

Edward Leigh
Chair
Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel
c/o Jane Webb
Peterborough City Council

Email: Jane.Webb@peterborough.gov.uk

27th November 2020

Dear Edward

I refer to the Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel's (the "Panel") report dated 30th September 2020 entitled "Police and Crime Panel Actions". I apologise for the delay in responding.

In accordance with section 12(4) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 this letter acts as my formal response to the Panel regarding my Annual Report.

My Annual Report represented the breadth and depth of the activities, successes, and challenges that Cambridgeshire Constabulary, partners, my office and I, have delivered towards the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan. Most of the information with the Report was captured from information that the Panel will have recognised from the in-depth reports they have received during the reporting year arising from my Business Co-ordination Board.

As with the Annual Report and the numerous Board reports, I hope that these are valuable sources of information for all of us involved in the governance of policing in order for us to be able to play our respect roles but overall to ensure that Cambridgeshire is a safe place. I was therefore somewhat surprised that the majority of the session spent on reviewing my Annual Report involved the Panel going through most pages pointing out and making observations on the design and formatting of the Report.

I do recognise and accept some of the recommendations made by the Panel regarding accuracy and clarity, which will be amended in the final version of the Report as I feel appropriate. However, I am not sure some of the recommendations made add value to both the support and scrutiny of the information in the Report in respect of understanding whether the objectives set out in my Police and Crime Plan have been met. I would also like to remind the Panel of their previous comments regarding my predecessor's Annual Report, which then last year led to a change of format of the Report to include more infographics and a format that was more accessible to all; the same format that my Annual Report followed this year. I have included at Appendix 1 my response to the specific Panel recommendations. I have now decided to publish my Annual Report.

Whilst I can appreciate that scrutiny is sometimes based on individual member's insight of issues within their local community and the importance of these, it would be remiss of me

not to mention the comments made at the Panel meeting regarding policing priorities in respect of certain types of offences and the relative importance of these in respect of what the public are concerned about. For instance, I can fully understand the impacts of acquisitive crime, such as cycle theft has on individuals and local communities, and I do wish to reassure the Panel that the Constabulary are making considerable efforts in a number of ways to tackle this type of crime. However, the Constabulary have limited resources to address all forms of crime, whether visible to the public or not. As such those resources have to be targeted at those crimes and offenders linked to causing the most harm, such as tackling domestic abuse, child exploitation, serious sexual offences, gang related offences; those which are of wider community concern.

The other actions in the Panel's recommendation report have been noted and reports have been submitted to the December Panel meeting as requested.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray Briley'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a horizontal line underneath.

Acting Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Enc – Appendix 1 - Acting Police and Crime Commissioner's response to Police and Crime Panel Recommendations on Annual Report 2019/20