

West Mercia Police and Crime Panel

Mr John Campion
Police and Crime Commissioner
OPCC
West Mercia Police
Hindlip Hall
Worcester
WR3 8PS

14 October 2016

Dear Mr Campion,

West Mercia Police and Crime Panel - Consideration of the draft Safer West Mercia Plan 2016-2021.

Thank you for presenting your draft Plan to the Police and Crime Panel on 5 October 2016 for our consideration.

The Panel took the opportunity to ask you a range of questions and raise points of clarification on your Plan and consider any further comments subsequent to the meeting. We believe the Plan is a sound base upon which to develop your approach and implement your vision for a safer West Mercia and the Police and Crime Panel will work with you, but also closely scrutinise your implementation of the Plan over its life course.

At the meeting on 5 October, we obtained your agreement to rework your consultation response document, to clarify how those responses have been taken into account in developing the Plan. We look forward to receiving this shortly and also your new assurance framework and performance reporting arrangements which the Panel will require to support its scrutiny of your Plan.

Panel members:

- were unsure as to what effect the verbatim responses as reported had had on the final version or what weight had been given to each of them, especially with regard to whether they were from an individual, group or authority;
- whilst appreciating it is a strategic document, found that the wording of some of the aspirations were difficult to quantify or appreciate as to what action is to be taken on the ground to achieve those aspirations;
- were pleased that you wish for more practical outcomes and improvements rather than promising 'increases' which do not improve things for the community;
- wish you to encourage the public to report crimes and be confident that such reports will result in action from the police;
- will be interested in seeing how the victim board develops and hope it will be able to provide tailored support for victims as you intend;

Clr Brian Wilcox
Chairman, West
Mercia Police and
Crime Panel

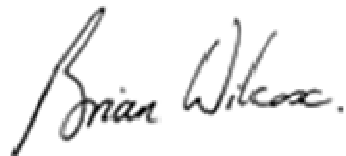
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- sought reassurance that the plan would be delivering value for money and noted that you felt that although there was not always an outcome from investment, if an outcome was expected, that the outcome was actually being delivered;
- suggested that action against hate crime should be more prominent, and noted that you support having a police service which represents the community it serves and would encourage people to report such crimes and not accept them as a part of life;
- were concerned about the actions being taken to combat drink driving and speeding and noted your response that you would work with partners to achieve the most effective programmes;
- wish to see an improvement in 101 response times and use of information, and would expect to see that improvement reflected in future performance reports to the Panel;
- queried what was happening to achieve fairer funding, and were pleased that you would continue to ask ministers when that would be implemented;
- were pleased that that you are introducing an outcome based approach to commissioning; and
- Would appreciate future performance reports to be linked to the aims and objectives as set down in the plan so as to better appreciate the direction of travel and the success in meeting those targets.

The Panel wish to record their support for the Plan and the ambitions of the PCC to support victims and communities and build a safer West Mercia. We hope that the PCC will take full account of the Panel's comments and questions in the drafting of the final Plan and we await your response with keen interest.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Wilcox." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cllr Brian Wilcox
Chairman of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel
