



Candidate News

Issue 2

Welcome to the second newsletter in our series leading up to the election. In this edition we have focussed on partnerships and the way in which we work with other agencies.

OPCC Virtual Workshops

In the last newsletter we informed candidates of dates when the OPCC would be facilitating workshop sessions to further increase knowledge and understanding of the work of the office. Feedback from candidates has been that in the remaining weeks prior to the election the main focus will be on campaigning for the election which is perfectly understandable. On reflection we perhaps should have taken this into account when planning the dates so apologies for overlooking this.

As such we have decided to cancel the workshop sessions previously proposed. We will however continue to provide 'Candidate News' between now and the election. We will also increase the content of information contained on the PCC's website in the form of Information Sheets which will inform of the work strands of the different teams within the office which hopefully candidates will find helpful.

Meeting with the PCC and the Chief Executive

As mentioned in the previous newsletter both the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Executive have extended invitations to all candidates to meet with each of them separately. Should you wish to take up either of these invitations please contact:

For Police and Crime Commissioner contact: teresa.wilcox@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk

For Chief Executive contact: abbey.dearden@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk



Dates for your Diary – New PCC



The Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) have informed us of the dates for the new Police & Crime Commissioner Induction sessions which can be found below:

- 26 May 2021- Induction Day
- 27 May 2021 am – APCC General Meeting
- 24 June 2021 - Induction Day
- 25 June 2021- Induction Day
- 14 July 2021 - Induction Day
- 15 July 2021 am – APCC AGM

Candidates may wish to note these dates for their diaries. The intention is to deliver these sessions in person however the first one is very likely to be virtual.

Strategic Partnership Board (SPB)



One of the main expectations of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is to prepare a [Police and Crime Plan](#). The Plan provides the strategic direction for the work of the police, drawing on the views of members of the public and other key stakeholders within the region. It sets the priorities for the police and the PCC's office (OPCC) for the forthcoming four-year period and provides the reference material for the Police and Crime Panel to hold the PCC to account.

But to achieve the objectives in the Plan the PCC needs to draw on the contributions of many other organisations and communities across the whole of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR). Police and Crime Plans across the country address the causes of criminal behaviour which are often health and mental health related, or influenced by substance misuse, or related to social conditions such as employment, education and housing. Crime is a complex human behaviour that is affected by myriad influences across the whole spectrum of society.

That is where the SPB comes in. The SPB is a partnership of all the key organisations across LLR including all the local authorities, the police, health and mental health, fire, probation, prisons and others. Its remit is to address human behaviours that cause harm to people and communities. Its approach is a preventive one: it has adopted the Public Health Model to understand the risk factors for harmful behaviour and to address those. So, it considers the longer-term factors driving the harmful behaviour and creates projects to reduce its prevalence over time.

What do we mean by harmful behaviour? Most of the behaviours that the SPB addresses are crimes.

For instance, domestic abuse, public place violence and modern slavery are serious crimes that cause considerable harm to our communities. But not all of the causes of harmful behaviour are crimes.

For instance, certain mental health issues can contribute to harmful behaviour as can substance misuse. Missing children is not criminal behaviour in its own right, but it is strongly connected to child criminal exploitation, child sexual exploitation and to county lines. Similarly, the night-time economy is an important part of our social and economic community, but it can generate the conditions wherein harmful behaviour thrives. Therefore, SPB has adopted a range of priorities that help to reduce the prevalence of harmful behaviour across the whole of LLR.

One of the emerging and fundamental sources of harmful behaviour is childhood adversity or trauma. The current thinking is that childhood trauma lies behind many of the harmful behaviours that degrade the quality of human lives in our communities, as well as having very strong correlations with a number of other negative life outcomes particularly in health and mental health. Addressing childhood trauma is now a key initiative for SPB.

SPB and its executive board does its work through a number of sub groups including the Vulnerability Executive, which focusses on the protection of the vulnerable, the Strategic Offender Management and MAPPA Board (SOMMB), which addresses offender behaviour, the Senior Officer Group, which links up the work of SPB with community safety partnerships and the board for the [Violence Reduction Network](#), which has led the way in developing SPB's approach to addressing the longer term causes of harm and adopting the Public Health Model.

Please contact Paul Hindson for any further information.



Figure 1: SPB Harmful Behaviour Linked to Childhood Trauma

The Violence Reduction Network (VRN)



Grace Strong
Strategic Director of the VRN

The VRN's governance sits within the SPB infrastructure. It has a dedicated strategic Board, the Violence Reduction Board, as well as an operational Serious Violence Delivery Group. The VRN includes a central team which drives the programme of work forward but the Network is the alliance of groups, organisations and communities which share a common goal of preventing and reducing serious violence. The work of the VRN focuses on all ages but has a priority focus on under 25s due to their over-representation as both offenders and victims of serious violence. Due to the links with exploitation, the VRN works closely with the Vulnerability Executive and the local CCE partnership.

Taking a life-course approach the VRN has generated evidence to demonstrate how violence has multiple causes which can be traced back to early childhood development. Whilst serious violence can and does affect anyone, it is clear from national and local data that it affects some communities more than others. Adverse community environments caused by health and social inequalities are known underlying causes of serious violence. The VRN, like the other 17 Units across E&W, are tasked with understanding the individual, relationship and community root causes of serious violence and designing and testing strategies and interventions to address them.

A central principle of the VRN's work is that young people and communities should be centre-stage in efforts to understand and prevent violence. There are a number of relevant initiatives being tested including a Community Leadership Programme, a grassroots grant scheme and the design of a new Community-Led Outreach Initiative to provide young people with credible role models and opportunities to exit risky lifestyles. Several other interventions are also being funded including a service within the Accident and Emergency department to offer young victims of violence support at a 'reachable moment' and the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) programme in secondary schools which aims to harness the 'power of peers' in the development of healthy social norms known to prevent violence in and outside of intimate relationships. The VRN is also investing in evidence-informed campaign work to ensure our reach to young people is as wide as possible. You can find out more about the work of the VR Board and the Network on the website <https://www.violencereductionnetwork.co.uk>



Please contact Paul Hindson for any further information that you need.

Further Information

There is a wealth of useful information on the Leicestershire PCC Election portal <https://www.leicspcc-election.co.uk>

The Information Section holds useful links to information on the PCC and Partner websites as well as briefing documents produced by various sections of the police family for candidates to download