

Report of: Panel Lead Officer

Date: 29 November 2021

Panel Inquiry Public Confidence in Policing: Update and Next Steps

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update on the progress of the Public Confidence in Policing panel inquiry and seek agreement on the next steps associated with publication of the final report.

2. Recommendations

That the Panel note the progress with the Public Confidence in Policing inquiry report, and

That the Police and Crime Panel delegate the finalisation of the report to the Panel Chair in consultation with the Panel Lead Officer.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Police and Crime Panel builds on its statutory functions by scrutinising key policing and crime topics of public interest. These in-depth inquiries enable members to build their knowledge of complex and crosscutting issues by seeking information and views from a range of sources and stakeholders.
- 3.2 This proactive work links to the panel's role in supporting the Police and Crime Commissioner. Recommendations and suggestions are drawn from the evidence the panel receives and are submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for consideration.
- 3.3 The Panel agreed that public confidence in policing was an important topic to examine in more detail. The Panel agreed to focus on four areas: communication with the public, the victim experience and crime outcomes, public expectations of a modern police force and trust and legitimacy.
- 3.4 The Panel set out to answer the following key question: "What steps is the Police and Crime Commissioner taking to address the issues that undermine public confidence in the police?"
- 3.5 The inquiry sought to achieve the following outcomes:
 - To understand the factors that impact on public confidence in the police;
 - Provide an opportunity for the Panel, in its capacity as 'critical friend', to seek assurances from the PCC on the progress towards the Police and Crime Plan target "to increase confidence in West Midlands Police"; and

- Ensure the Panel is well informed to make recommendations to the new PCC to consider when developing a Police and Crime Plan.

4. Progress to date

- 4.1 The Panel collected evidence from a range of sources, conducted a survey and held a stakeholder evidence gathering session. It is grateful for all those that contributed.
- 4.2 The Panel Inquiry report will set out the information received, and the conclusions drawn from this. The report includes 10 recommendations for the Police and Crime Commissioner to consider.
- 4.3 As part of the process for finalising the report, the Panel sent a draft copy to all contributors seeking comments. Panel members have now discussed each comment submitted and agreed what revisions to make for the final version of the report.

5. Publishing the report

- 5.1 The Panel is asked to delegate the task of finalising the report for publication to the Panel Chair in consultation with the Panel Lead Officer.
- 5.2 The final version of the report will then be presented to the Police and Crime Commissioner and published on the Panel website www.westmidlandspcp.gov.uk

Panel Lead Officer:

Kevin O'Keefe – Chief Executive, Dudley MBC

Panel Contact Officers:

Christian Scade – Interim Head of Scrutiny, Birmingham City Council

Sarah Fradgley – Scrutiny Officer, Birmingham City Council

wmpcp@birmingham.gov.uk

Tel: 0121 303 1727