

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LANCASHIRE



POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL AUTHORITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

BACKGROUND

In April 2009 sections of the Police & Justice Act 2006 relating to the scrutiny of crime and disorder matters came into force.

The regulations essentially state that all councils must have an Overview & Scrutiny committee designated as a "crime & disorder committee" which will examine "the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions"

It is expected that the committee will need to carry out this function at least once a year.

The Police & Justice Act refers to examining the discharge of responsibilities of "responsible authorities" which, following the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2012, no longer includes the Police and Crime Commissioner.

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER APPROACH

The Police & Crime Commissioner has indicated that he is committed to partnership working and would wish to support the responsible authorities when attending local Overview and Scrutiny Committees. To achieve this in a consistent and effective manner the Commissioner has agreed the following approach:

Where a local authority Scrutiny (or Overview and Scrutiny) Committee is looking to examine "the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions" the Commissioner would engage in the process by:

- Being represented by a senior staff member from the OPCC provided that officers from the responsible authorities are also in attendance at the committee;
- Being represented by a senior staff member from the OPCC to provide the committee with information relating to:
 - (i) Local priorities that the Commissioner has also identified and included in the Police and Crime Plan;
 - (ii) Funding that has been made available to the partnership to support these shared priorities;
 - (iii) Funding and/or commissioning that has taken place at a LCC or Constabulary level that will support local priorities
 - (iv) Funding made available to local community groups through the Commissioner's Community Action Fund.
 - (v) An overview of the Commissioner's priorities, aims and objectives.