



Suffolk Police and Crime Panel

Panel Report on the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report 2023/24

On 11 October 2024, the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel (PCP) considered the Annual Report of the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for 2023/24. The Panel has a statutory role in scrutinising this report at a meeting held in public.

The meeting was held in Endeavour House, Ipswich, Suffolk, and the PCC was accompanied by his Acting Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer. The [agenda and papers](#) from the meeting are available on the County Council's website.

The Annual Report provided a summary of the work undertaken by the PCC during the financial year 2023/24, including updates on the PCC's delivery of the objectives in his [Police and Crime Plan 2022-2025](#), the PCC's commissioning of services to support victims and reduce crime, and his consultation and engagement activities.

The PCC and his Acting Chief Executive drew members' attention to some key elements of the report. In particular they highlighted the breadth of services commissioned by the PCC over the year. Other notable achievements during the year on the policing side included the Right Person Right Care initiative, which was aimed at ensuring the right professionals were available for people experiencing a mental health crisis. The new County Policing Model introduced from December 2023 was also resulting in greater visibility of and engagement with the police, with positive feedback at public meetings.

The Panel questioned the PCC on a number of areas of the report, including the financial position going forward, particularly in the context of Suffolk being the fourth lowest funded force in the country; the outcomes and impact of projects grant funded by the PCC; the range of partnership working undertaken by the PCC; feedback from public engagement events and action taken by the PCC as a result of these; and the layout and format of the report. The PCC responded to members' questions in detail, following which the Panel made some recommendations for the PCC's consideration, which it hoped he would find useful. Full details of the discussion can be found in the minutes of the [Panel's meeting](#).

The Panel thanked the PCC for outlining the range of work which took place across Suffolk during the period of his Annual Report to meet the objectives set out in his Police and Crime Plan.

Decision of the Panel

The Panel, having reviewed the PCC's Annual Report for 2023/24:

- a) noted the PCC's Report;
- b) delegated the production and publication of the Panel's formal report on its scrutiny of the PCC's Annual Report to the Chair of the Panel;

- c) requested that the PCC:
- i) consider reporting on project outcomes from his grants commissioning both in future Annual Reports and on his website;
 - ii) consider the publication on his website of the themes and outcomes arising from his public engagement events;
 - iii) consider providing a short executive summary of future Annual Reports, emphasising the key points in a more accessible format;
 - iv) reflect on the language in the report concerning his relationship with the Chief Constable and his role in holding the Constabulary to account; and
 - v) consider adding some wording in future Annual Reports acknowledging that the relatively low crime rate in Suffolk is due to a range of factors, not just the effectiveness of the police force.

Councillor David Ellesmere

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Ellesmere', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Vice Chair of the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel
11 October 2024