



# STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## COMMUNITY SERVICES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT

<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION/BODY</b>	Police and Crime Panel
<b>DATE OF LAST MEETING ATTENDED</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 & 3 November 2021
<b>BRIEF REPORT</b>	
<b>28 September 2021 Meeting:</b>	
<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner outlines their activities in recent months and emphasised the importance of the local roadshows in both communicating his plan and for residents to give their views on policing in their areas. Obtaining further funding to enable the implementation of his plan had also been the other priority.</p> <p>His draft plan was presented to the committee, which has nine elements of which one is Manifesto, Mandate, Resourcing (MRE3), sums up the overall approach to improve the police service. Its priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A 50% reduction in neighbourhood crimes and anti-social behaviour.</li><li>• Sets an ambitious target of 300 extra personnel into the Constabulary and improve the 101 service.</li><li>• Ensure the Criminal Justice System supports victims and reduces reoffending.</li><li>• focus on vulnerability and victimisation</li><li>• Empowering our local communities, through improving road safety, focusing on pet theft, internet scams, retail and business crime, and Rural, wildlife and heritage crime</li></ul> <p>The main challenge from the panel was on how these priorities would be funded and a working group from panel members will be established to scrutinise costing and proposed funding.</p> <p>There was some debate particularly from more urban panel representatives on E-scooters and how the trail was progressing and statistics on enforcement of illegal e-scooters.</p> <p>There was also a lengthy debate on the future of the recently created small mounted police force in Gloucester, questioning its costs effectiveness and frequency of deployment and its value for money. While the cost of the stables which was a commitment under the previous Commissioner was also challenged. IT was requested that a value for money exercise was conducted.</p>	

### 3 November 2021 Meeting:

The meetings focus was on the recent HM Inspector of Constabulary PEEL report, which grades how effective policing is in Gloucestershire across 13 areas, of which 11 were graded, see below.

Outstanding	Good	Adequate	Requires improvement	Inadequate
	Preventing crime	Managing offenders		Investigating crime
	Treatment of the public			Supporting victims
	Disrupting serious organised crime			Recording data about crime
	Developing a positive workplace			Responding to the public
				Protecting vulnerable people
				Good use of resources

The Chief Constable, an Assistant Chief Constable and Senior Detective attended to respond to the report.

They with the police commissioner, whilst accepting the report's findings felt it was too harsh in some areas and that its failure to have adequate Crime detection Information data disproportionately reduced 3 or 4 of the assessments.

The HM inspector did issue on the same day a briefing stating it is reviewing this new inspection process, Gloucestershire being the only police force to have had a report issued. In addition, the Chief Constable referred to Covid impact over the period of the review and increasing demands from other regions and national policing (Cop26 for example were 70 officers deployed). The Panel has some 'sympathy' on this.

However, this follows an earlier 2019 report which was inadequate which panel members picked up on and expressed concerns that little or no progress had been made on a number of issues

On data, it was reported there had been a lack of investment the systems were end of life, but a business case would be presented to the commissioner to replace. The Commissioner referring to his plan to also cut 101 waiting times, and that other commitments in the plan were already addressing many of issues the report highlighted.

The Commissioner believes their plans to recruit 300 new officers, and 100 extra support staff, together with training to respond to crime trends (cyber/fraud) will help address this.

It was concluded that although there were reservations on the report's tone, the issues were real and the panel Chair asked for a regular update on action progress to address these from the Commissioner. The meeting ending with a formal vote of confidence in the Chief Constable and their staff.

<b>REPORT SUBMITTED BY</b>	Cllr Martin Percy
<b>DATE</b>	11 November 2021