

To: Cambridgeshire Police Authority

From: Chief Executive

Date: 7th April 2010

JOINT POLICE AUTHORITY AND CONSTABULARY INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To seek the Police Authority's approval of the draft joint Police Authority and Constabulary Engagement Action Plan, following Citizen Focus Panel endorsement on 3rd March 2010.

2. Background

- 2.1 Members are agreed that the Police Authority and Constabulary are organisations that are independent of each other and with separate roles but a common aim as set out in the Policing Plan.
- 2.2 Members are also agreed, however, that the Constabulary's engagement channels are well developed. Many of those channels are appropriate for Police Authority use.
- 2.3 The Constabulary presented the Citizen Focus Panel with its Engagement Strategy at the Citizen Focus Panel meeting held on the 9th September 2009, included at appendix A. The Panel noted that whilst there was a strategy there was no accompanying action plan and that one was needed which included both ongoing and forthcoming Constabulary work and the additional Police Authority duties not currently embraced by the strategy.
- 2.4 It was therefore agreed at the Citizen Focus Panel meeting on 9th September 2009 that the Media and Communications Officer would produce an engagement action plan jointly with the Constabulary. The joint engagement action plan is attached at Appendix B.
- 2.5 Production of the joint action plan is timely in view of the publication of new legislation – Sections 23 and 24 Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 – which places a statutory duty on the police from April 2010 to secure public involvement in the exercise of their functions.

3. The Action Plan

3.1 The action plan is derived from the County Council's engagement strategy and informed by Peterborough Unitary Authority's approach to engagement, but has been adapted considerably to remove duplication of objectives and actions and ensure it remains relevant to policing objectives. It subsumes feedback from three key Constabulary contacts – the Head of Diversity, the lead for the Prevent and counter-terrorism work and the lead for Neighbourhood Management. The latest draft also takes into consideration proposals for Police Authorities contained in the 'Protecting the public, supporting the police to succeed' white paper.

3.2 The action plan centres on delivering against nine key objectives:

- Ensure communities have easy access to information and opportunities to discuss local priorities
- Deliver information to citizens in an accessible and timely manner
- Make sure Cambridgeshire's communities are more aware of the diversity of the county
- Be smarter about engagement
- Increase and improve community engagement
- Enable communities to feel involved through influencing policy making
- Ensure more young people feel they have a voice and are more involved
- Have greater involvement of BME and vulnerable groups in shaping their services
- Measure and report on outcomes of the Community Engagement Strategy

3.3 The plan went to FEB on 2nd March 2010 for outline approval to ensure it is owned and monitored jointly by the Police Authority and the Constabulary. The plan was endorsed, subject to changes notified to the Head of Engagement and Communications, which are included in the version of the plan at Appendix B.

3.4 The action plan was endorsed by the Police Authority's Citizen Focus Panel on the 3rd March 2010, subject to amendments notified to the Head of Engagement and Communications, which are also included in the version of the action plan at Appendix B.

4. Recommendation

4.1 To note the Constabulary Engagement Strategy at Appendix A.

4.2 To approve the Joint Involvement and Engagement Action Plan at Appendix B.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document (s)	Contact Officer	Location
	Anna Horne Media & Communications Officer (01480) 422649	Cambridgeshire Police Authority, Hinchingsbrooke Park, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 6NP.
<p>Originating OfficerMedia & Communications Officer.....</p> <p>Is it considered that this report contains 'exempt information' and should be considered in private? No</p> <p>If the answer is "YES", please state the nature of the exempt information and the relevant clause in Part 1 of revised Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>The attached report has been cleared with the undermentioned Officers: (delete as appropriate)</p> <p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Others</p> <p>Submitted on18th February 2010.....</p> <p>A report will not be sent to the Authority unless this box has been satisfactorily completed and all necessary consultation carried out - the responsibility for which rests with the originator (except for consultation with the Chairman and this will be undertaken by the Chief Executive).</p>		