



**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

STRATEGIC SCRUTINY MEETING MONDAY, 23 DECEMBER 2013 COMMENCING AT 2.00 PM CABINET ROOM B, COUNTY HALL, PRESTON

NOTE

PRESENT

Clive Grunshaw	-	Police and Crime Commissioner
Ibby Master	-	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Bruce Jassi	-	Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
Mrs Amanda Webster	-	Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
Ms Miranda Carruthers-Watt	-	Chief Executive, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner
Steve Finnigan	-	Chief Constable, Lancashire Constabulary
Paul Wilson	-	Superintendent, Lancashire Constabulary
Larry Weir	-	Corporate Development, Lancashire Constabulary

IN ATTENDANCE

Bev Wood	-	Policy and Performance Officer, Office of Police
		and Crime Commissioner
Steve Southworth	-	Administrative Assistant, Office of Police
and Crime		Commissioner

The following items were considered in detail.

- a) Constabulary Performance
- b) Frontline Policing
- c) Protecting Vulnerable People

- d) Tackling Crime and Re-offending
- e) Strategic Policing Requirement
- f) Resources and Value for Money

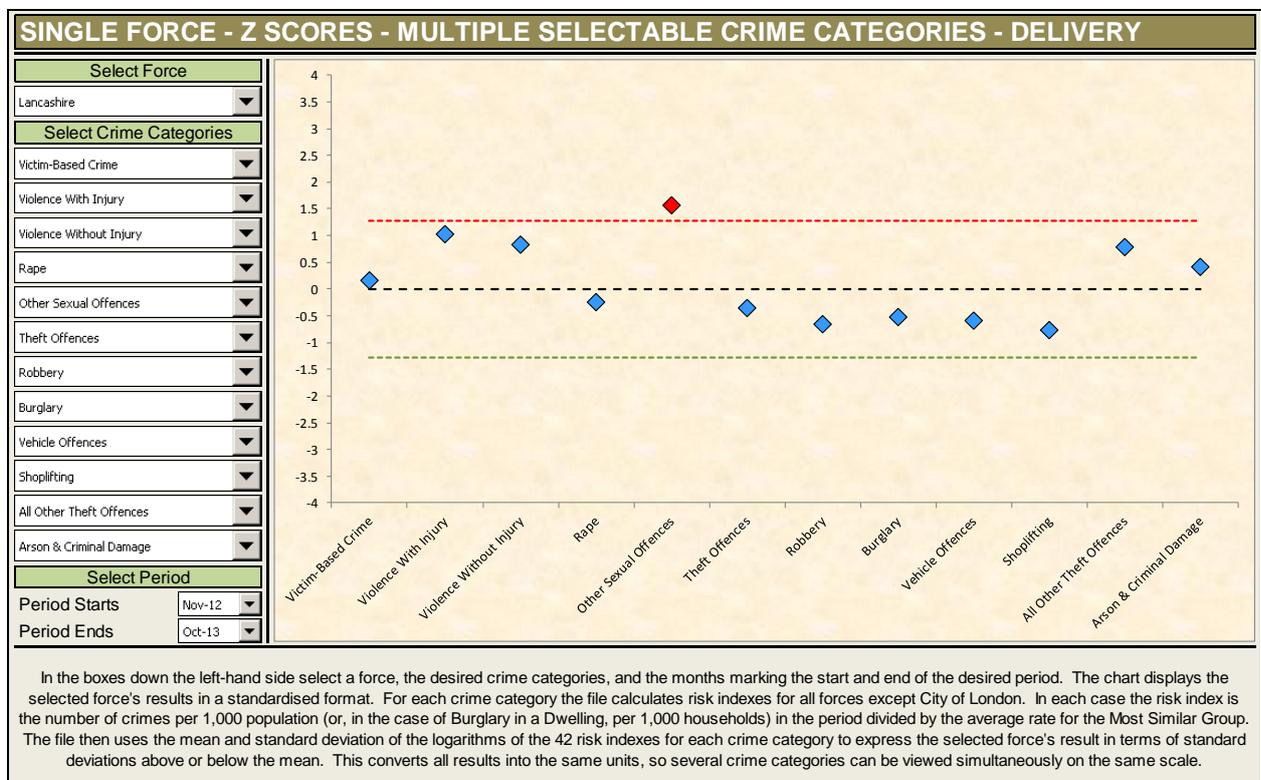
Generally, performance was being sustained, although the Commissioner's Working Group identified a number of 'exception' reports relating to specific areas of crime.

The Commissioner asked the Chief Constable to account for his actions in relation to these crime types. The Commissioner was satisfied with the Constabulary's direction of travel and was confident that the Chief Constable provided a thorough briefing in relation to each area of concern.

The Commissioner had paid particular attention to areas where force performance in Lancashire appeared to be significantly different from that in other similar forces, a measurement used as a comparator.

This table showed performance on a range of crime types. The chart compared the force's current 12 month ending position ending October 2013 with its most similar forces for crime per 1,000 population. Forces in the worst 10% were shown in red.

The Police and Crime Commissioner noted at the scrutiny meeting in September that the force had a red marker for other sexual offences and was concerned that it was still the case for December. This was scrutinised by the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Commissioner was also concerned about non domestic serious violent crime and again an explanation is set out below.



There were a number of national cases which had increased the reporting levels especially of historic cases and this was to be welcomed. The Constabulary believed

that the creation and development of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH), the two Sex Offender Management Hubs at Darwen & Preston, managing over 1500 registered sex offenders across the county and consistency in all rape investigations which were now conducted from within public protection units would see an improved service to victims and more effective targeting of offenders. The Deputy Children's Commissioner had highlighted Lancashire as an area of best practice.

The Commissioner had also been concerned at the apparent increase in acquisitive crimes such as Domestic Burglary and vehicle crime. This was scrutinised as was the Constabulary's action plan for dealing with. These were both poverty and dependence driven and were often exacerbated due to poor security. The Constabulary had deployed a number of operations, community engagement and social media campaigns to address these issues. Further, in relation to Domestic Burglary the force was creating a burglary strategy from the outstanding best practice demonstrated over time and arising from Operation Julius during 2013/14 and will be focusing on securing prosecutions through a proactive investigation approach.

The Commissioner received a report into Non Domestic Serious Violent Crime (NDSVC). The nature of these offences could have life changing consequences for both the victim and the offender. They also had a significant impact on how safe communities felt and the wider confidence in Lancashire Constabulary. This was an area where alcohol had a significant impact

The Constabulary have been implementing an action plan (Operation Vanquish) with the following aims:

1. To reduce vulnerability and risk taking behaviour through early proactive intervention and ensure offenders are brought to justice.
2. Pursue offenders through effective targeting and intervention strategies, together with assessing the most appropriate referral outcome.
3. Prevent communities becoming a victim of NDSVC.

Communities had raised concern about Rural Crime and the Constabulary with the Commissioner had developed a strong community policing approach to rural crime resulting in a delivery plan with the following aims:-

1. Community Engagement
2. Target Hardening and Prevention
3. Wildlife Crime

The Commissioner will continue to monitor performance in line with the agreed framework and in support of the delivery of his Police and Crime Plan and discuss any deviations with the Chief Constable.

MIRANDA CARRUTHERS-WATT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE