|  |
| --- |
| POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LEICESTERSHIRE **PAPER MARKED**  L |
| JOINT AUDIT, RISK &ASSURANCE PANEL |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Report of | OFFICE OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER |
| Subject | PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMISSIONING UPDATE |
| Date | **FRIDAY 3 JUNE 2015 – 9:30 A.M.** |
| Author | HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMISSIONING |

### Purpose of Report

1. This report outlines progress in relation to partnerships and commissioning since the last report to the Panel in December 2014. It provides an update to the Panel on the OPCC restructure, commissioning activity, the Commissioning Audit and Strategic Partnership Board developments.

**Recommendation**

1. The Panel are recommended to discuss and note the contents of the report.

**OPCC Restructure**

1. Further to the last update, the new Partnerships and Commissioning Team is now fully resourced with recent appointments to the following posts:

* Commissioning Manager – Simon Down
* Commissioning & Contract Support Officer – Liz McDermott
* Partnership Co-ordinator – Matt Clarke

1. This strengthened capacity reflects the high value the PCC places on the areas of commissioning and partnerships. The new Team will continue to develop relationships, and joint commissioning opportunities, with partners to secure the outcomes within the Police and Crime Plan.

**Commissioning**

1. In October 2015, a new service for victims and witnesses will be in place for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) residents. This service will be known as ‘Victim First’ - a service dedicated to the victim and delivered by Catch22. The model has been designed around the victim’s journey as they travel through the criminal justice system. However victims who do not wish to report their crime or where the case cannot be progressed will also be able to access the service.
2. ‘Victim First’ will be a service that will meet the information and advice needs of victims of crime as well as facilitating referral to, and deployment of, support to help victims cope and recover from the crime. In addition, ‘Victim First’ aims to embed restorative practices into its contacts with victims. This will be done proactively, as far as appropriate, offering victims of crime the opportunity to consider the restorative benefits of contact with the offender, and then, if requested, ‘Victim First’ will facilitate this.
3. The OPCC, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council and Rutland County Council have recently issued a tender for domestic and sexual violence information and support services across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. This is the first time that these services have been jointly commissioned and will provide parity of service across the sub-region. The value of the contract will be £828,500 per annum with the OPCC contributing £260,000 p.a.
4. The contract will include the following core services: 24 hour helpline, face to face support, support for third parties (friends, family members and colleagues), information on options including for those concerned about their own behaviour or local practitioners, safety planning and risk assessments, support planning, key working and support co-ordination, advocacy, individual and group support, appropriate therapeutic support, attendance at Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC), the Specialist Domestic Violence Court, neighbourhood profile/ networking and gendered provision.
5. The OPCC is also commissioning practical support/target hardening for those assessed as vulnerable and/or at high risk of repeat victimisation from October 2015. The value of this contract has been doubled by the Chief Constable to £90,000 p.a.

**Commissioning Audit**

10. An internal audit of Commissioning was undertaken by baker Tilley in April 2015. This audit of was undertaken as part of the approved internal audit periodic plan for 2014/15 and was designed to assess the controls in place to manage the following objective and risk:

*Objective: Commissioning plan is designed to support the delivery of the strategic priorities within the Police and Crime Plan*

*Risk: Failure to produce and maintain a commissioning framework (OPCC)*

11. Two recommendations were made which were both graded as medium risk. The Action Plan below details the specific recommendations made as well as agreed management actions to implement them.

| **Ref** | **Recommendation** | **Categorisation** | **Accepted (Y/N)** | **Management Comment** | **Implementation Date** | **Manager Responsible** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.1a | The OPCC should ensure that (for the major providers’ quarterly performance meetings) either formal minutes and/or action notes are taken.  This will allow items to be taken forward to the following meeting to ensure any issues with meeting contract performance outcomes are cleared and actions completed. | Medium | Yes | Have already discussed with new Commissioning and Contracts Officer having a process to risk assess our current contracts so that we can decide which of the major contracts need to be more actively managed | Work already being done | Head of Partnerships and Commissioning |
| 1.1b | As resources for contract management are brought up to strength the monitoring spread sheet should be brought up to date with the addition of columns explaining what action has been agreed with completion dates. | Medium | Yes | A new contract /performance management spreadsheet has been already been put together for 2015/16 with 4 columns:   * Q1(2,3,4) Performance * Performance criteria met * Rag rating * Actions   Will also add in *completion dates* to action column | Work already being done | Head of Partnerships and Commissioning |

12. The conclusion was *‘Taking account of the issues identified, the Leicestershire Police and Crime Commissioner and Leicestershire Police can take substantial assurance that the controls upon which they rely to manage this risk are suitably designed, consistently applied and effective.’*

**Partnerships**

13. A review of the Strategic Partnership Board, its Executive Board and sub-groups has commenced. The terms of reference of the Boards have been reviewed, objectives have been clarified, 2015/16 priorities identified and memberships updated. Specific developments include:

* The Troubled Families Group - this was established during the introduction of the troubled families’ programmes. It is no longer required in its current form and will be replaced by a new Managing Demand for Better Outcomes Group. This Group will focus on hotspot locations and individuals, as well as aligning priorities to demand, in collaboration with relevant partners.
* Criminal Justice Effectiveness and Efficiency Group - discussions are on-going to establish a Regional Criminal Justice Board, reflecting the regional scope of Criminal Justice. A local Criminal Justice Effectiveness & Efficiency Group is being established, in the interim, to disseminate the East Midlands Criminal Justice Plan locally, consider national criminal justice objectives, local performance, and provide operational updates.
* Organised Crime Board – this Group is in the process of being established. It will ensure that local partners have a common understanding of the threat from serious and organised crime and will seek to ensure that local action against serious and organised crime draws on the information and powers of all partners. A first draft of the sub regional Local Profile (LP) has been prepared and threats identified. Partners will be consulted on the draft LP priorities will be determined, the Board’s membership established and terms of reference agreed.
* Victims and Witnesses Partnership Assurance Group - a new Chair for the Victims and Witnesses Partnership Assurance Group has been identified to provide consistency and clearer links to the commissioning of Victim First and associated services. Consultation with attendees is currently underway to review the terms of reference, membership, and future role of the Group.

**Conclusion**

* A significant amount of work has been taken forward in respect of both Partnerships and Commissioning since the last update to the JARAP in December 2014. Comprehensive induction plans are in place to ensure that the new Partnerships and Commissioning Team is able to deliver the Commissioning Framework in support of the strategic priorities set out in the Police and Crime Plan. Key to this will be establishing, and maintaining, effective and productive relationships with key partners and other stakeholders.

**Implications**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Financial : | There are no financial implications associated with this report. |
| Legal : | There are no legal implications associated with this report. |
| Equality Impact Assessment : | The Framework has been subject to a full Equality Impact Assessment. |
| Risks and Impact : | There are no significant implications associated with this report. |
| Link to Police and Crime Plan : | The Commissioning Framework is a fundamental part of the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan. |
| Communications: | A Communications Strategy is in place for Victim First. The OPCC has provided a budget for the launch and promotion of the new sexual and domestic violence helpline. |

**Background Papers**

Draft Internal Commissioning Audit Report April 2015

**Person to Contact**

Sue Haslett, Head of Partnerships and Commissioning.

Tel: 0116 229 8705, Email: [sue.haslett@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk](mailto:sue.haslett@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk)