approach to joint working. Co-location of services within the Multi-Agency Referral Unit (to safeguard vulnerable adults), community safety services in Peterborough and aspects of the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) model have saved the public purse. However more recently the barriers have been broken down in a virtual world through a computer system called ECINs. This data sharing system was initially brought in so partners could share information on cases of anti-social behaviour in real time. It has quickly revealed the benefits for the wider Troubled Families Project, IOM and even licensing applications. The Commissioner intends to support its continued use in the future.

## **Locally-set People's Priorities**

People who live and work in the county can suggest priorities for policing their particular areas. These 'People's Priorities' enable people to influence the provision of local policing to address new and emerging issues they have identified.

The Commissioner's Engagement Outreach Worker (Peterborough and Fenland) is also listening to people at a local level to identify issues which are causing concern.

Crime and incident trends highlighted through both of these channels are fed back to the Commissioner and Chief Constable for further consideration.

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