

**WEST MIDLANDS POLICE
AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

NOTICE OF DECISION

032/2013

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Title: Annual Report 2012-13

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Production and publication of an annual report (including an opportunity for recommendations from the Police and Crime Panel to which the Police and Crime Commissioner must respond) is a statutory requirement

This decision would approve the annual report for 2012-13 attached and decide the manner of its dissemination

DECISION

To approve the annual report 2012-13, with electronic dissemination and the circulation of hard copies to central libraries in each local authority area.

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.....

Date.....

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

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Production of an annual report is a statutory requirement. Part 1, Chapter 3, Section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 states,

"Each elected local policing body must produce a report (an "annual report") on — (a) the exercise of the body's functions in each financial year, and (b) the progress which has been made in the financial year in meeting the police and crime objectives in the body's police and crime plan"

This first annual report is exceptional in that for the majority of the year West Midlands Police Authority remained the local governing body for West Midlands Police. Furthermore, the police and crime plan was only issued on 31 March 2013, the end of the period covered by this annual report. The content of the annual report therefore reflects this split between the Commissioner and the Authority. As the report covers the work of the predecessor Police Authority, a draft was shared with the members of the former Authority for comment.

Furthermore, a draft of the annual report was considered by the Strategic Policing and Crime Board at its meeting on 11 June 2013. The Board noted that there was no longer a requirement for the Force to produce an Annual Report. The Commissioner would consider, therefore, whether to include information about police operational areas in future annual reports.

It is also a statutory requirement that the report is shared with the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel:

"2) As soon as practicable after producing an annual report, the elected local policing body must send the report to the relevant police and crime panel.

(3)The elected local policing body must attend before the panel at the public meeting arranged by the panel...to— (a) present the report to the panel, and (b) answer the panel's questions on the report.

(4)The elected local policing body must— (a) give the panel a response to any report or recommendations on the annual report...and (b) publish any such response"

The Police and Crime Panel considered the annual report at its meeting on 24 June 2013 and produced a report with recommendations on 3 July 2013. This is at Annex A.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's response to the Police and Crime Panel's recommendations is at Annex B.

The Annual Report, incorporating revisions arising from the Police and Crime Panel's recommendations, is attached.

Dissemination

It is a statutory requirement to publish the annual report, and it is for the Commissioner to "determine the manner" of publication. It is proposed that the annual report will be published

on the Commissioner's website, and promoted via social media, media releases, and the West Midlands Police intranet. There will be direct electronic dissemination to West Midlands MPs and councillors. A limited print run will enable copies to be sent to central libraries across the West Midlands.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The annual report was designed and produced by the West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime therefore no external costs have been incurred in its preparation. Electronic dissemination incurs no additional costs. The cost of a limited print run will be met from within existing budgets.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

A decision to approve and then publish the annual report ensures compliance with the requirements of Part 1, Chapter 3, Section 12 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Copies of the annual report in large print, other languages and alternative formats will be provided on request and the electronic version on the Commissioner's website is accessible to the screen reader adapted for the site.

Schedule of Background Papers

None

Public Access to Information

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.

Annex A

Report of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

To the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

3rd July 2013

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

Introduction

In accordance with section 28 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Panel must review the Annual Report and make a report or recommendations to the PCC.

On 24 June 2013 the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel considered the Commissioner's Annual Report.

Members Present:

Councillors Alden, Hossell, Jamieson, Lucas, Mattu, Meeson, Phillips, Smith, Tyler and Webb, Mr Nick Drew, Mr Lionel Walker

Panel Comments and Recommendations

1. We note that you have included summaries of the summits you held in the year to 31 March 2013. We suggest that you should include how the learning from these will be carried forward.
2. We suggest that you include additional information about how you have worked in partnership e.g. with key statutory partners and community-led organisations, such as neighbourhood watch.
3. Whilst we do not seek to ask you to restructure the report for this year we suggest that the Annual Report for 2013/14 keeps its target audience as the general public and becomes shorter, with additional more detailed information signposted. We note that your intention is to also include information from the seven local Policing and Crime Boards and urge you to find a way to do this without complicating the structure of the report.

Other items

It is worthwhile to note the other key issues raised under this item:

1. As you will recall there was some discussion as to the progress being made with speed cameras and the general direction of road policing. This may be a topic added to the work programme.
2. We note your assurances that you do not expect any further changes to the neighbourhood policing service within the force area.

Final comments

The Panel will publish this report on www.birmingham.gov.uk/wmpcp on 8th July 2013

The Panel hopes that you will carefully consider its recommendations and feedback and recognise our intent to be supportive of your work. The Panel looks forward to your response to this report.

Annex B

Copy of response from West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner to Cllr Jess Phillips, 10 July 2013

Dear Jess

Thank you for your constructive and helpful letter with attached report of 3 July.

This letter is a response to that report in accordance with Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 Section 12(4).

With regards to the specific recommendations in your report, I offer the following response.

1. Summaries of the learning carried forward from the summits have been included in the annual report
2. A section on partnership working has also been included
3. The Panel's comments about format and content in future years are noted

Roads policing is a key area of business for the coming year. I am exploring with Birmingham City Council the potential for joint work in the provision of new static digital road safety cameras. I hope that similar arrangements can be reached with other areas too. Furthermore, there is consideration as to whether there can be closer working between the Central Motorway Police Group and the Force's Traffic Unit.

There are no plans to make further changes to local policing beyond the ongoing implementation of the "Continuous Improvement," estates and 5Ci programmes. However, given the continued adverse funding position – with further cuts to central grant funding announced in the recent Comprehensive Spending Review – and the unfairness of the government's failure to rectify the underfunding of West Midlands Police, all areas of policing are necessarily kept under review. Further into the future, the development of the Innovation and Integration Partner programme offers potential for new technology that will significantly change how the police work, thereby improving service delivery.

I will be making the decision whether to approve the revised annual report on 16 July 2013 and will publish this letter with that decision.

Yours faithfully



Bob Jones
Police and Crime Commissioner