

“Making a Difference” Annual Report 2017-18

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner



Foreword



Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to read my Annual Report for 2017/18. I hope that you find it a useful and informative high-level recap of my work and that of my team over the last financial year.

I am pleased with the progress that has been made against my Police and Crime Plan priorities and my specific commitments and pledges that underpin them. This activity will continue across the remainder of my term as I continue to make inroads against each of the key strands identified in my Plan.

Challenge

Policing, like the public sector as a whole, remains extremely challenging. I understand the frustration this can cause and I appreciate, and indeed share, the desire for more policing visibility in the community. However, it cannot be underestimated how difficult it is to balance available resource with the unprecedented levels of demand placed upon Dorset Police. The nature of this demand grows ever more complex and so much of modern policing goes unseen by the public – safeguarding the vulnerable, responding to mental ill health crisis, policing the online world and managing reports of missing people, for example. With this in mind I hope that our communities continue to recognise the need for the Force to prioritise their resources and responses accordingly, based on threat, risk and harm.

Foreword

Alliance and Merger

It is because of these challenges and the ongoing drive for greater efficiency that we entered into a strategic alliance with our Devon and Cornwall police colleagues, back in 2015. The alliance has proven to be successful in sharing some functions and departments, increasing resilience, building on best practice and making savings. Given this success, and the ongoing pressure placed on our budgets, it was natural to explore further options for collaboration including a full merger of the two forces. A robust business case was developed and I, alongside both Chief Constables, remain convinced that a merger is the right course of action to secure the most effective policing arrangements across Dorset, Devon and Cornwall in the longer term. Regardless, Dorset Police remains in a strong position to meet our future challenges and the process was useful in highlighting further opportunities to improve our efficiency and effectiveness.

Thank you

I would like to place on record my appreciation and gratitude for the efforts of all Dorset Police officers, staff and volunteers in keeping us safe. Many of them are regularly confronted by the most challenging of situations and their unwavering commitment and fortitude is admirable. We all recognise that this could not be achieved without the support of the public, however, and I thank you also for continuing to support to your police service.

My team and I work in partnership with many organisations and individuals and I thank them too for their efforts in keeping us safe. For example, The Dorset Police and Crime Panel offers scrutiny, challenge and support which is invaluable. Finally, thank you also to all of the staff within my OPCC team who support me in making a real difference to the public with professionalism, good humour and the minimum of fuss.

Martyn Underhill

Protecting People at Risk of Harm



PROTECTING PEOPLE AT RISK
OF HARM

Vulnerability
Prevention
Early
Intervention

Mental Health
Drugs
Alcohol

National Issues
Local
Approaches

Police & Crime Plan:

“Protecting the public from harm is, and will always be, a core police duty. However, the demands placed on the police have shifted greatly in recent years and resources need to be effectively targeted on the basis of threat, risk and harm.”

Headlines & Progress:

- Increased resources for [Paedophile Online Investigation](#) and Safer Schools teams
- Backed successful “[Cut Your Strings](#)” coercive & controlling behaviour campaign
- Child Sexual Abuse support projects funded
- [Modern Slavery conference](#) supported
- Ongoing focus, support and lobbying on [mental health](#) issues
- Commissioning Spend for this theme in 2017/18 = £220,000

Making a Difference:

- People feeling safe in Dorset – 98%
- Increased public confidence in reporting hate crime, domestic abuse and serious sexual offences
- Significant decrease in use of police custody as a place of safety for those suffering mental ill health crisis

Case Study: 'Cut Your Strings' Domestic Abuse Campaign



"I was delighted to support the 'Cut Your Strings' campaign. Coercive and controlling behaviour sees victims become captives in a world created by their abusers, a world ruled by contradiction, isolation and fear, so raising awareness of this type of criminal behaviour is incredibly important."

Martyn Underhill

"The aim is to raise public awareness. Full credit goes to the film making and advisory team who worked tirelessly on the project which has had full support from the start."

John Young, Dorset High Sheriff

Working with our Communities



WORKING WITH OUR
COMMUNITIES

Road Safety

Cyber-crime

Engagement

Problem
Solving

Police & Crime Plan:

"An essential part of my role involves acting as a link between the public and police service, and also as a facilitator in bringing local partners together to tackle shared priorities, issues and concerns. I will therefore continue to work with Dorset Police and other agencies... to keep our communities safe. I am particularly keen to engage with community members to help them... tackle the issues most affecting them."

Headlines & Progress:

- [Marine Unit](#) expanded and [Rural Crime Team](#) implemented
- [Dorset RoadSafe](#) website relaunched
- PCC [Problem Solving Forums](#) launched
- [Drink Drive consultation](#) & [Close Pass](#) cycle safety initiative launched
- Dorset Cyber Alliance launched
- OPCC summer engagement programme & [Annual Engagement Report](#)
- Commissioning Spend for this theme in 2017/18 = £168,000

Making a Difference:

- Over 25,000 Driver Awareness Course attendees in 2017
- Over 200 Cyber Crime awareness engagement events delivered
- Over 10,000 responses to PCC-led public consultations

Case Study: Dorset Road Safe Website Relaunch



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Dorset Road Safe Partnership

Dorset Road Safe is a partnership organisation committed to reducing the number of road traffic casualties on our roads. Our work focuses on a combination of approaches including; education, enforcement and engineering.

Community Speed Watch >

Reporting road incidents >

Received a camera ticket >

Road traffic collision data map >

Road safety newsletters >

< A Guide to Safer Roads

“If we are to keep people safe on Dorset’s roads then it is essential that drivers have access to relevant education, advice and enforcement information. It’s for this reason that I made a commitment to overhaul the Dorset Road Safe website. It launched in 2017/18 and receives thousands of visits a month.”

Martyn Underhill, Police & Crime Commissioner

“A new online portal was long overdue and I am delighted that such a useful resource is now available for the public.”

Mark Armstrong, Dorset Police Road Safety Manager



Know a dangerous driver?

Got information about a dangerous/careless driver? Submit your road safety intelligence here. If a crime is in progress or there is danger to life, call 999 immediately.



Motorbike rider? Check out BikeSafe

Take part in one of our BikeSafe courses to become a safer rider.



Speed enforcement locations

Find out where our mobile cameras will be enforcing this week.

Supporting Victims, Witnesses & Reducing Reoffending



SUPPORTING VICTIMS,
WITNESSES & REDUCING
REOFFENDING

Victims &
Witnesses

Offender
Management
Rehabilitation

Restorative
Justice

Police & Crime Plan:

“Support for victims and witnesses of crime was a priority for me in my first term and remains just as important now. I am determined to work with the Chief Constable to provide a policing service that is valued by people in Dorset and in particular by victims of crime. This theme also looks at offending and steps that can be taken to break the cycle of reoffending and rehabilitate our most prolific and regular offenders.”

Headlines & Progress:

- [Restorative Dorset](#) service launched
- Dorset Police [Victims Champion](#) appointed
- [Victims Bureau](#) recognised with regional award
- Complainant Advocate bid for funding successful
- [Victim Support](#) contract extended and enhanced
- [Out of Court Disposal](#) scrutiny
- Commissioning Spend for this theme in 2017/18 = £1,133,000

Making a Difference:

- Over 14,000 support cases created by Victim Support
- Over 11,000 contacts made by the Victims Bureau
- 77.2% Victim Satisfaction

Case Study: Dorset Victims' Bureau Recognised



“I am thrilled to co-fund the work of the Dorset Victims' Bureau and I wholeheartedly congratulate the team on winning a regional award this year, as it recognises all of their hard work, dedication and professionalism in supporting victims.”

Martyn Underhill, Police & Crime Commissioner

“We are passionate about supporting victims of crime in our community. Knowing members of the team give up their own time to support this is truly humbling and their contribution is invaluable.”

Karen Bader, Victims Bureau Manager

Transforming for the Future



TRANSFORMING FOR THE
FUTURE

Funding &
Resources

Technology

Innovation &
Service
Improvement

Police & Crime Plan:

“This theme looks at my roles and responsibilities in ensuring that Dorset Police operates as efficiently and effectively as possible – both now and in the future. The main strands here are focused on people; information and communication technology; innovation and improvement; and partnerships and collaboration.”

Headlines & Progress:

- OPCC review completed and implemented
- [Alliance Drone Unit](#) launched
- [Body Worn Video](#) piloted
- [Merger proposal](#) explored
- [Customer Service Improvement Panel](#) launched
- [Council Tax Precept consultation](#) undertaken
- Safer Dorset Fund - [Community Grant Scheme](#) relaunched
- Commissioning Spend for this theme in 2017/18 = £35,500

Making a Difference:

- 187 Drone Unit deployments and 400 Safer Drone workshop attendees
- Over 2,800 Body Worn Video cameras procured for officers
- Inspectorate rates Dorset Police ‘GOOD’ for Efficiency

Case Study: Alliance Drones Team



“It is essential that policing continues to explore new and innovative ways that we can keep people safe. Drone technology is one such example of how we can embrace change to enhance our service.”

Martyn Underhill, Police & Crime Commissioner

“This technology offers a highly cost effective approach in supporting our officers on the ground in operational policing. Drones will aid officers as part of missing person searches, crime scene photography and responding to major road traffic collisions, to name a few examples.”

Jim Nye, Alliance Operations Commander

Further Information and Accessibility

You can find out more about my work by visiting my website at:

www.dorset.pcc.police.uk

Use the links below for information on:

[Police & Crime Plan](#)

[Budget, Finance & Annual Accounts](#)

[Scrutiny Arrangements](#)

[Community Engagement](#)

If you would like a translation of any part of this document please email us at

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