

Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel

Report on the draft Safer Communities Plan for Lincolnshire 2025-2029

19 March 2025

1. Introduction

1.1 In line with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the Police and Crime Panel has a statutory duty to review the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) Police and Crime Plan, which must be produced within the first financial year in which the election is held (Before April 2025).

1.2 At its meeting on 17 March 2025, the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel considered the PCC's draft Safer Communities Plan for Lincolnshire 2025-2029. A copy of the draft Plan was published with the agenda for the meeting which can be found at the following link: [Agenda for Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel on Monday, 17th March, 2025, 11.30 am](#)

1.3 The following members were present at the meeting:

Chris Cook (Independent Co-optee – **Chairman**)

Councillor G Marsh (East Lindsey District Council – **Vice-Chairman**)

Councillor E Bailey (West Lindsey District Council)

Councillor A C Beal (South Holland District Council)

Councillor C L Burke (City of Lincoln Council)

Councillor P M Dilks (Lincolnshire County Council)

Councillor J Pessol (North Kesteven District Council)

Councillor P A Skinner (Lincolnshire County Council)

Councillor S Trotter (South Kesteven District Council)

D Williams (Independent Co-optee)

Councillor S Woodliffe (Boston Borough Council)

1.4 The Panel is required to make a report or recommendations on the draft Plan. The Commissioner must have regard to and provide a response to any report or recommendations made by the Panel. This report sets out the Panel's response to the draft Safer Communities Plan for Lincolnshire 2025-2029. A copy of this report will be published online.

2. Development of the Plan

2.1 When introducing the report, the PCC explained the difficulty in producing the plan given the current financial uncertainty faced by Lincolnshire Police but nevertheless reassured that Panel that the plan was realistic and deliverable, balancing ambition with practicality to ensure the safety of Lincolnshire residents.

2.2 The PCC noted that significant effort had been made to engage with the public, organisations, and the Chief Constable's team in producing the plan. The Panel were being consulted on the plan prior to it being finalised.

3. Panel's response to the Plan

3.1 In considering the draft plan, Panel members asked the PCC a number of questions and raised comments on the following topics:

- The intended audience of the plan and how the plan would be advertised
- How success would be measured in delivering against the plans priorities
- Perception of crime
- The impact of resource cuts given financial uncertainty on frontline services and neighbourhood policing
- The increase in online harm and the dangers of AI
- Equality impact assessment and protected characteristics
- Enhanced crime desks
- Community safety & prevention in partnership.
- Promote activate citizenship & community collaboration
- Improving outcomes through digital forensic investigation
- Victim support

3.2 The Panel did not agree any formal recommendations to be submitted, but members emphasised the need for clear communication and engagement with the public and other stakeholders regarding the plan.

3.3 Members highlighted the importance of making the plan accessible and meaningful to the public and other stakeholders whilst being honest and realistic about what could be delivered and achieved given the financial constraints. Members wished to see a more detailed delivery plan but accepted that the plan was high level and strategic to ensure it could be understood by a number of stakeholders, including the public, and was used as a framework set out PCC's ambitions.

3.4 Members sought assurance that that the plan was deliverable, particularly in relation to the causes of concern raised by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS)

3.5 Members would like to see the development of clear and meaningful indicators to measure the success of the plan and welcomed regular updates and transparent communication about the progress and challenges faced in implementing the plan as part of regular progress reporting.

3.6 The Panel also appreciated reassurance offered by the PCC that the plan was a working document that would be reviewed annually to adapt to changing circumstances and ensure it remained relevant and achievable. The Panel welcomed consultation on any changes to the plan.

3.7 Finally, the Panel hoped that the PCC would continue to develop his plan to prioritise areas with areas with the greatest need and ensure resources are allocated effectively.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The Panel acknowledge the difficulty in producing the plan given the current financial uncertainty faced by Lincolnshire Police and appreciated the PCC's assurance that the plan is realistic and deliverable and would be regularly reviewed to ensure it remained achievable and effective.

4.2 A copy of this report will be sent to the PCC for consideration and will also be published on the Panel's website.