

For Consideration	
Public/Non Public*	Public
Report to:	Police and Crime Panel
Date of Meeting:	7 June 2021
Report of:	Caroline Henry Police and Crime Commissioner
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Agenda Item:	7

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER’S INTRODUCTORY REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides the Police and Crime Panel with an introduction to the newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire, Caroline Henry following the election held on 6 May 2021. The paper includes an overview of the Commissioner’s elected manifesto and emerging plans and priorities for the 2021 to 2024 term of office.
- 1.2 The Police and Crime Panel are invited to note the contents of this report and consider the implications of the appointment on their priorities and work plan for the year ahead.

2. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE PCC ELECTION 2021

- 2.1 Elections for the position of Police and Crime Commissioner were held on 6 May 2021 across 41 police force areas in England and Wales, following their postponement in May 2020 on account of the Coronavirus pandemic. In Nottinghamshire, the election saw a 34% turnout with 281,113 ballots cast. This marked a significant increase on turnout seen in the previous 2016 (21%) and 2012 (22%) PCC elections.
- 2.2 Following the count held on 8 May 2021, Conservative candidate Caroline Henry was duly elected as the Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner, succeeding the incumbent Commissioner, Paddy Tipping, by a margin of 7,356 votes after second preference votes were taken into account. In taking up the position, Commissioner Henry stated that “however you voted and wherever you live, I will be a Commissioner that listens and delivers. Thank you for putting your faith in me. I won’t let you down”.
- 2.3 Commissioner Henry also paid tribute to her predecessor Paddy Tipping, stating that “no-one can doubt his commitment to public service over the past 10 years. I know we have our political differences but he has done an awful lot of public

service and it's important to recognise that. I really want to thank him and wish him well for the future".

- 2.4 The Commissioner also expressed her gratitude to the former Deputy PCC, Emma Foody stating that "Emma's work on developing the Violence against Women and Girls Strategy and domestic abuse, leaves an excellent legacy for Nottinghamshire and has given me a strong platform to take this agenda forward".

3. Elected Manifesto

- 3.1 Commissioner Henry set out a clear manifesto predicated on a pledge to 'level up' policing across Nottinghamshire and ensure that more is done to address the issues and concerns of residents in our rural towns and villages. Her vision is to '**Make Notts Safe**' and in order to achieve this, the Commissioner has outlined a number of provisional objectives which will be subject to widespread consultation with communities, the police service and other stakeholders in 2021. These include:-

- 3.2 Putting victims and residents at the heart of our policing priorities by:-

- Listening to local communities and improving responses to the issues of greatest concern
- Further improving services for victims of crime, particularly those that have experience of domestic or sexual abuse.

- 3.3 Stopping crime before it happens and protecting people from harm by:-

- Developing and investing in crime prevention initiatives and early intervention approaches that deal with the causes rather than consequences of crime
- Building on the work of Nottinghamshire's Violence Reduction Unit to further reduce serious violence and divert young people from crime.

- 3.4 Investing in policing and making the best use of our resources by:-

- Providing resources to increase officer numbers and holding the Chief Constable to account for increasing visibility of officers in our communities as part of the delivery of the new police and crime plan
- Reviewing opportunities to drive further efficiencies in the delivery of back office functions in order to direct more resources to the front line

- 3.5 Tackling the drivers of crime and bringing more offenders to justice by:-

- Working with partner agencies to tackle drug-related crime and drivers of re-offending, and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the CJS
- Working with local, regional and national partners to tackle and reduce the harm caused by serious and organised crime

4. Taking Action: The Commissioner's 90 Day Plan

- 4.1 The Commissioner is developing an ambitious programme of activity to deliver against these objectives during her 2021 to 2024 term of office. This includes plans to: undertake a review of the police estate strategy; deliver 100 new police officers in 2021/22 and protect and increase officer numbers over the next three years and; introduce a dedicated Rural Crime strategy to drive reductions in crime and ASB affecting rural communities.
- 4.2 The Commissioner is committed to empowering communities and working collaboratively with local partners as part of plans to: introduce 'Make Notts Safe' grants to fund local crime prevention initiatives; further develop and implement Nottinghamshire's Violence against women and girls strategy and; work with central government to increase funding for charities and organisations supporting those with experience of domestic abuse.
- 4.3 The Commissioner's first 90 days in office will see a number of immediate actions undertaken, which include:-

- ☑ Holding a public consultation on the decision to relocate Newark Police Station as part of a wider review of the police estates strategy
- ☑ Undertaking a review of OPCC digital consultation and engagement arrangements to ensure that residents have a bigger voice in crime and policing matters
- ☑ Pursuing and maximising opportunities to compete for national funding in areas such as crime prevention, serious violence reduction and youth diversion
- ☑ Investing significant additional Ministry of Justice funding into local domestic and sexual violence support services
- ☑ Reviewing the staffing structure, function and capacity of the OPCC and exploring opportunities to relocate the office
- ☑ Providing strategic leadership to interventions and activity delivered as part of the serious violence reduction agenda by becoming the chair of the VRU Board
- ☑ Develop further opportunities to engage and involve young people in policing and crime prevention and via the Youth Commission
- ☑ Ensure funding and ongoing support for proactive visible anti-drug operations across Nottinghamshire
- ☑ Raise the profile of current demand issues impacting on victims within the CJS and work with partners to drive tangible improvements in efficiency and effectiveness.

5. Listening to the concerns of local people

- 5.1 Listening to the issues and concerns of local people is fundamental to Commissioner Henry's approach. As such, the Commissioner plans to undertake large public consultation events during summer 2021 before finalising the priorities and objectives of her 2021-2024 police and crime plan. This extensive consultation and engagement programme will seek the views of local residents, victims, special interest groups, and the police and partner agencies on their priorities for policing and issues that matter most to them.
- 5.2 The Commissioner's engagement programme will include a focus on diverse communities alongside ongoing work to better understand and address important concerns such as use of force and disproportionality in service outcomes. The Commissioner's longer term plans include the development of a 'Community Commission' to explore new ideas and ensure the voices of all communities are heard, and arrangements to hold regular 'Meet the Commissioner' sessions throughout her term in office to enable residents to raise their concerns.
- 5.3 Commissioner Henry stated "I want everyone in Nottinghamshire to have had the opportunity to inform and influence the priorities our plan for policing. This is your police service, these will be your priorities. Wherever you live, I'll always be listening to you".

6. Decisions

- 6.1 For information only. The Police and Crime Panel are invited to note the contents of this report and consider implications for the priorities and work plan of the panel for the year ahead.

7. Financial Implications and Budget Provision

- 7.1 For information only. Financial implications of the indicative proposals outlined in this report will be outlined via individual project plans in due course.

8. Human Resources Implications

- 8.1 For information only. Human resource implications of the proposals outlined in this report will be considered via individual project plans in due course.

9. Equality Implications

9.1 For information only. Equality implications of the proposals outlined in this report will be considered via individual project plans in due course.

10. Risk Management

10.1 None – For information only

11. Background Papers (relevant for Police and Crime Panel Only)

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