

Sussex Police & Crime Plan 2017/21

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Foreword

To be written by the Commissioner.

DRAFT

Roles and Responsibilities

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act (2011) established the role of the Police & Crime Commissioner. The Act set provisions for the replacement of Police Authorities with directly elected Police & Crime Commissioners, with the aim of improving police accountability by 'reconnecting' the public with policing.

Role	Responsibilities	General	Complaints
Police & Crime Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the strategic direction for policing in Sussex; • Publishing a Police & Crime Plan; • Setting the budget and precept for policing in Sussex; • Holding the Chief Constable to account for delivering policing that is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of the public as set out in the Police & Crime Plan; • Appointing, and if necessary, dismissing the Chief Constable of Sussex Police. 	The Police & Crime Commissioner was re-elected on 6 May 2016. The total turnout figure in Sussex was 23.14%.	Consider and investigate any complaints or conduct matters against the Chief Constable of Sussex Police, where he has been personally and directly involved.
Chief Constable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping the communities of Sussex safe and secure; • Delivering efficient and effective operational policing which responds to the needs of the public; • Managing resources and expenditure by the police force. 	The Act protects the operational independence of the police by making it clear that the Chief Constable retains direction and control of all officers and staff.	Consider and investigate any complaints or conduct matters against police officers and staff, and on operational or policy matters.
<u>Police & Crime Panel</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing, reporting and making recommendations on the Police & Crime Plan and the policing precept; • Scrutinising key strategic decisions and documents (including the Police & Crime Plan); • Making recommendations to the Police & Crime Commissioner on the discharge of her functions; • Holding confirmation hearings for the proposed appointments of Chief Constable, Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer; • Power to suspend the Police & Crime Commissioner if charged with an imprisonable offence or appoint an acting Police & Crime Commissioner where the incumbent is incapacitated, resigns or is disqualified. 	<p>Scrutinise the decisions of the Police & Crime Commissioner on behalf of local people.</p> <p>Membership consists of a maximum of 18 councillors from each of the 15 local authorities within Sussex, plus two independent members.</p> <p>There is a requirement for political and geographical balance amongst the elected members of the Panel.</p>	Consider any complaints or conduct matters against the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Relationship of the Police & Crime Plan to partner Community Safety Plans

Police & Crime Plan – sets out the strategic policing objectives for how policing services will be delivered in Sussex across 2017/21.

Operational Delivery Plan – sets out how the Chief Constable will deliver policing services to achieve the strategic policing objectives of the Police & Crime Plan.

Brighton & Hove City Council –
Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2014/17

East Sussex County Council –
East Sussex Safer Communities Partnerships' Business Plan 2016/17 to 2018/19

West Sussex County Council –
The Safer West Sussex Partnership Community Safety Agreement 2016/20

Community Safety Plans for Community Safety Partnerships – sets out how partners will support the objectives of the Police & Crime Plan

**** ALL UNDERLINED WORDS WILL CONTAIN A DIRECT HYPERLINK TO A WEBSITE OR A DOCUMENT ****

About Sussex

Sussex Police covers a population of 1.65 million. The police force area covers the rural and urban counties of East Sussex and West Sussex and includes Brighton & Hove. The South Downs National Park covers an area of 628 square miles and stretches for 87 miles from Winchester to Eastbourne through the counties of Hampshire, West Sussex and East Sussex. Sussex also has the second busiest airport (Gatwick) in the UK, and a coastline that spans more than 80 miles from Chichester Harbour to Camber Sands.

FORCE AREA: 1,460 square miles

POPULATION: 1.65m people

This is an increase of 9% over the last 10 years
1,130 people per square mile

WORKFORCE: 76% frontline police officers, staff and police community support officers

(78% national level)

3.0 per 1,000 population

(3.6 national level)

13% reduction in local workforce since 2010

(15% reduction national level)

CRIMES: 0.05 per person

(0.05 national level)

47.9 crimes per 1,000 people

COST: 43p per person per day

(55p per person per day national level)

Three external bodies work closely with Sussex Police to set standards and scrutinise performance:

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary is the inspection body which provides regular annual and thematic inspections;

The College of Policing sets the standard for policing and carries out research;

The Independent Police Complaints Commission oversees the complaints process nationally.

**** INCLUDE A MAP OF SUSSEX ****

Strategic Policing Requirement

The Home Secretary identifies six national threats that all police force areas must demonstrate that they have the plans and capability to respond to, in addition to regular policing requirements.

This is called the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) and these threats are identified as:

- public disorder;
- civil emergencies;
- organised crime;
- terrorism;
- large-scale cyber incidents; and
- child sexual abuse

The threats have been assessed and selected from the National Security Risk Assessment on the basis that they either affect multiple police force areas or may require action from multiple forces, resulting in a national response.

The policing requirement to counter the threats is set out in the SPR and forces are required to evidence preparedness against five areas: capacity and contribution, capability, consistency and connectivity.

The Commissioner and the Chief Constable must have “due regard” to the SPR and ensure that their police force is in a state of readiness to deal with them in addition to business as usual.

The Commissioner must ensure that sufficient funds are set aside to maintain their police force’s contribution under the SPR. This would include ensuring sufficient resilience and capacity to cover Sussex’s contribution.

The Commissioner will hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of this high-risk element of the business, which the public expects to be of the highest calibre, through an effective accountability framework.

Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary will also continue to inspect the police force’s capability to respond to each of the requirements.

Collaboration

Sussex Police and Surrey Police

The Commissioner and Chief Constable have agreed a joint collaborative vision with the Surrey Police & Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable of Surrey Police for how the two police forces will work together. The vision commits to a future of:

“Surrey and Sussex Police working as one, operationally and organisationally, to enhance and improve services for the public whilst reducing costs and responding to local needs”.

- **Set out each of the areas of collaboration.**

This collaborative approach will help to enhance front-line policing by reducing duplication, rationalising processes and streamlining management and support services. This joint response should also deliver improved consistency, resilience, and the ability to flex operational resources at times of need. As a result the public of Sussex and Surrey will continue to receive the best possible service from the police, wherever they live.

Sussex Police and the South East Region

Sussex Police is one of five police force areas in the South East region. The other four forces include: Hampshire, Kent, Surrey and Thames Valley.

South East Regional Organised Crime Unit

The South East Regional Organised Crime Unit (SEROUCU) has responsibility to protect communities in the South East from serious organised crime.

The aim of the unit is to create and deliver a cohesive regional response to serious organised crime with enhanced interoperability and resilience across the regions.

SEROUCU is also closely aligned to the current South East Counter Terrorism Unit.

South East Counter Terrorism Unit

The South East Counter Terrorism Unit (SECTU) is part of the national Counter Terrorism Network leading the police response to international terrorism and domestic extremism.

The overarching aim of the unit is to create a coordinated regional response to terrorism, providing specialist support and expertise in counter terrorism to police forces in the South East region and to support the national counter terrorism network when required.

SECTU addresses the four elements of CONTEST, the Government’s Counter-Terrorism Strategy: Protect, Prepare, Prevent and Pursue.

South East Regional Integration Partnership

To be written.

Policing and Crime Objectives

The Police & Crime Commissioner has confirmed the following four policing and crime objectives, each containing three underpinning aims, as follows:

Strengthen local policing

- Ensure local policing services are accessible;
- Provide effective specialist capabilities to support local policing;
- Maintain engagement in the delivery of local policing services to improve public confidence.

Work with local communities and partners to keep Sussex safe

- Encourage and support local communities to prevent crime and disorder;
- Work with partners to reduce offending and reoffending;
- Catch criminals and prevent serious and organised crime and terrorism.

Protect our vulnerable and help victims cope and recover from crime and abuse

- Commission high-quality services which support victims;
- Prioritise access to services for vulnerable victims;
- Enhance our understanding and meet the needs of victims in Sussex.

Improve access to justice for victims and witnesses

- Ensure victims and witnesses have the most positive experience of the criminal justice system;
- Support vulnerable victims and witnesses;
- Maximise the use of technology to improve access to justice for all.

Measuring Progress against the Police & Crime Plan

Achievements against the Police & Crime Plan will be formally reported to the Police & Crime Panel through an Annual Report.

Each of the 12 underpinning aims has a series of descriptions of the work that will be drawn upon to measure success and progress.

Evidence will be gathered from a broad range of police, partner and public information sources to determine how effectively each of the aims are being delivered and, therefore, achieving the overall policing and crime objectives.

This will be taken from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary reports, Sussex Police Performance Dashboard, partnership information, government reports and audit, and public satisfaction surveys.

The Police & Crime Plan will be kept under constant review and will be refreshed annually. This will include a review of the underpinning aims and supporting descriptions.

Strengthen local policing

Ensure local policing services are accessible

The Commissioner will hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of local policing across Sussex. How local policing will be provided is set out in the Chief Constable's Local Policing Programme (LPP). Local policing in the LPP is provided under three areas: prevention, response and investigation.

The LPP is intended to create a modern workforce, of highly trained officers and staff, who are able to respond dynamically to the needs of the public and the changing types of crime, based on threat, risk and harm. By working more effectively with local communities and partners in problem-solving, officers will seek to reduce demands through the prevention and recurrence of crime.

The Commissioner will continue to monitor closely the delivery of this model, drawing on the measures used to determine impact and performance on local communities and will challenge Sussex Police on behalf of the public.

A mechanism called the 'Vulnerable Locations Index' will also be used by Sussex Police to ensure that local communities which are being adversely impacted upon by crime, at any time, can be identified and that policing resources are allocated in a timely and responsive manner.

The Commissioner acknowledges that reduced business crime is fundamental to further investment, which supports employment and economic prosperity, and will work with the Chief Constable to ensure that consistent levels of support, access to information, and approaches to engagement are demonstrated by the police to all businesses experiencing crime and anti-social behaviour across Sussex.

The geographic make-up of Sussex means that it is essential that a proportionate focus is placed on tackling rural crime and the Commissioner will hold the Chief Constable to account for ensuring that an appropriate balance between what is happening in rural areas and urban centres exists.

The Commissioner is determined to ensure that local policing in Sussex is effective, efficient and responsive to the needs of the public and to do this will scrutinise and hold the Chief Constable to account for the delivery of operational policing. This will be done through weekly one-to-one meetings, monthly Performance & Accountability Meetings, and by conducting reviews into any areas of concern.

The Commissioner will continue to invest in technology which ensures that police officers and staff are able to remain more mobile and responsive and to possess greater operational capabilities to fight crime. Introduction of further digital mobile technology will be used to ensure officers can receive, retrieve, update and process greater information and intelligence without the constraint of having to be at a single physical location. This approach will ensure front-line officers spend more of their time out on patrol instead of in police stations.

Provide effective specialist capabilities to support local policing

The Commissioner will hold the Chief Constable to account for continued investment in the delivery of the range of specialist policing capabilities that are needed to support local policing. These capabilities include officers, staff, systems, equipment and premises to tackle terrorism, organised crime, major crime and cyber crime, as well as to provide a capability for armed policing, dealing with public disorder, and handling intelligence. The Commissioner will ensure that the LPP is effective in tackling the volume and complexity of the most serious crimes.

Early intervention by police and partners is fundamental to reducing criminality and the Commissioner will look to ensure effective processes are in place to identify those persons most at risk of committing crime and putting effective measures into place with partners to deter, disrupt and prevent offending behaviour.

The Commissioner will seek continued opportunities for collaboration and partnership working with other police force areas, law enforcement agencies and blue light emergency service partners at a local, regional and national level.

Maintain engagement in the delivery of local policing services to improve public confidence

The Commissioner will continue to engage closely with members of the public, listening to their concerns and priorities and gaining the best understanding of crime-related issues impacting upon their lives.

The Commissioner is committed to ensuring Sussex Police maintains a local approach to community engagement that is accessible, adaptable and reflects local need. In particular will be the requirement to ensure that the Chief Constable communicates effectively the implementation and delivery of the LPP. By continuing to develop effective working relationships with Sussex Police, community safety and criminal justice partners the Commissioner will continue to shape the delivery of services across Sussex.

The Commissioner will use Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary's annual Police Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL) programme to hold the Chief Constable to account for improving police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy, and the overall policing service provided in Sussex. Where there is a requirement, the Commissioner will task HMIC to conduct any specific reviews.

Many crimes remain "hidden" and under-reported such as domestic abuse, serious sexual offences, child and elderly exploitation, anti-social behaviour and hate crimes. The Commissioner will seek to increase the reporting of these under-reported crimes to ensure vulnerable victims identified can be fully supported and the offenders brought to justice.

Proactively encouraging victims to report these crimes remains a priority for the Commissioner. This approach enables Sussex Police to develop intelligence regarding repeat offenders, times and locations which can then be used to plan, target and deploy police resources.

Work with local communities and partners to keep Sussex safe

Encourage and support local communities to prevent crime and disorder

The Commissioner will put in place measures and processes which help community safety partners to be more effective at preventing crime and disorder. These will include grant funding, advice and identification of working within wider local partnerships.

The Commissioner would like to see an expansion of community involvement in community safety and policing, through the encouragement and ownership of police and crime related community budgets. The Commissioner will use the Safer in Sussex Community Fund to support local projects which reduce crime, improve community safety and help individuals recover from the impact of crime.

The Commissioner has allocated £xxx,xxx from the Safer in Sussex Community Fund to support xxx local projects. Applications from individuals, local community groups and organisations that can demonstrate how they are tackling the issues in their area that support the priorities set out in the Plan are encouraged.

The Commissioner will continue to encourage communities and partners to play a full and active part in making the roads of Sussex safer, and will seek to put measures in place which help prevent the main causes of death and injury on the roads of Sussex. This work will be carried out in partnership with the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership, Operation Crackdown and Community Speed Watch groups.

The Commissioner recognises the valuable contribution that volunteers make towards keeping their communities safe, and will continue to encourage the greater use and coordination of volunteers engaged in community safety initiatives across Sussex.

Work with partners to reduce offending and reoffending

The Commissioner will help put in place measures that support partners to prevent offending and reduce reoffending. A particular emphasis will be placed on reducing domestic abuse, serious sexual offences and violent crime.

The Commissioner will continue to support the delivery of a restorative justice strategy across Sussex. Restorative Justice has the potential to break the destructive pattern of behaviour of those that offend by encouraging them to confront the full extent of the emotional and physical damage they have caused to their victims. The Commissioner is committed to increasing the availability of Restorative Justice to more victims of crime at various stages of the criminal justice system.

A Sussex Restorative Justice Partnership (SRJP) has been established with a commitment "to create and offer a complete victim-focused restorative justice service at different stages in the criminal justice system for all victims of crime".

The Commissioner will work with Sussex Police and partners from statutory and voluntary sectors and, through the collective management of the Sussex Criminal Justice Board, will seek to increase the capacity and capability to deliver more restorative services to victims in Sussex.

Catch criminals and prevent serious and organised crime and terrorism

The Commissioner will continue to hold the Chief Constable to account for how effective Sussex Police is in detecting and solving crime. In particular, the ability to disrupt those criminals involved in serious and organised crime and terrorism.

The awareness and support of local communities in tackling and preventing serious and organised crime and terrorism is essential, including stalking, harassment, modern-slavery, human trafficking, honour-based-violence and forced marriage. The Commissioner will seek to ensure support is given to Sussex Police and partners to facilitate this.

The Commissioner will continue to ensure that the Government's Serious and Organised Crime Strategy is being implemented fully and effectively across Sussex with the support and active involvement of local partners.

The Commissioner will also continue to ensure that support is being given to Sussex Police and partners for the successful implementation of the Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST). This will include working with the Prevent Boards in Sussex which are set up by local authorities to look at ways to prevent the radicalisation of individuals.

Protect our vulnerable and help victims cope and recover from crime and abuse

Commission high-quality services which support victims

The Commissioner will work with statutory partners to maximise the use of public funds in order to provide support to as many victims as possible. This will involve continuing to meet on a regular basis with victim service providers to understand how services can be commissioned effectively and shape future service provision.

The Commissioner will launch a commissioning framework to support the activities of the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector in delivering services to victims of crime across Sussex.

The Commissioner will also develop a quality assurance framework to monitor the benefits to victims and witnesses across the county and make sure support services are the best they can be.

Prioritise access to services for vulnerable victims

The Commissioner is fully signed up to the Code of Practice for Victims of Crime, which entitles all victims of crime to access support services in the way that is easiest for them to do so regardless of whether they choose to report to the police or not.

To support that, the Commissioner launched 'Safe:Space Sussex' - the first online directory of all support services across Sussex. Through a range of search options, Safe:Space Sussex allows residents to find the most relevant support service for them, through a safe and confidential route. The Commissioner will aim to create more channels for people to access these support services.

The Commissioner acknowledges that more can be done to ensure that those who have suffered the greatest impact from crime, including those who are persistently targeted and those who are the most vulnerable, receive the support they need. The Commissioner will commission specialist services which are able to provide the best response to the most vulnerable victims of crime.

The Commissioner will seek to create more services for victims of domestic abuse, sexual abuse and our youngest victims of crime, helping to provide as much seamless support throughout the criminal justice system.

Enhance our understanding and meet the needs of victims in Sussex

Through improved outcome monitoring, the Commissioner will be able to identify which services work best for victims of crime and why. This information will be used to help design future services, ensuring the voice of the victim is placed at the centre of support services.

The Commissioner will continue to support innovative projects that help develop new services or provide new ways to access existing services. The evidence from these projects will feed into the commissioning of longer-term services.

Improve access to justice for victims and witnesses

Ensure victims and witnesses have the most positive experience of the criminal justice system

The Surrey & Sussex Criminal Justice Partnerships (comprising the Sussex Criminal Justice Board and the Surrey Criminal Justice Partnership) are working hard to place victims and witnesses at the heart of the criminal justice system. The Commissioner is the Chair of the Sussex Criminal Justice Board and will continue to work closely with partners to ensure that effective measures are in place.

The Commissioner is the "Victim and Witness Advocate" for Sussex and as such, is a new and effective voice for victims and witnesses. Through the Sussex Criminal Justice Board, the Commissioner is overseeing the development of a consistent approach to seeking views from victims on their experience of support services and the criminal justice system.

The Commissioner will engage with victims and witnesses to ensure they get the support they need from the point of the crime through to its resolution, and identify clearly where there is good practice and where further improvements can be made for victims and witnesses.

Support vulnerable victims and witnesses.

The Commissioner will work with Sussex Police and partners to help ensure that support for victims is consistent, available throughout the criminal justice process, and that victims and witnesses are treated in accordance with their needs and with respect, dignity and professionalism by all agencies involved.

The Commissioner receives the central government funding for all victim services to locally commission services. This is currently provided in partnership with Surrey, ensuring that an enhanced, outcome-focused service is available for vulnerable victims in the region. The Commissioner will continue to explore the provision of further services in partnership with other regional and national partners.

Victim Support is the appointed contractor and the Commissioner will continue to monitor its performance for the delivery of victim assessment, referral and non-specialist support services, with an aspiration to ensure that more victims are receiving support than ever before.

The Commissioner will continue to support young people attending court, either as victims of crime or witnesses to it, through the Young Witness Service. The Commissioner recognises that being a witness can be a very daunting and intimidating experience for children and young people.

Supporting this service aims to reduce the stress experienced by children and young people, prevent any further trauma, and ensure full and appropriate attention is given by professionals and the criminal justice system to the needs of young witnesses.

Maximise the use of technology to improve access to justice for all.

The Commissioner continues to lead the Video Enabled Justice programme on behalf of criminal justice partners across Sussex, Surrey, London and Kent. A detailed business case has been developed to identify and realise efficiency savings through the adoption of an innovative scheduling and management service for courts using video technology.

The Commissioner will increase the availability of video technology in courts, prisons and police buildings across Sussex, in line with the national criminal justice reform agenda.

The Commissioner has invested in the purchase and rollout of over **x,xxx** body-worn video devices. This has ensured that all primary responders in the Neighbourhood Response Teams are equipped with personal-issue body-worn video cameras in Sussex to improve evidence gathering.

The Commissioner will continue to invest in body-worn video cameras to support the police to capture real-time evidence in an easy to use and accessible digital format, and build a case for the Crown Prosecution Service.

Policing Budget and Precept

Budget

To be written based on budget confirmation.

Precept

To be written based on precept decision.

DRAFT

Acknowledgements

This Plan has been developed in partnership with the following agencies and services:

Sussex Police
Sussex Youth Commission
Sussex Elders' Commission

Brighton & Hove City Council
East Sussex County Council
West Sussex County Council

Adur & Worthing Community Safety Partnership
Arun Community Safety Partnership
Brighton & Hove Community Safety Partnership
Chichester Community Safety Partnership
Crawley Community Safety Partnership
Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden Community Safety Partnership
Hastings and Rother Community Safety Partnership
Horsham Community Safety Partnership
Mid Sussex Community Safety Partnership

Surrey and Sussex Criminal Justice Partnerships
Sussex Association of Local Councils

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