

PFCC Decision Report

Please ensure all sections below are completed

<p>Report reference number: 101-21</p>
<p>Classification (e.g. Not protectively marked/restricted): Not protectively Marked</p>
<p>Title of report: Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024 development</p>
<p>Area of county / stakeholders affected: <i>Essex wide</i></p>
<p>Report by: Liane Edwards</p> <p>Date of report: 17th June 2021</p> <p>Enquiries to: liane.edwards@essex.police.uk</p>

1. Purpose of the report

To agree the budget for the engagement, development and production of the Police & Crime Plan 2021-2024.

2. Recommendations

That the PFCC approve the allocation of £12,600 to produce the Police and Crime Plan 2021 – 2024, including activity to support engagement with communities across Essex.

3. Benefits of the proposal

The Police and Crime Plan sets out the Commissioner’s policing priorities and is the key statutory strategic level document to provide public involvement and transparency of the strategic policing priorities in Essex.

It brings together police, partners and the people of Essex to build safe and secure communities, thereby promoting public confidence in the police and ensuring that victims are satisfied with the service and support they receive.

The commitments set out in the plan build on existing partnerships and seek to develop them in new and ambitious ways. These include greater collaboration between police and fire & rescues services and closer working with local councils, community safety partnerships, and the voluntary, community and health sectors.

The Police and Crime Plan is the primary statutory document through which the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner sets out their vision and objectives for policing and communicates these to local communities, service users, delivery partners and other stakeholders. It brings together police, partners and the people of Essex to build safe and secure communities, thereby promoting public confidence in policing and ensuring that victims are satisfied with the service and support they receive.

4. Background and proposal

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to issue a Police and Crime Plan for their term of office, setting out how they plan to discharge their responsibilities; to secure and maintain efficient and effective policing services, and to hold the Chief Constable to account for the operational delivery of this. The Police and Crime Plan must be developed “as soon as practicable” after the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner takes office, and in any case within the financial year in which they are elected.

The priorities in the Police and Crime Plan provide the primary basis on which the Commissioner will hold the Chief Constable to account for the performance of Essex Police throughout the electoral term, and will be used by the Chief Constable (alongside other considerations) to set the Force Plan.

It also provides a framework by which the Commissioner’s achievements during their term of office are likely to be judged by the public and other commentators (e.g. local media). As such, it is an important strategic document guiding police activity and the use of public funds, and which the Chief Constable must have “due regard” to when discharging their statutory functions.

5. Alternative options considered and rejected

As producing a Police and Crime Plan is a statutory requirement there is not a choice to not develop a Plan, however, several options have been considered regarding how we engage with the public and partners to develop the Plan.

We did consider whether we needed to arrange any specific engagement activity with young people and our diverse communities across Essex which would have reduced the cost requested in this decision sheet. These are groups which we have traditionally had less participation from than other so after careful consideration we have proposed in this decision sheet to undertake some specific targeted engagement with these groups to provide a wider and more rounded level of input into the development of the Plan. This includes commissioning specialist engagement activity to reach young people especially those in care or who are traditionally more difficult to reach.

6. Police and Crime Plan

The Police and Crime Plan 2021 – 24 will replace the Police and Crime Plan Extension 2020 – 2021.

7. Operational implications

The extension of the plan will be developed in close collaboration with Essex Police, (including the Chief Constable) and will include some input from officers and staff from across the force. The plan will be used by the Chief Constable to inform the Force Control Strategy and the Chief Constable's Plan on a Page and so will have significant implications for operational policing.

8. Financial implications

While most of the work will be undertaken by our existing communications and engagement team, some additional services will be required to develop and produce the plan. Some of the engagement work requires specialist support in order to reach youth audiences such as children in care. Additionally, in order to develop, design and host the partner survey we will use an external specialist company and to undertake the analysis of the results we will also use an independent external specialist. An external designer will also be required to design the Police & Crime Plan and hard copies printed for circulation at events and meetings. Finally, an event to launch the new plan will take place to publicise it as widely as possible.

• Online survey	£1650
• Analysis of survey	£1500
• Social media advertising for survey	£1500
• Design of plan	£1950
• Print	£2000
• Youth Engagement	£2000
• Launch of plan	£2000
 Total	 £12,600

These costs are currently unbudgeted.

9. Legal implications

There are no legal implications in respect of the production of the Plan.

10. Staffing implications

Developing and producing the police and crime plan will require significant input from staff in the office and from the Force.

11. Equality and Diversity implications

We will be widely consulting with diverse partners and communities to ensure they are listened to and their views taken into account when developing the priorities in the plan. Reaching audiences with protected characteristics is a specific objective in the Police and Crime Plan Engagement Plan.

12. Risks

By not developing and producing a Police and Crime Plan the office will risk not fulfilling its obligations to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 that requires the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner to issue a Police and Crime Plan for their term of office.

The time frame associated with the development of the Plan is ambitious and there are risks associated with a potential delay, however, this decision and the associated costs are designed to mitigate the risk to a delay in the development

of the Plan by establishing clear support at an early stage to ensure the process runs smoothly.

13. Governance Boards


This decision was discussed at the Commissioner's SMT on 22.6.2021 where it was agreed that this unbudgeted activity could proceed.

14. Background papers

Report Approval

The report will be signed off by the PFCC Chief Executive and Treasurer prior to review and sign off by the PFCC / DPFCC.

Deputy M.O.

Sign: 

Print: Darren Horsman - Deputy MO

Date: 30/6/2021

Chief Finance Officer | Treasurer

Sign: 

Print: Julia Berry

Date: 2 July 2021

Publication (double click box to add a tick)

Is the report for publication? Yes No

If 'NO', please give reasons for non-publication (Where relevant, cite the security classification of the document(s). State 'None' if applicable)

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If the report is not for publication, the Chief Executive will decide if and how the public can be informed of the decision.

Redaction (double click box to add a tick)

If the report is for publication, is redaction required:

1. Of Decision Sheet? Yes No

2. Of Appendix? Yes No

If 'YES', please provide details of required redaction:

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Date redaction carried out:

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Treasurer/ Chief Executive Sign Off - for Redactions only

If redaction is required, the Treasurer or Chief Executive is to sign off that redaction has been completed

Sign: _____

Print: _____

Chief Executive/Treasurer

Decision and Final Sign Off

I agree the recommendations to this report:

Sign:  _____

Print: **ROGER HIRST** _____

PFCC

Date Signed: **2 July 2021** _____

I do not agree the recommendations to this report because:

Sign: _____

Print: _____

PFCC/Deputy PFCC

Date Signed: _____