

**WEST MIDLANDS POLICE AND  
CRIME COMMISSIONER**

**NON-CONFIDENTIAL  
NOTICE OF DECISION  
018/2013**

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Title: **Police and Crime Plan**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Commissioner, under the terms of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 is required to issue a police and crime plan which covers the term of his office. This Report outlines the process undertaken to produce the Plan and attaches the Plan for decision.

**DECISION**

That the Police and Crime Plan as drafted, which is attached to this report, is approved for issue on 31 March 2013.

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**West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner**

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime. Any interests are indicated below.

Signature.....Bob Jones.....

Date.....28 March 2013.....

## **NON - CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

### **INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

1. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the Commissioner to issue a police and crime plan within the financial year in which the election for police and crime commissioners is held i.e. 31 March 2013. The Plan covers the term of office of the Commissioner, although it is possible to vary the Plan.
2. The Commissioner intends to review the Plan each year to ensure that it benefits from the work of partners and other stakeholders to ensure that the Plan's milestones and deliverables meet the ongoing needs of the public that live and work in the West Midlands. This approach will ensure that the Plan captures the voice of the public in how it is set and develops. The Commissioner believes that it is vital that the Plan enables effective local working and builds upon the strong sense of civic identity in each of the seven local authority areas and their neighbourhoods. For this reason the Plan will have West Midlands wide outcomes and measures but is built upon local policing and crime plans for each of the areas. The establishment of local police and crime boards, a manifesto commitment by the Commissioner, will enable the public to shape police and crime priorities.
3. Local Policing and Crime Plans have been developed by the Force for use in 2013-14. During the next year such plans will be developed and owned by the local policing and crime boards being established in each of the local authority areas. These local plans will be critical to any review of the Plan in future years. The local policing and crime plans will be owned locally and therefore are not required to be formally approved by the Commissioner.
4. The plan covers a range of factors. These are the:
  - manifesto commitments of the Police and Crime Commissioner
  - The assessment conducted by the Chief Constable which identifies the Force's strategic policing priorities, based upon knowledge held by the Force
  - strategic assessments of community safety needs carried out by the community safety partnerships in Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton
  - Strategic Policing Requirement which identifies national requirements set out by the Home Secretary to which both the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner must have regard
  - medium term financial prospects for the revenue and capital funding for West Midlands Police
  - the views of local people, including victims of crime, making use of the work done by West Midlands Police Authority, public engagement during the Commissioner's election campaign and subsequent public engagement through the social media and a series of summits targeted at victims, business, young people, partners and trust and confidence issues
5. Making use of all the information available the plan sets objectives across the

Commissioner's term of office. It will be refreshed each year to ensure it matches the public need and operational issues identified by the police and partners. The plan has West Midlands wide outcomes and measures but will be built upon local plans for each of the local authorities within the Force area. In the future this will include the work carried out through local policing and crime boards, which was manifesto commitment of the Commissioner.

6. Prior to being finalised the plan has been reviewed and commented on by the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel. This is the body established under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 with a statutory role to support and review the work of the Commissioner. The Panel comprises twelve local councillors from across the seven local authorities together with two independent members. The Commissioner has given regard to the Panel's comments on the Plan.
7. The plan sets out the detailed activities that will be undertaken by the Force, together with the milestones they are expected to achieve. This activity is intended to achieve the Commissioner's vision that all that work and live in the West Midlands will have 'Pride in our Police'. Progress towards ownership of the service by those to whom it is delivered will be supported by five police and crime objectives:
  - Improving public confidence in policing
  - Creating stronger partnerships
  - Developing greater local identity across the West Midlands
  - Demonstrating the Force's commitment to social responsibility
  - Delivering better value for money
8. The second aspect of the 'Pride in our Police' vision is to recognise the importance of improved delivery of policing services. This ambition will also be underpinned by five further objectives:
  - Reducing crime and offending
  - Better protecting people from harm
  - Improving the service the public receive from the police
  - Supporting stronger communities
  - Ensuring a more effective contribution to national policing
9. The Commissioner and the Chief Constable believe that the Plan should also reflect the development of the Force. Therefore the Plan reflects this together with the necessary operational focus and the resources required to support operational policing. This includes the key work conducted by the Force with partners across the West Midlands
10. As the largest force outside of London, West Midlands Police contributes heavily to the safety of the whole country not just the West Midlands. The Force provides national counter terrorism capability and a large proportion of operational assets that support UK policing at times of need. The Commissioner is required to have regard to the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) which is issued by the Home Secretary and sets out her view of the national threats that the police must address. In addition to counter-terrorism

the SPR deals with civil contingencies, organised crime, public order and cyber-attacks. The Strategic Policing Requirement aspect of the plan deals with how the Commissioner will ensure that the Chief Constable can meet this national requirement.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

10. The Plan has been drawn in the context of the budget and precept set by the Commissioner. Details of this are included in decision 008/2013..

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

11. As stated earlier in this decision report the statutory requirements for the Plan, and its consideration by the Police and Crime Panel, are laid out in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

### **EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

12. The Plan has been prepared to ensure equality of service provision for all members and equality of treatment for officers and staff of the Force and the West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime. The Commissioner will, through the work of his Strategic Policing and Crime Board, monitor and scrutinise, the achievement of the objectives, deliverables and milestones contained within the Plan.

### **Schedule of Background Papers**

13. Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

### **Public Access to Information**

14. Information contained in this decision is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation. This decision will be made available on the Commissioner's website.