

## **Police and Crime Plan Draft Variation**

### **Foreword from Chief Constable Nick Dean**

On joining Cambridgeshire Constabulary as Chief Constable in September 2018, I have been impressed by the dedicated, diligent and professional officers, staff and volunteers who work hard every day to keep the people of the county safe.

On coming into the role, I spent a significant amount of my time listening to people - staff within the organisation, colleagues in partner agencies and members of the public - the people we serve - to really understand what they want from their police service and how we can work with them to continue to build trust and confidence in the community.

Being visible in our communities means different things to different people. To some it's being out on the streets patrolling their neighbourhood, but to others it's reading about successful prosecutions in the local media, or following our day to day policing activity on social media.

Overwhelmingly though, what true visibility means is not only to be able to react and deal with problems when they happen, but to work with our partners and community to prevent crime in the first place.

We need to effectively and efficiently deal with all kinds of demand in a timely and dutiful manner, from supporting victims or people who require our help, in particular the most vulnerable in society, to ensuring we tackle criminality to bring offenders to justice. The changing nature of crime and demand means we have to prioritise how we deal with all incidents, focusing on the highest harm and the greatest threat yet at the same time balancing the need to be able to respond to such incidents which we know have a real impact on people's quality of life.

While we know budgets continue to be a challenge - both for policing and our other public sector partners - I see this as a great opportunity. From regularly reviewing our resources to make sure we are using them in the best way we can, to working in collaboration with other police forces, partner organisations and communities bringing together what we have to be more effective for the public we serve. We will continue to make sure we spend every penny as effectively we can to help us deliver the highest quality of service.

Our public confidence levels are good, but we are not complacent. We can't solve all problems on our own and we will always need the public's help to fight crime and tackle issues in the community, so we are working hard to build relationships and partnerships on all levels.

While I don't believe the journey we will go on will be easy, I am confident that by working together we can continue to keep Cambridgeshire one of the safest counties to live, work and visit.

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