



PRIORITY 2



REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERIOUSLY HARMED IN DORSET

KEY FACTS

- Most serious violent crimes have reduced by 12.9% - 12 fewer victims (defined as offences ranging from grievous bodily harm with intent, to murder)
- Violent crime has reduced by 3.5 % (234 fewer victims)
- The number of repeat domestic abuse incidents has decreased by 21.8% (850 fewer repeat incidents)
- 49% of non-white residents surveyed are worried about being a victim of hate crime

This priority focuses on repeat and targeted victims, irrespective of the type of crime or incident to which they are subjected, as well as those suffering from the most serious offences such as serious sexual offences, domestic abuse and hate crime.

It also focuses on partnership working which aims to prevent death and serious injury on Dorset's roads.

Within this priority there are specific delivery plans for serious sexual offences, hate crime, domestic abuse, public place violent crime and where people are killed or seriously injured on the roads.

There is also a number of cross-cutting themes within this priority:

MENTAL HEALTH

The Public has stated repeatedly that mental health provision in Dorset is a concern. The Commissioner shares that view. Whilst there is provision of secure "places of safety" for people in crisis, that provision needs enhancing. The Commissioner has therefore campaigned against people in crisis ending up in police custody suites, purely because they need to be in a 'place of safety'. Mentally ill people should not be detained in police cells, unless they have broken the law. Assessment suites should be provided by mental health services in all areas, so police stations are no longer used regularly as 'places of safety' for people who are detained under the Mental Health Act.

There will be a pilot street triage scheme in Dorset in 2014. It will be jointly funded by Dorset Police, the Commissioner, and partners, and will see mental health nurses accompany officers on call-outs. It aims at improving the way people with mental health problems are treated during emergencies, especially out of hours. A further pilot will also improve existing liaison and diversion initiatives for people in police custody by expanding it to a 24/7 service.

The Commissioner has also established, and chairs, a PCC Mental Health Working Group to examine mental health issues and community safety issues at a national level. The Group includes representation across government and has worked with all relevant agencies to agree a national minimum standard of service that it is reasonable to expect people in crisis to receive. This resulted in the Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat which was published by the Government in February 2014. In the years ahead, the Commissioner will continue to work on building a closer relationship between the police, health and social care services in Dorset. The Commissioner is determined to play his part with partners to promote and meet the Concordat standards locally.

PRIORITY 2

SAFEGUARDING

As in many other areas Dorset has experienced an increase in the reporting of historic sexual offences following the Jimmy Savile inquiry (and others). The Commissioner believes this is also an indication of the increased confidence that victims have in the Police, and other agencies, in relation to the response and support that they will receive when reporting such crimes.

Work is underway to establish a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on a pan-Dorset basis to enhance information sharing and risk management. The MASH will help to protect the vulnerable, including children, victims of domestic abuse and missing people, from harm. This enhanced coordination between agencies will lead to an improved service for children and adults.

The Commissioner remains committed to rolling-out a pan-Dorset, web-based, IT platform to enhance strategic information sharing and risk management, to prevent serious harm in Dorset. The system enables operational multi-agencies working across areas such as Police and Crime Plan tasking, briefing and coordination, strategic meetings and the management of commissioning and victim referrals to service providers. This initiative will be led by the OPCC. The OPCC will also, on behalf of the Commissioner, work with public sector partners to maximise the benefits of enhanced partnership working in this innovative way.

MISSING PEOPLE

People going missing are often the most vulnerable and in need of help. The greatest numbers of reports are made from children's homes and from mental health units. The Commissioner is committed to working with partners to reduce the number of missing person reports from some of these locations.

There are clear risk factors associated with the more vulnerable persons, either by virtue of their mental ill-health issues and/or their age. Additionally, children who go missing on a regular basis are at increased risk from: sexual exploitation, drifting into alcohol or substance misuse, or a pattern of criminal offending. The commissioner is working with partners, charities and government to help reduce this risk and protect the most vulnerable in society.

ALCOHOL HARM REDUCTION

In August 2013, Dorset Police launched the Alcohol Diversion Scheme (ADS) as a means for dealing with alcohol-related offenders in Dorset. Offenders issued with a Penalty Notice for Disorder (PND) are offered the opportunity to attend a half-day educational course, for which they pay. Early signs have been encouraging, with a number of offenders completing the scheme during its initial months of operation, and none of them reoffending within the six-month review period that followed.

The Commissioner will continue to influence the introduction of other initiatives and best practice, to improve safety so that people can enjoy socialising at night in Dorset. Such measures will include increased use of the Safe Bus scheme, and wider roll-out of Street Pastors initiatives. Further exploration with local authorities on the potential introduction of the Late Night Levy (LNL) and Early Morning Restriction Orders (EMROs) will continue. (The LNL allows licensing authorities to raise contributions from late-opening alcohol suppliers towards the cost of policing at night time. EMROs restrict alcohol sales between midnight and 6am in specified areas.)

ROAD SAFETY

The Commissioner supported the introduction of Community Speed Watch in August 2013. Community Speed Watch helps local communities become actively involved in road safety through discouraging drivers and riders from speeding. There are currently 43 groups actively engaged, with a number of others about to commence. Community Speed Watch is an excellent example of the public and the Police working together to make Dorset safer.

In November 2013, the Commissioner chaired a multi-agency conference on road safety to agree the strategic priorities for the Dorset Road Safety Partnership. More recently, he has been working to engage with GPs, and other health partners, to discuss the risks of older road users and prescription medication that may have a bearing on their ability to stay safe on the roads.

Partnership working in this area of business will continue to be a focus throughout the life of this Plan to ensure that road safety matters remain high on the agenda locally.

PRIORITY 2

WHAT WE WILL DO

- The OPCC will influence the introduction of a pan-Dorset system to enhance strategic partnership working, particularly in relation to Safeguarding.
- The Commissioner will continue to work with others, at both a national and local level, to improve services to people suffering from mental ill health.
- Through Operation Protect the Commissioner will support Dorset Police in its efforts to combat the 'binge-drinking' culture, supporting those licensed premises that act responsibly, and targeting those that do not.
- The Commissioner will continue to lobby local authorities to consider Early Morning Restriction Orders (EMROs) as a means of reducing the length of time that the Night Time Economy (NTE) is open.
- The Commissioner will continue to lobby local authorities to consider imposing Late Night Levies (LNL), to assist in the cost of policing the NTE, and to enable voluntary sector initiatives to help keep Dorset safe.
- With partners, the Commissioner will ensure that victims, especially of serious offences, are provided with effective support such as through the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), or through independent domestic or sexual violence advisors.
- The Commissioner will support the Chief Constable in identifying and targeting serial perpetrators of domestic abuse and violence, supporting those willing to change.
- The Commissioner will provide the young members of our community with information in ways that have been shown to reduce the risks they face.
- The Commissioner will establish a multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) to enhance information sharing and risk management.
- The Commissioner will continue to support the 'No excuse' campaign combining education and enforcement to ensure fewer people die, or are seriously injured, on our roads.

WHAT RESULTS ARE WE SEEKING TO ACHIEVE?

- Fewer victims of serious crime in Dorset.
- Fewer repeat victims especially of domestic abuse.
- Fewer people killed or seriously injured on our roads.
- The establishment of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in Dorset
- Fewer people detained in Police Stations whilst in mental health crisis.
- People suffering from mental illness will be better supported.

www.dorset.pcc.police.uk



Office of the Dorset
Police & Crime Commissioner
Force Headquarters
Winfrith
Dorchester
Dorset DT2 8DZ

T (01202 or 01305) 229084
E pcc@dorset.pnn.police.uk
or in confidence at:
E contactpcc@pccdorset.org.uk
@PCCDorset
Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner