

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
HELD ON 23RD SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 10.00 AM**

North Somerset Council

Councillor Nigel Ashton (Chairman), Councillor Roz Willis

Bristol City Council

Councillor Pete Levy

Taunton Deane District Council

Councillor Mark Edwards

Sedgemoor District Council

Councillor John Swayne

South Somerset District Council

Councillor Tony Lock

Bath and North East Somerset Council

Councillor Francine Haerberling

South Gloucestershire Council

Councillor Mike Drew

West Somerset District Council

Councillor Stuart Dowding

Independent Members

Rosa Hui

Roger Kinsman

Officers Present:

Jude Williams – Scrutiny Officer, Bristol CC

Patricia Jones – Clerk to the Panel, Bristol CC

PCP

13.9/13

**WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES FOR
ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Howells, Hammond, and Brett.

PCP

14.9/13

MEMBERSHIP OF THE PANEL

The Panel noted the resignation of Brenda Steel. The Chairman placed on record the Panel's sincere appreciation of her contributions over the past year.

Arrangements to fill the Independent Member vacancy would be progressed by seeking references for those candidates placed on the reserve list following the initial interviews. The Panel agreed to make an appointment subject to references in the first instance. If this was not possible, the position would be re-advertised.

RESOLVED -

that the resignation of Brenda Steel be noted and arrangements made to fill the vacancy.

**PCP
15.9/13**

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

**PCP
16.9/13**

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED -

that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

**PCP
17.9/13**

COMPLAINT HEARING – S.J.

(Exempt paragraph 1 – information relating to any individual)

Panel Members considered a complaint escalated to the Panel for informal resolution in accordance with the Complaints Protocol.

**PCP
18.9/13**

COMPLAINT HEARING – D.M.

(Exempt paragraph 1 – information relating to any individual)

Panel Members considered a complaint submitted directly to the Panel for informal resolution in accordance with the Complaints Protocol.

(The meeting ended at 10.30am)

CHAIR

Extract from
PCP agenda
(item 4)

Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel

Confirmation of Panel Representative/Lead Roles and Role Descriptions

24th October 2013

Proposal:

1. That the Panel confirm the following representatives / leads:
Victim Commissioning: Cllr. Lisa Brett
Business Crime: Cllr. John Swayne
Crime Needs Assessment: Rosa Hui
Voluntary Sector Relations: Cllr. Roz Willis
2. That the Panel make any necessary amendments to, and agree, the attached role descriptions
3. That the Panel monitor review the effectiveness of these roles as a scrutiny mechanism at its annual review of the year's work in June 2014

Background

1. At its June 5th meeting, the Panel invited the Commissioner to propose areas where Panel involvement might add value to her work programme. The Commissioner proposed that scrutiny attention might benefit work on the following:
Victim Commissioning
Business Crime
Crime Needs Assessment, in particular equalities aspects
Voluntary Sector Relations
2. It was suggested that Panel involvement might best be undertaken by appointing a Panel representative or lead for each area above. Their role would be to track, understand and report back on an

area of work, rather than making comments or recommendations on behalf of the Panel

3. In response to a mailing in August, all roles were filled, subject to confirmation at this meeting, and excepting the Victim Commissioning role which had already been allocated at a previous meeting. Draft role descriptions for each post are attached as an appendix to this report.

APPENDIX 1

Panel Lead / Representative Role Descriptions

Generic responsibilities

The following responsibilities are common to all Panel representative/lead roles:

- To understand the Commissioner's approach and policy in relation to the specified area of work, and what work is under way
- To attend relevant meetings as identified in consultation with the Police Commissioner's office
- To report back to the Panel on progress and on any issues and concerns arising when appropriate (not necessarily at every meeting)
- To examine reports, policy documents etc submitted to the Panel with particular reference to the area of work you are covering
- To contribute to Panel reviews the specialist information and understanding gained while undertaking your representative role

Note

- Panel representatives/leads are not mandated to make decisions or recommendations, give comments or opinions, or to undertake scrutiny on behalf of the Panel (unless specifically agreed by the Panel and stated in the role description). Requests for Panel comments, recommendations etc. should be referred back to the Panel
- Problems arising in delivering your role should be raised with the Panel or with the Panel's scrutiny officer, who is available to support Panel representatives/leads and liaise on their behalf with the Commissioner's Office.

Specific Role Responsibilities

Victim Commissioning

- To be involved in the work undertaken by the Commissioner's office, as negotiated with officers.
- To help present Commissioner report on key findings at October Panel meeting
- To give special attention to service gaps and strategy for filling them, given that commissioning capacity is limited and likely to focus on referral infrastructure
- To negotiate further involvement after October

Timescale:

Involvement in process: Aug – Oct

Needs assessment and consideration of mapping issues: Sept and Oct

Preparation of specifications for services: October on

Business Crime

- To attend meetings of the Business Crime Forum
- To understand the issues across Avon and Somerset, including those specific to particular localities of communities
- To report back on progress in March, especially in relation to the Police and Crime Plan refresh, and at 6-monthly intervals thereafter
- In addition to report back to the Panel any issues of which the Panel should be aware
- To identify any issues which it might be useful for Panel members to take back to their councils or liaise on with local businesses

Timescale

Ongoing

Crime Needs Assessment

- To attend stakeholder feedback meeting on Draft Crime Needs Assessment
- To note issues raised by stakeholders at this meeting, and in particular equalities issues, and track how these are addressed in the final version of the Needs Assessment, and in the Police and Crime Plan refresh
- To report back to the Panel on issues raised at the Stakeholder meeting
- To present notes alongside the Commissioner's report on the Police and Crime Plan refresh (scheduled for March 2014)

Timescale:

Yearly cycle leading up to Police and Crime Plan refresh

Note: this role description may be amended to fit any changes in process for the 2014-15 cycle and future years

Voluntary Sector Relations

- To track and understand the development of the strategic relationship between the Commissioner and the voluntary sector by attending key meetings
- To report back on progress in March, especially in relation to the Police and Crime Plan refresh

Timescale

Ongoing

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Extract from
PCC agenda
(ITEM 6)

**AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE AVON & SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
24 OCTOBER 2013**

CONSULTATION ON 2014/15 COUNCIL TAX LEVEL - OVERVIEW

Purpose

This report provides an overview of the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) strategy for dialogue with people living in Avon and Somerset regarding the amount of council tax they are willing to pay towards policing in 2014/15.

Pre-Consultation

Over the summer of 2013, the PCC and her team spoke to many people in Avon and Somerset about the amount they would be willing to pay towards policing in 2014/15. This took the following forms:

- a. Online survey
- b. Face-to-face dialogue at events

The same questions were asked both in the survey and at the face to face events. Event attendance was planned with the aspiration of coverage across the force area. A list of events visited can be found at **Annex A**. All respondents were asked if they paid council tax and the same background information on the budget was available both online and at events.

The purpose of this pre-consultation exercise was to get an indication of public opinion across the broad range of possible options. Given the early stage in the budget planning cycle a general indication of the possible impact of this decision was given via the equivalent value in officer and PCSO numbers, in order to help respondents' understand the impact of the decision.

These were:

- a. A 0% increase in the policing part of the council tax precept. This would be no increase which would secure no additional funding.
- b. A 2% increase in the policing part of the council tax precept. This would be a £3.36 increase per year (or additional 6p per week) for the average Band D household which would equate to additional funding worth the equivalent of 38 Police Officers or 57 PCSOs
- c. A 4% increase in the policing part of the council tax precept. This would be a £6.72 increase per year (or additional 13p per week) for the average Band D household which would equate to additional funding worth the equivalent of 76 Police Officers or 114 PCSOs

- d. A 6% increase in the policing part of the council tax precept. This would be a £10.08 increase per year (or additional 19p per week) for the average Band D household which would equate to additional funding worth the equivalent of 113 Police Officers or 170 PCSOs
- e. An 8% increase in the policing part of the council tax precept. This would be a £13.44 increase per year (or additional 26p per week) for the average Band D household which would equate to additional funding worth the equivalent of 151 Police Officers or 227 PCSOs
- f. A 10% increase in the policing part of the council tax precept. This would be a £16.80 increase per year (or additional 32p per week) for the average Band D household which would equate to additional funding worth the equivalent of 189 Police Officers or 284 PCSOs
- g. Don't know

Initial findings from the pre-consultation

Respondents

The key focus for the pre-consultation stage was attendance at community events and face-to-face dialogue. At the events attended by the (O)PCC between May and September 2013, the PCC and staff spoke in total to 1506 resident council tax payers.

The online consultation was available from 7 June until 9 September 2013. This was put online for attendees at events who were unable to complete the face-to-face consultation activity, or website visitors who wanted to take part but would not be attending the selected events. The total number of respondents who paid council tax was 98.

Quantitative

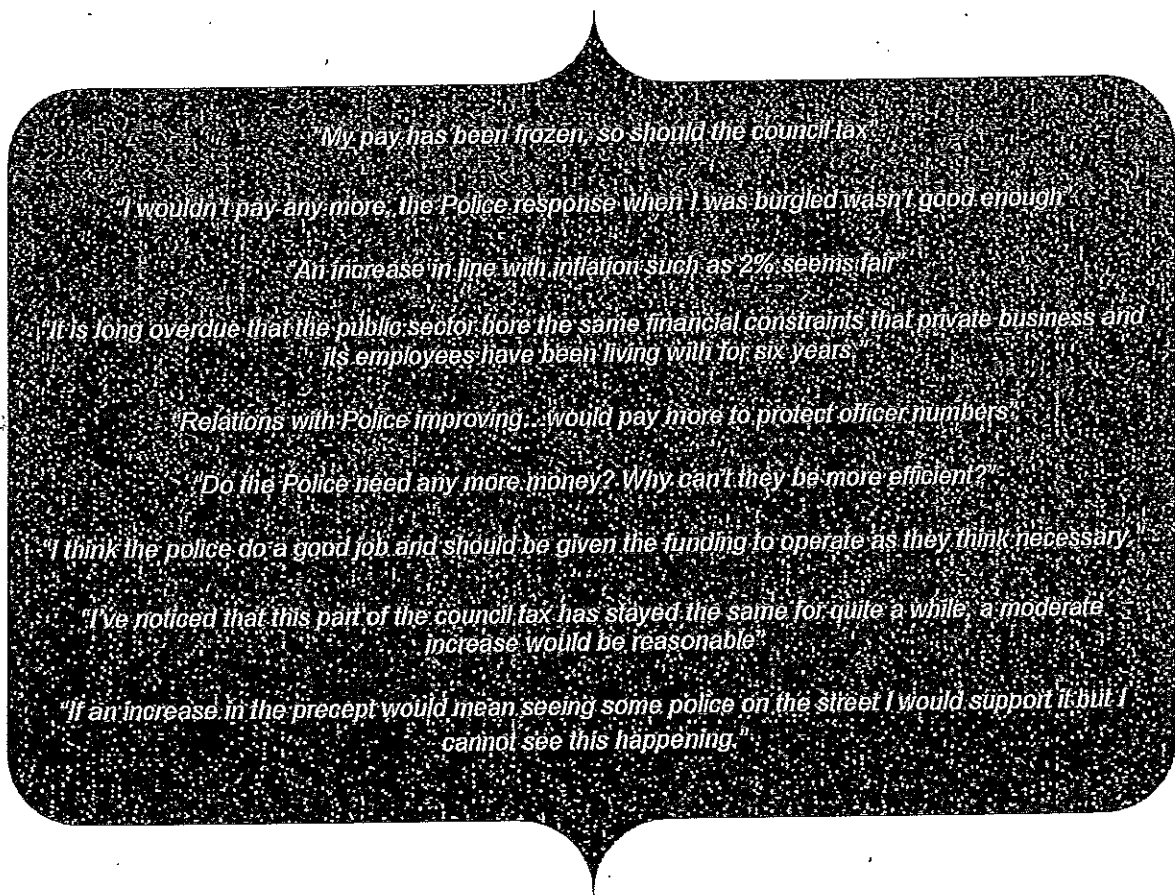
From the events and online consultation in phase one, the results as a percentages are as follows:

Phase 1	0% increase	2% increase	4% increase	6% increase	8% increase	10% increase	TOTAL
Percentage	24.3	25.4	12.8	14.7	4.1	18.6	100.0

n=1604

Qualitative

As well as the respondents' view on the council tax level, the OPCC also captured comments at events which gave some insight into the reasons for their decision. A range of quotes from across the spectrum can be found below:



Stage 2

Following the findings of the pre-consultation stage along with development of the budget, the PCC is now considering three realistic options. These are to freeze; increase by 2%; or increase by a large amount such as 10% (due to the cost of a referendum).

Given the complex nature of this consultation and the various options, the survey question is supplemented by an explanatory table (See **Annex B**) so that the impact of each option is clear.

The pre-consultation phase has also highlighted the importance of understanding the context to respondents' decisions and this will be a key feature of the second phase of consultation.

The second stage of consultation will focus on –

1. Online survey from 9 September – 15 November 2013
2. Discussion of this issue at all forthcoming PCC engagements e.g. Public Forum, Radio Phone-ins etc.

As with all OPCC online surveys hard copy surveys have been made available and the website offers translations into other languages. Moreover hard copies of the survey will be posted to stakeholders including parish councils and libraries. It will also be promoted via press releases and eNewsletters.

This question will also be asked in the joint Constabulary-OPCC Telephone Survey which will gather c1500 responses from a representative sample force-wide.

Results

The panel will receive a report detailing the overall findings at its December meeting.

Recommendations

Police and Crime Panel Members invited to promote the current survey to all contacts:

<http://www.consultation.avonandsomerset.police.uk/pcc/2014-15-council-tax-level-for-policing-phase-2>

Annex A - Events visited by the (O)PCC – Summer 2013

Date	Event	Location
Wednesday 29th May	South Gloucestershire Family Day	Kingswood
Thursday 30th May	Bath and West	Shepton Mallet
Saturday 1st June	Bath and West	Shepton Mallet
Saturday 15th June	Chipping Sodbury Festival	Chipping Sodbury
Saturday 22nd June	Weston Air Show	Weston
Saturday 6th July	St Pauls Carnival	Bristol
Saturday 13th July	Bristol Pride	Bristol
Saturday 13th July	Keynsham Summer Fun Day	Keynsham
Saturday 27th July	Harbour Festival	Bristol
Sunday 28th July	Harbour Festival	Bristol
Saturday 3rd August	Taunton Flower Show	Taunton
Saturday 10th August	Balloon Fiesta	Ashton Court
Wednesday 14th August	Minehead Festival	Minehead
Sunday 25th August	Islamic Cultural Fayre	Bristol
Friday 13th September	Annual Crewkerne Community Safety Event	Crewkerne
Saturday 14th September	Frome Cheese Show	Frome
Wednesday 25th September	Bridgwater Fair	Bridgwater

Annex B – Explanatory Table for second stage consultation question

Scenario	Weekly increase	Annual increase	Impact on budget up to 2015/16	Impact on police officer and staff numbers up to 2015/16	Additional information
Keep it the same "freeze"	0	0	The police would receive a small, short term grant from the government, but the overall impact would be a £15m deficit over the next two years to be found from savings.	Savings of this scale would put over 200 police officer and staff posts at risk.	
Increase by 2%	An additional 6p per week for the average household	A £3.36 increase per year for the average household	This reduces the deficit from £15m to £14m over the next two years	In this case, the risk to police officer and staff posts is reduced by 20-30 posts.	
A significant Increase such as 10%	An additional 32p per week for the average household	A £16.80 increase per year for the average household	This reduces the deficit from £15m to £7m over the next two years	In this case, the risk to police officer and staff posts is halved.	A referendum must be held to approve this level of increase which would cost about £1m .

The average Band D household currently pays **£168** per year or **£3.20** per week towards policing. All figures quoted relate to the average Band D household.

**AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE AVON & SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
24 OCTOBER 2013**

POLICE AND CRIME NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2013 - UPDATE

Introduction

This report provides an update on progress towards developing the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Needs Assessment 2013. The Assessment is being developed in consultation with key stakeholders to inform the Police and Crime Plan refresh for 2014-17.

Background

The first Avon and Somerset wide partnership Police and Crime Needs Assessment (PCNA) was produced in 2012. The process brought together research, analysis, knowledge and intelligence across the Avon and Somerset in order to present a consolidated picture of the issues, risks and threats shared by respective agencies.

The document was used primarily to inform policy development and strategic planning for 2013-17 and provide prospective Police and Crime Commissioners with a shared understanding of the local crime and community safety environment.

A refresh of the Police and Crime Needs Assessment is currently underway, building upon the process initiated in 2012 and maximising opportunities brought about by the new police and partnership environment. The OPCC continues to develop more integrated planning arrangements with the Constabulary and OPCC and closer working relationships with key partners in Health, the Voluntary and Community sector through this process.

The Police and Crime Needs Assessment comprises two main elements:-

- a) An assessment of the issues, risks and threats that are likely to impact upon crime and community safety services across Avon and Somerset between 2013 and 2017
- b) A profile of local need for crime and community safety services with a focus on specific areas of commissioning responsibility and the commissioner's police and crime priorities.

Both aspects of the assessment will be used to inform commissioning decisions across Avon and Somerset over the coming three years.

Initial findings

Preliminary findings from the 2013 PCNA indicate that the current priorities remain relevant and supported by multi-agency focus. Momentum is also gathering in response to these priorities, with some early successes already evident.

The PCNA highlights a number of significant areas of risk and aspects of service that that could be strengthened within the 2014-17 Police and Crime Plan. They include:-

- **Work to engage and empower communities** to resolve issues of local concern - particularly with regard to ASB, road safety and reducing crimes of local concern
- Improving the combined partnership focus on tackling issues and areas of greatest need – despite significant activity, there is currently no strategic co-ordinated focus on **priority areas and neighbourhoods**
- **Safeguarding from serious harm** – ensuring clarity of agency roles and responsibilities and improving picture of risk, particularly by improving victim and third party reporting, community intelligence, information sharing and research and analysis
- **Young people** - increase confidence and engagement with young people and review and respond to gaps in services.
- Tackling **organised criminality** and keeping ahead of **new criminal opportunities**, particularly with regard to advances in technology and social networking
- **Prevention-focus** to reduce potential harm and demand – including co-ordinated responses to gaps in treatment and diversionary activities, and tackling the drivers and facilitators of offending, particularly

The more comprehensive summary of the draft Police and Crime Needs Assessment findings is shown at Annex 1.

Next Steps

The OPCC is currently consulting key partners on the content and recommendations of the draft Police and Crime Needs Assessment 2013 in preparation for a final draft, which will be presented to a Partner and Practitioner Event on 30th October.

The Partner and Practitioner event will include representation from partners across police, community safety, criminal justice, public health, Clinical Commissioning Groups, community and voluntary sector and the Police and Crime Panel. It will be an interactive session and provide an opportunity to:

- Review, discuss and consolidate key findings
- Consider next steps and multi-agency responses to the issues identified
- Set out the Commissioner's approach to the Police and Crime Plan refresh

- Update partners on key Change Programme / Operating Model developments

The outputs of this event will be used to support the refresh of the Police and Crime Plan. A summary of key milestones is shown below.

- | | |
|---|---|
| • September – October | Partnership consultation PCNA |
| • 30 th October 2013 | Partner and Practitioner Event |
| • October – January | Refresh Force Police and Crime Plans |
| • November – February | Develop Local Authority Police and Crime Plans |
| • 8 th November 2013 | Force-level & local plan template |
| • 22 nd November 2013 | First draft force level plan |
| • 29 th November 2013 | Police and Crime Plan Workshop |
| • 17 th January 2014 | First draft local authority-level plans submitted |
| • 22 nd January 2014 | Review group considers draft plans / feedback |
| • 5 th February 2014 | Police and Crime Panel review draft plan |
| • 7 th February 2014 | Finalise local plans |
| • 10 th Feb – 10 th Mar | Public and partner consultation on revised plan |
| • 21 st March 2014 | Police and Crime Panel ratify plan |
| • March – April 2014 | Issue and publicise Police and Crime Plans |

Recommendations

The panel is asked to note the report and key milestones and co-ordinate feedback on the draft Police and Crime Needs Assessment via the nominated representative.

ANNEX A. DRAFT POLICE AND CRIME NEEDS ASSESSMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Needs Assessment 2013 has been developed in collaboration with local crime and community safety partner agencies. The assessment outlines key issues, risks and threats that are likely to impact upon the crime and community safety environment between 2014 and 2017. Findings should be used to inform planning and policy development for 2014, including the refresh of force and Local Authority level Police and Crime Plans.

Key Points

- The long terms overall risk of crime and anti-social behaviour continues to fall across Avon and Somerset, as does overall demand on crime and community safety agencies.
- Changing economic trends, extensive welfare reform and cuts to key services, however, create potential for increased risk of offending and victimisation, particularly amongst young people and deprived communities. There are clear opportunities to improve local preventative activity.
- Safeguarding demands, particularly in relation to mental health, are increasing as a result of growing need, improvements in risk assessment and intelligence, and reductions in statutory provision of social care. There are opportunities to improve early intervention and agency responses.
- Unreported crimes and unmet need often carry the greatest potential risk to vulnerable victims, particularly in areas such as domestic and sexual violence and exploitation, hate crime, human trafficking and genital mutilation. Young people, women and people from black and minority ethnic communities are at disproportionately high risk of victimisation for these offence types. More can be done to build confidence amongst victims, witnesses and other third parties to reporting such cases.
- Technological development and the growth of social media have led to a rapid increase in risks relating to cyber-crime, cyber-enabled crime, sexual exploitation, stalking, harassment and cyber-bullying. Community-level intelligence and technical capability are critical in tackling these issues.
- Organised criminality remains a primary driver of serious crime, harm and hidden harm with technological, social and economic conditions creating new opportunities for markets in stolen and counterfeit goods, drug distribution, domestic extremism and exploitation in particular. Although resource intensive, disrupting and dismantling of organised crime can have far reaching benefits.
- Alcohol and drugs remain primary drivers of demand, particularly in Bristol, and a shared partnership priority, despite gaps in co-ordinated agency responses. Harm related to the use of 'legal' and illegal drugs continues to drive risk and concern amongst vulnerable communities.
- The public's priorities and expectations are clear and have remained relatively unchanged over time. Anti-social behaviour, speeding traffic and parking are notable drivers of demand and the community safety issues with the most significant daily impact on local communities. More can be done to develop an understanding of the extent to which these issues are being resolved and to support and empower local communities to take action.
- Burglary and domestic and sexual violence are high impact crimes which levels of concern amongst local residents. Re-offending also remains a shared partnership priority particularly in the management of prolific and high impact offenders. National changes to commissioning arrangements, however, may present challenges to offender management and information sharing.
- The Criminal Justice System is operating at capacity and delivery of the efficiency programme to digitise and integrate technology, improve in case file quality and make appropriate and proportionate use of restorative justice and community disposals will be critical to improving outcomes for victims.
- Critical challenges facing crime, community safety and criminal justice agencies include reducing budgets, the changing commissioning landscape and maintaining and improving the public's trust and confidence.
- Avon and Somerset's population continues to grow and diversify. This presents challenges to service providers in providing visible neighbourhood services, maintaining an awareness of local culture and needs, and ensuring equality of access to key services.

Cross Cutting Themes

The assessment identifies a number of cross-cutting themes which are central to delivering improved outcomes for victims of crime and ASB in Avon and Somerset. They include:-

- Partnership working - with a focus on the most problematic issues, cases and localities viewed as one of the main drivers of crime reduction over recent years, highlighting the benefits of a sustained commitment to key multi-agency partnership approaches (integrated offender management, troubled families). There are significant opportunities to extend these principles in areas such as case and risk management.
- Prevention focus – There are significant opportunities to improve the coverage and co-ordination of local preventative services (youth diversion, Bobby Van, targeted education, advice and signposting) and make wider use of predictive analytics to inform resource allocation.
- Information, analysis and research – Developing a holistic picture, capturing intelligence, ensuring victims receive the services they need and maximising safeguarding opportunities all rely on the accurate recording of data. There are clear opportunities to improve quality, consistency and sharing of information and invest in research and analysis to improve understanding of hidden harm
- Cross-agency co-ordination and strategic planning can significantly improve the management of risk and demand across agencies and reduce duplication of effort. This will be particularly important in responding to changes in offender management commissioning arrangements and managing demand within the criminal justice system.
- Reviewing roles, responsibilities, commitments at individual, agency and multi-agency levels, particularly with a view to effectively managing demand at first point of contact. This may include extending the remit of the police to prosecute certain specified offences and broadening role profiles to provide a more seamless service for victims of crime and ASB
- Young people remain the group most vulnerable to offending, victimisation, harm and serious harm. They are also a group significantly less likely to report their victimisation or trust the police.

Key Recommendations

- **Develop and improve processes for engaging and empowering communities to resolve issues of local concern, particularly with regard to ASB and road safety.** Improve the understanding of outcomes being delivered for the public in these areas and use the commissioning process to ensure partnership activity is targeted in areas of greatest need. Foster improvements in partnership working and embed a culture of shared responsibility.
- **Increase focus on safeguarding from serious harm.** Invest in understanding risk, prevalence and hidden harm by improving victim and third party reporting, commissioning research and analysis supporting improvements in information sharing and community intelligence. Ensure agency roles and responsibilities are clearly defined and ensure that appropriate action is taken at the first point of contact to prevent demand upstream. Work to established shared definition and approaches to vulnerable victims. Increase confidence and engagement with young people. Invest in technology and expertise to keep ahead of new criminal opportunities.
- **Build and retain capacity and resilience** particularly in maximising opportunities to collaborate and integrate services. Implement impact assessments where decisions to retract or cease services are likely to impact significantly on the delivery of shared outcomes. Develop a co-ordinated framework to identify and share good practice and gaps in training and collectively plan for changing demand.
- **Invest in prevention to reduce potential harm and demand.** Tackle drivers and facilitators of offending, particularly alcohol and organised crime. Review and respond to gaps in treatment and diversionary activities, particularly for young people. Support pro-active target hardening and new technologies for predicting victimisation. Engage communities in crime reduction.
- **Improve confidence in and the victim experience of the Criminal Justice System.** Focus, in particular on keeping victims informed, improving efficiency and effectiveness within the Criminal Justice System, reducing re-offending; and maximising available enforcement tools

More specific conclusions and recommendations are set out in each substantive chapter of the full Police and Crime Needs Assessment.

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Extract from
PCP agenda
(ITEM 8)

**AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE AVON & SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
24th OCTOBER 2013**

**AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PLAN - PERFORMANCE UPDATE
OCTOBER 2013**

The Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Plan was launched in March 2013 setting out the Police and Crime Commissioner's aspirations for 2013-17. This included 45 police and crime objectives and nine numerical performance aspirations set out below. This paper provides an update on the progress made towards delivering the aspirations of the Police and Crime Plan between April and September 2013.

Public Confidence

Public confidence in policing locally, as measured by the Crime Survey for England and Wales, increased from 71% to 73% between December 2012 and March 2013. This comes after a period of falling confidence levels during 2012. While these early indications are encouraging, achieving a top ten national position by 2017 remains a significant challenge. The Office of national Statistics will release data up to the end of June 2013 during October.

Anti-social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour victim satisfaction has levelled off at around 81%, having shown no significant change on the 2012/13 baseline year. The proportion of ASB cases fully resolved has seen a marginal increase to 38.5%, but remains notably lower than the aspiration- for example in South Gloucestershire (33%).

The Police and Crime Plan set objectives to improve awareness and access to the services available for victims of ASB. An ASB Champion has been identified to lead this area of work. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Constabulary also launched a general population survey in August. The survey will be used to improve our understanding of the ways in which residents prefer to contact the police, their awareness of opportunities to have a say on local issues and perceptions of ASB in their local area. The first set of results will be available by the end of October.

The Commissioner has issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute to the reduction of ASB and perceptions of ASB across the force area. These include youth diversion schemes, ASB Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) processes and targeted initiatives in the night time economy. A more detailed quarterly report on progress in these areas can be found on the Commissioner's website.

The Commissioner has issued a range of grants to local communities and voluntary organisations in quarter 2 which included work with young people in:-

- the Langport, Wiveliscombe and Minehead areas of Somerset (Archies Xtra, 10 CY, Minehead Hope Trust)
- Twerton area of BaNES and the Mentoring Plus scheme

- Oldland and Kingswood areas of South Gloucestershire (Oldland Youth Club, Creative Youth Network)
- Yatton Youth Club, Conresbury Skate park, Clevedon YMCA and the Bournville Estate (Sports Active Seagulls Community Trust) in North Somerset
- ABLAZE, South Bristol Youth project and Southville Community Development Association in Bristol

Domestic and Sexual Violence

Recognising that a substantial proportion of domestic and sexual violence cases go unreported to the police and other agencies, the Commissioner has set an aspiration to increase confidence amongst victims to report these incidents. Reported sexual offences have increased by 29% so far this year. Conversely, detection rates for serious sexual offences have fallen from 34% to 27%, although a proportion of new cases are progressing through the criminal justice system. The national position for serious sexual offence detection has slipped from 14th highest nationally to 18th highest.

Domestic violence reporting fell steadily between April and June 2013, but showed signs of above average increases over the summer. Work is underway to identify what factors are thought to be driving this increase. The Commissioner will continue to work with partners and the public to increase confidence to report these incidents amongst both victims and third parties. Recent analysis has also identified opportunities to improve recording systems and processes with regard to third party reporting.

The Commissioner has also set out a commitment to improving understanding and awareness of domestic and sexual violence, improving the effectiveness of Public Protection Teams and local domestic violence services, and strengthening the focus on perpetrators of violence. The Commissioner centrally commissioned the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) services in April 2013 in order to provide continuity and stability to this important service.

The Commissioner has also issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute towards tackling Domestic and Sexual Violence in Avon and Somerset. These include a domestic violence empowerment group, perpetrator scheme, research in to the prevalence of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), child exploitation MARAC process and domestic and sexual violence awareness raising campaigns. Details of progress made in these areas can be found on the Commissioner's website.

The Commissioner has also issued a range of grants to local communities and voluntary organisations to support this priority. Grants awarded to date include:-

- Women's Project – counselling service for victims of domestic abuse in North Somerset
- Kinergy - volunteer counsellors providing support to victims of rape and sexual assault
- Weston YMCA – supporting young people who have experienced domestic abuse
- Unseen – work to tackle human trafficking
- The Green House – To increase counselling hours available to support survivors of sexual abuse

Burglary

The number of burglary offences across Avon and Somerset has fallen by 15% so far this year, equating to around 922 fewer crimes. The detection rate for burglary has also

increased from 11.6% to 13.6%. National positions for both burglary rates and detections have improved to 18th and 16th out of 43.

The Commissioner has also set Police and Crime objectives to tackle burglary hotspot locations, improve integrated offender management and criminal justice outcomes and improve the access to information available to the public. A review of the way in which serious acquisitive crime processes are managed and co-ordinated has contributed to further reductions in burglary and improvements in the burglary detection rate this quarter.

The Commissioner has engaged extensively with local communities to understand their concerns, including attendance and engagement at a number of Neighbourhood Watch and PACT meetings. Work is also underway to review the Constabulary approach to Neighbourhood Watch and information provided to local communities. The Commissioner also maintains oversight of the IMPACT programme for managing our most prolific and persistent burglary offenders.

The Commissioner issued grant funding to support the Drug Intervention Programme across Avon and Somerset in March 2013 alongside community safety grants for initiatives such as alley gating, crime prevention, youth diversion and substance misuse projects. Details of progress made in these areas are reported quarterly and are available on the Commissioner's website.

Victim Services

Victim satisfaction is increasing, having risen steadily from 86.7% satisfied to 87.8%, with the most recent results indicating that satisfaction rates are set to increase further. The national position for victim satisfaction has increased to 13/43, standing marginally outside of a top 10 position.

The Commissioner set out her commitment to improving victim care, particularly through improving our understanding of victim's experience and supporting the Integrated Victim Service pilot. The Commissioner has appointed a Victims Champion to lead this area of work and is working with key stakeholders to map the victim services landscape with support from the University of the West of England. This has included facilitating a Victims' Roundtable event in May and preparations to commission local victim services from October 2013.

The Commissioner has issued community safety grants that will contribute towards improving victim care across Avon and Somerset, which include Neighbourhood Justice Panels and a range of hate crime services. Details of progress made in these areas are reported quarterly and are available on the Commissioner's website.

The Commissioner has also issued a range of grants to local communities and voluntary organisations to support this priority. Grants awarded to date include:-

- Lighthouse at Weston – providing a safe place for vulnerable victims in the night time economy
- The Cole's Shed – supporting the development of a sensory garden for vulnerable young people in North Somerset
- South Gloucestershire Disability Equality Network – event to raise awareness of disablist hate crime
- Bristol and Avon Chinese Women's Group – specialist drop in surgeries
- Somerset West Business Against Crime – radio infrastructure to a new business crime reduction partnership

Additional areas of work

Road safety was identified as an additional priority issue for residents across Avon and Somerset as a result of extensive local consultation. The Commissioner requested a review of the effectiveness of fixed speed and red light cameras, mobile cameras and speed awareness courses was commissioned in April 2013 alongside a review of potential costs and revenues. This informed a decision to reinstate road safety cameras in specific areas of the force.

The Commissioner has continued her programme of community engagement which included a variety of out and about days and public events. This has seen a particular focus on hearing from underrepresented groups and victims of a range of crime types.

The Commissioner has also:-

- Appointed a Youth Champion and Health and Wellbeing Officer to develop relationships with and improve understanding of the issues affecting young people
- Worked pro-actively with the Community and Voluntary Sector to develop relationships with CVS umbrella organisations and key partners
- Developed and recruited individuals to a Volunteer Panel that will dip sample complaints made against the Constabulary in order to provide increased transparency, openness, independence and oversight of the process.

The Commissioner has also been working closely with the Chief Constable in reviewing the 'Operating Model', which will set out how the Constabulary will be re-configured to meet the £14m funding challenge for Avon and Somerset over the next two years and beyond.

Recommendations

Panel members are invited to consider and discuss the report.

Police and Crime Plan Scorecard 2013/14 – Quarter 2

	2012/13 Baseline		12 Month Rolling Position		Ambition	
	Current	Change on baseline	National Position	2016/17 Ambition	On track to meet ambition?	
Public Confidence						
Percentage that have confidence in their local police	70.9%	+1.8%	28/43	National top 10	YES	
Anti-social Behaviour						
Overall satisfaction amongst victims of ASB	80.9%	+/-0.0%	n/a	Same as crime	NO	
Percentage of ASB cases fully resolved	38.3%	+0.2%	n/a	Increase	YES	
Domestic and sexual violence						
Reported domestic and serious sexual offences	20,336	-0.2%	n/a	Increase	NO	
Reported Domestic Violence	19,366	-1.1%	n/a		NO	
Reported Serious sexual violence	1,128	+22.7%	n/a		YES	
Detection rate for serious sexual violence	33.7%	-6.5%	18/43	National top 10	NO	
Burglary						
Police recorded burglary	11,729	-8.6%	18/43		YES	
- Recorded domestic burglary	5,056	-8.9%	20/43		TES	
- Recorded non-domestic burglary	6,673	-8.5%	17/43	National top 10	YES	
Police detected burglary	11.6%	+2.0%	15/43		YES	
- Detected domestic burglary	14.1%	+2.5%	28/43		YES	
- Detected non-domestic burglary	9.7%	+1.7%	11/43		YES	
Victim services						
Overall satisfaction amongst victims of crime	86.7%	+1.1%	13/43	National top 10	YES	
Successful criminal justice outcomes	80.3%	-0.1%	30/43	National top 10	NO	

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Extract from
PCP agenda
(item 9)

**AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE AVON & SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
24th OCTOBER 2013**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE IN AVON AND SOMERSET

Purpose

This report provides a brief overview of the landscape with regard to domestic violence and abuse, as requested by the Police and Crime Panel.

Context

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse (DVA) is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. DVA can encompass, but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse.

The PCC stood for election with a manifesto commitment to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). After consulting on the Police and Crime Plan this was expanded to – tackling domestic and sexual violence, particularly against women and children (VAWC).

The main focus for this priority is increasing the confidence of victims to come forward and report to the Police. The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) goes some way to understanding the issue of under-reporting, and in 2008/09 it was estimated that 16% of domestic violence victims report their experiences to the police.

In 2012/13 there were 17,461 recorded DV crimes and incidents recorded in Avon and Somerset.

Police and Crime Plan

As part of the VAWC priority, the Constabulary have developed an action plan to drive delivery and improve the service for victims. This action plan relates broadly to:

- **Victim Confidence** – focusing on victim care, quality of service and rolling out best practice
- **Offender Management** – identifying and tackling repeat offenders
- **Quality Investigation** – implementing Force DV champions to ensure highest quality of service
- **Training** – enhanced training for key staff and partners
- **Comms and PR** – internal comms to ensure high quality service as well external comms for public messages
- **Ensuring crimes are appropriately recorded**

The current focus for the VAWC priority is DVA given the decrease in reporting nationally, and in Avon and Somerset. A problem profile is being developed to better understand the issue.

A refreshed version of the VAWC page will be prepared ahead of consultation on the Police and Crime Plan early in 2014.

It should be noted that ACC Rolfe is the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) lead for DVA.

VAWC Strategy Group

The VAWC Strategy Group is a multi-agency group chaired by the Head of CID which reports to the 6 monthly Local Authority Chief Executives meeting. The PCC is represented on this group. The Terms of Reference mirror the objectives in the Police and Crime Plan. The aim of the VAWC Strategy Group is to provide strategic overarching governance of partner activity in relation to the vision and objectives set out in the Terms of Reference. The group aims to:

- ✓ Reduce duplication of effort, and provide greater efficiency and consistency across the force area
- ✓ Improve accountability and ensure quality assurance
- ✓ Improve communication and transparency
- ✓ Enable the sharing of good practice and lessons learnt, ensuring a sound evidence base for activities
- ✓ Identify and resolve area wide issues
- ✓ Undertake tangible actions with clear progression / resolution of business

Tasks planned for the group relating to DVA include reviewing:

- Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVA) provision and establishing a vision for Avon and Somerset
- Perpetrator support programmes and options across Avon and Somerset
- Avon and Somerset Domestic Abuse Free Fone Service (DAFFS)

PCC's Role

The PCC's role in tackling DVA is wide-ranging, and includes:

- Oversight of force performance
- Commissioning of services
- Victims Service commissioning including mapping of landscape
- Raising issues with partners e.g. Safeguarding Boards, HWB, VAWC Group
- Profile and awareness raising
- Stable funding – working with partners and via VAWC Group
- Engagement across Community Safety and Criminal Justice System
- Listening to victims

National response

The Government's response to DVA falls under its vision 'A Call to End Violence against Women and Girls'¹ which is supported by an Action Plan.² Actions include piloting Domestic Violence Protection Orders (DVPOs), disclosure scheme ("Clare's Law") and grants for VAWG services such as IDVAs.

The Home Secretary has tasked Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabularies (HMIC) to review the Police response to DVA in light at the decrease in reporting. HMIC will be visiting Avon and Somerset the winter of 2013.

Local Authorities

Support services for all victims of domestic violence and abuse including refuge provision, floating support, freedom programmes, group work, helplines, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and IDVAs are crucial in supporting victims of DVA to recover.

Each local authority area has a VAWG group as a sub-group of its Community Safety Partnership which co-ordinates this work and commissioning.

Health and Wellbeing Boards and Safeguarding Boards have remits which include DVA.

¹https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/118150/vawg-paper.pdf [Accessed 07-10-13]

² First published in 2011, refreshed in 2013

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/181088/vawg-action-plan-2013.pdf [Accessed 07-10-13]

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**Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel
Working Relationships with Community Safety Partnerships
24th October 2013**

Statement of working relationship between The Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel (the Panel) and the Stronger and Safer Task Group of the Avon and Somerset Criminal Justice Board (the Task Group)

The aim of this statement is to initiate a clear and productive working relationships between the Panel and Community Safety Partnerships so that:

- The Panel is able to deliver its responsibility to work with CSPs without duplicating the Police Commissioner's activities
- The Community Safety Partnerships and the Task Group are able to input to the Panel's scrutiny reviews and work programme

-
1. The Panel will notify the Stronger and Safer Task Group of the Avon and Somerset Criminal Justice Board of its work programme and programme updates, including the meeting dates when it will be considering the Police Commissioner's Budget and Precept, Police and Crime Plan and Annual Report.
 2. The Task Group is invited to communicate to the Panel any input it wishes to make to the Panel's reviews on behalf of Community Safety Partnerships.
 3. The Task Group encourages Community Safety Partnerships to keep their local authority's Panel members informed of key issues, concerns and priorities by either:
 - Inviting a Panel member to attend meetings or
 - Ensuring that their authority's Panel members receive regular briefings
 4. The Panel encourages its members to take steps to establish communication with their Community Safety Partnership if a relationship is not already in place, to inform themselves of its current priorities and concerns, and to feed these into Panel reviews and other activities where appropriate.
 5. The Panel and the Task Group will review these arrangements in a year's time to explore their effectiveness in adding value to the work of Community Safety Partnerships, the Task Group, and the Police and Crime Panel.

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Extract from
PCP Agenda
(ITEM 12.

**Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel
Work Programme 2013-14**

24th October 2013

1. A draft 2013-14 Work Programme is attached overleaf.
2. The scheduling of the Panel's core rolling scrutiny programme ie. Budget and Precept, Police and Crime Plan and Annual Report, is similar to 2012-13 in terms of timeframe. Leeway will need to be allowed for ongoing but unpredictable commitments such as escalated complaints or any necessary confirmation hearings
It will be important that issues arising from each review are appropriately fed in to the others, for example, that comments in relation to the Annual Review are revisited in the context of the Budget and Precept and the Police and Crime Plan.
3. That Panel has expressed interest in conducting a scrutiny review on the topic of domestic violence and abuse. It is suggested that this might look at provision across the Avon and Somerset Area and South West generally, and identify issues, concerns and good practice to inform the long-term development of policy and provision. This would involve calling on regional and national witnesses.
This piece of work has been pencilled in for April. A background information report is on the agenda for 24th October.

Contact: Jude Williams, Scrutiny Officer, Bristol City Council 0117 922 2206. Email: jude.williams@bristol.gov.uk

Draft Work Programme 2013/14	
Wed 5 th June 10.30am	Annual Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Review of annual report b) Priorities for next year: Comments from Commissioner and Chief Constable c) Commissioner and Panel joint work planning for 2013-14
23 rd September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints meeting • Independent co-optee recruitment • Budget Training • Tour of Police Headquarters
24 th October 10.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel membership • Commissioner's update • Panel representatives and role descriptions • Consultation on 2014/15 Council Tax Level - Overview • Draft Police and Crime Needs Assessment: comment /observations • Police and Crime Plan mid year update • Domestic violence and abuse briefing • Working relationships with Community Safety Partnerships • Finalisation of 2013/14 work programme • Issues raised by Panel members
11 th December 10.30am (18 th Dec alternative date)	Budget and Precept Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget and precept scrutiny preparation • Commissioning update, with particular reference to Victim Commissioning
5 th February 10.30am	Budget and Precept Scrutiny <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal scrutiny of budget and precept
21 st March 10.30am	Review of Police and Crime Plan
April / May	tbc Domestic Violence and Abuse scrutiny review
11 th June 10.30am	AGM and Review of Annual Report

**AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
REPORT OF THE AVON & SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER
24 OCTOBER 2013**

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel with oversight of all complaints made against Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, for scrutiny of the initial handling by the Chief Executive of Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner's Office.

BACKGROUND

2. Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Panel (the Panel) is the Appropriate Authority to handle complaints against the conduct of 'Relevant Office Holders', being Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Deputy PCC if one is appointed, according to statutory regulations of the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 and as referred to in the Police Reform and Social Responsibilities Act 2011, section 31 and schedule 7.
3. However, the initial handling, which includes categorisation, recording decision-making, referral of criminal allegations to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC), disapplication decision-making, and responding to the complainant in the first instance, has been delegated by the Panel to the Chief Executive in the Office of Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, with scrutiny and oversight of all complaints and any escalation for informal resolution, remaining with the Panel.

SUMMARY OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

4. There have been four complaints received since the last report against the *conduct* of the Police and Crime Commissioner ('conduct' including acts, omissions, statements and decisions (whether actual, alleged or inferred)). Each of these complaints has been dealt with directly by the Panel.
5. Please refer to the summary table in Annex 1.
6. These complaint files are available at the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for viewing by the Panel, if requested.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no equality implications arising from the handling of complaints against Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner. The protected characteristics of complainants are not necessarily known, and all complaints are logged and published in an open and transparent manner.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. Members are asked to review and comment on this complaints report and the summary table in Annex 1 and to advise of any recommendations or requests for informal resolution by escalating the complaint to the Panel.

JOHN SMITH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Contact Officer: Kathryn Palmer, 01275 816377

COMPLAINTS and CONDUCT MATTERS AGAINST AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER Annex 1

REPORT TO: AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Date: 24 Oct 2013

No.	Date rcvd / log no.	Summary	Recorded?	Handled by	Outcome	Live or Closed
10.	24/6/2013 / 1509	Not complying with data protection legislation.	Yes	PCP	Complaint not of substance. No further action.	Closed 17/7/13
11.	24/6/2013 / 1539	Accused of conspiracy to conceal a criminal allegation and covered up systematic corruption.	Yes	PCP	Complaint not of substance. No further action.	Closed 17/7/13
12.	16/7/2013 / 1678	Failure of Office of PCC to notify Information Commissioner's Office regarding data protection.	Yes	CEO & PCP	Written explanation & apology from PCC's CEO.	Closed 7/8/13
13.	28/8/2013 / 967	Following Freedom of Information request response, dissatisfied that OPCC used legal privilege exemptions to Solicitor amendments in relation to specific letter and other communications in relation to letter.	Yes	PCP		Live

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