

## Police and Crime Plan Draft Variation

### Foreword from Police and Crime Commissioner Jason Ablewhite

Since being elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in May 2016, I have been, and continue to be, proud to represent the people of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Equally I am proud of Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Through spending time out on the frontline, I have witnessed first-hand the hard work and dedication of the Constabulary's officers and staff to provide a public service that keeps the county safe. I am particularly pleased that in 2018 I was able to appoint Nick Dean as Chief Constable for Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Nick brings with him a wealth of policing experience, with a clear and strong focus on having an effective neighbourhood policing presence in Cambridgeshire.

Over the past two years, I have worked hard to progress the four strategic themes of my Police and Crime Plan, published in March 2017: victims, offenders, communities, and transformation. My Plan was not developed in isolation and continues to reflect policing priorities and significant partnership work.

Modern policing has changed and will inevitably continue to change and bring with it different and complex challenges. Demand on policing continues to grow. Our police officers now have to spend more time tackling 'hidden crimes' such as domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation and modern day slavery. They also spend time helping those in mental health crisis, all of which means resources can be stretched. Added to that, our county's population is set to rise by 20% by 2031, therefore it is vital we have enough resources in place to police our county.

The Constabulary cannot tackle these challenges alone. Since my Police and Crime Plan was first launched in 2017, I have had the opportunity to work with partners to seize opportunities and find solutions to meet the needs of our many and diverse communities. The work I do with partner organisations locally, regionally and nationally, enables me to be able to influence the way public organisations work together, ensuring work is joined up and considers the "big picture" rather than just the work of individual organisations.

When I became Police and Crime Commissioner, I said that we needed to think and act differently about the way we work through collaboration and new technology. The police never work in isolation. We need to continue to think innovatively about how we work with others to provide the public with effective, joined up services and move away from crisis management to prevention and support, particularly in the area of supporting people not to re-offend.

I spend time regularly out and about meeting members of the public where they live and work and understand that what people want to see is increased visibility. With public support over the last two years, I am pleased that we have been able to increase Police Officer numbers, with 1,496 police officers being budgeted for 2019/20.

Although in the face of increasingly complex economic and social pressures, it is important that we are not complacent. With such a professional and committed number of officers and staff within the Constabulary, I am proud to say I feel we are ready to meet future challenges.

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