



**STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD
7 April 2015**

**Update on issues raised by Police and Crime
Panel at its meeting held on 9 March 2015**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is to update the Board on issues raised by the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel at its meeting held on 9 March 2015.

BACKGROUND

2. The Commissioner attended the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel meeting on 9 March where he was asked to report on the following items.
 - Youth Justice Board Restorative Justice Project/Restorative Justice Mapping
 - Budget Scrutiny: Revenue Budget 2015/16 – Workforce Strategy
3. The Panel also held a ‘question time with the Commissioner’ session.
4. The Panel also considered reports submitted by others:
 - Preventing Violence against Vulnerable People across the West Midlands Delivery Plan – report submitted by Stephen Rimmer
 - Proposed addition to the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel’s Complaints Procedure – report submitted by the Secretary of the Police and Crime Panel
 - The Panel’s current and future work programme – reports submitted by the Secretary of the Police and Crime Panel

ISSUES RAISED BY THE PANEL

Youth Justice Board Restorative Justice Project/Restorative Justice Mapping

5. The Commissioner provided an update on the project undertaken by West Midlands Youth Justice Board which he had funded to identify the delivery of Restorative Justice in each of the 7 West Midlands districts in relation to youth offending.
6. The Commissioner agreed to update the Panel on progress with the recommendations contained in the project report *Making Sense of the Restorative Justice Landscape in Youth Justice in the West Midlands*. The Panel has suggested that the update be provided in March 2016.

Budget Scrutiny: Revenue Budget 2015/16 Workforce Strategy

7. The Commissioner provided the overall police officer numbers, police staff numbers for 2014-15 and 2015-16, the strategy for use of police officers and staff and the process by which the Commissioner held the Chief Constable to account for the robustness of the Force's approach.
8. It was agreed that the Panel Secretariat would forward to the Commissioner any additional questions from Panel members about police staffing. None have been received at the time of writing this report.

Question time with the Commissioner

9. Questions raised by the Panel during the question time session centred around the Commissioner's support for a combined authority.

The Panel's current and future work programme

10. The Panel agreed to examine several topics from the Police and Crime Plan and the budget in greater detail throughout the year. It also wanted to consider next year's proposed budget earlier in the year. November was suggested as a possible start date for this work, although the Panel acknowledged that this would be before the grant was known.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. The Police and Crime Panel has a dual role to both scrutinise and support the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the key statutory tasks the Panel must undertake:
 - Review the draft Police and Crime Plan (and any changes to it) to ensure local priorities have been considered
 - Consider the Commissioner's annual report, setting out the Commissioner's activities in the previous year
 - Review and scrutinise the decisions and actions of the Commissioner

- Consider the draft policing budget and policing precept (the money collected from council tax for policing)
- Hold hearings when the Commissioner proposes to appoint a new Chief Constable, a Deputy Commissioner, Chief Executive or Chief Finance Officer
- Handle complaints against the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner, working to resolve (but not investigate) non-criminal complaints

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. The Board is asked to note the report.

Fiona Hickman
Governance Manager