





**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Community Safety Forum

Title:	Community Safety Forum
Date:	7 October 2013
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: J Kitcat (Chair), Simson (Opposition Spokesperson), Morgan (Opposition Spokesperson), Barnett, Carden, Mac Cafferty, Phillips, Pidgeon, Robins and Wakefield, Representatives from Communities of Interest
Contact:	Ross Keatley Democratic Services Officer 01273 291064 ross.keatley@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

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COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

The following are requested to attend the meeting:

Representatives from Statutory Services:

Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust	Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust
British Transport Police	Youth Offending Team
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	Partnership Community Safety Team

Representatives of Local Action Teams

Bevendean	Moulsecoomb
Brighton Old Town	North Laine Community Association
Bristol Estate Community Association	Patcham
Brunswick & Adelaide	Portland Road & Clarendon
Brunswick & Regency Neighbourhood Action Group	Portslade
Central Hove	Preston Park & Fiveways
Clarendon	Queens Park
Clifton, Montpelier & Powis Community Alliance	Queens Park & Craven Vale
Coldean	Rottingdean
Coombe Road	Saunders Park Partnership
Craven Vale	Seafront
Craven Vale Community Association & LAT	St James's Street
Elm Grove	Stanmer
Goldsmid	Stanmer & Coldean
Hangleton & Knoll Community Action Forum	Tarner
Hanover & Elm Grove	West Hove Forum
Hollingbury	West Saltdean
Hollingdean	Whitehawk
Kemptown Action Group & Tarner	Whitehawk Crime Prevention Forum
London Road	Withdean
Marina	Woodingdean
Meadowview & Tenantry	

Other Co-opted Members

Age Concern	LGBT Community Safety Forum
Area Housing Panels	Sussex Central YMCA
Brighton & Hove Community and Voluntary Sector Forum	Neighbourhood Watch
Brighton and Hove Federation of Disabled People	Older People's Council
Brighton and Hove Mediation Service	Racial Harassment Forum
Business Crime Reduction Partnership	RISE
Independent Advisory Group Sussex Police	Victim Support
Domestic Violence Forum	Young People's Centre

AGENDA

13. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- (a) **Declaration of Substitutes:** Where Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same Political Group may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.
- (b) **Declarations of Interest:**
 - (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests not registered on the register of interests;
 - (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
 - (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the committee lawyer or administrator preferably before the meeting.

- (d) **Exclusion of Press and Public:** To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading either that it is confidential or the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the categories of exempt information is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

14. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1 - 8

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2013.

15. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

16. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by members of the public:

- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions presented by members of the public to the full council or at the meeting itself;
- (b) **Written Questions:** to receive any questions submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 30 September 2013;
- (c) **Deputations:** to receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 30 September 2013.

17. MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by councillors:

- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions submitted to the full Council or at the meeting itself;
- (b) **Written Questions:** to consider any written questions;
- (c) **Letters:** to consider any letters;
- (d) **Notices of Motion:** to consider any Notices of Motion referred from Council or submitted directly to the Committee.

18. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

This standing item will provide an opportunity for relevant issues to be raised or updated on.

19. NATIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES WHICH IMPACT LOCALLY: STANDING ITEM

There are none listed for this meeting.

20. LOCAL ISSUES: STANDING ITEM

- a) **Crime Trends and Performance Figures** **9 - 18**
Report of the Commissioner: Community Safety (copy attached)
- b) **Reporting of Crime and Incidents and Response by Sussex Police**
Presentation by Sussex Police
- c) **Dealing with Violence Against Women & Girls: presentation** **19 - 24**
Copy of presentation attached (deferred from previous meeting).
- d) **Modernised Criminal Investigation Department**
Verbal update from Sussex Police.

e) New Approaches to Support the Street Population

Presentation by Sussex Police.

21. SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL: MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE 2013 **25 - 34**

(copy attached).

22. EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY: MINUTES

(to follow)

23. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The remaining dates for the 2013/14 municipal year:

- Monday 9 December 2013
- Monday 3 March 2014

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website www.brighton-hove.gov.uk. Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Ross Keatley, (01273 291064, email ross.keatley@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk) or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication - Friday, 27 September 2013

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM****4.00pm 10 JUNE 2013****COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL****MINUTES**

Present: Councillors: Deane, Simson (Opposition Spokesperson), Marsh (Opposition Spokesperson), Barnett, Carden, Mac Cafferty, Phillips, Pidgeon, Robins and Wakefield

In Attendance: Councillors Bowden and J Kitcat.

Sussex Police: Ch Spt Nev Kemp; DI Claire Shiel

Communities of Interest: Bill Gandy, Benedean LAT; Sylvia Howell, Bevendean LAT; Caroline Brennan, Old Town LAT; Alan Cooke, Craven Vale LAT; Clare Tikly, Goldsmid LAT; John McPhillips, Tarnar LAT; Derek Peacock, Independent Advisory Group Sussex Police; Francis Tonks, Older Peoples Council; Charlie Gibbs, Victim Support; Leighe Rogers, Surrey & Sussex Probation Trust

Officers: Linda Beanlands, Commissioner, Community Safety; Peter Castleton, Community Safety Manager; Nathan Birch, Democratic Services Officer;

PART ONE**1. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS****1 Appointment of Chair for the Meeting**

1.1 Councillor Mac Cafferty proposed Councillor Deane and this was seconded by Councillor Wakefield.

1.2 **RESOLVED** – Councillor Deane was appointed Chair for the meeting.

1a Declaration of Substitutes

- 1.3 Councillor Marsh declared that she was substituting for Councillor Morgan and Councillor Deane declared that she was substituting for Councillor J Kitcat.

There were also apologies received from Gail Gray (RISE); Mark Matthews (East Sussex Fire Authority)

1b Declarations of Interest

- 1.4 There were none.

1c Exclusion of the Press and Public

- 1.5 In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ('the Act'), the Community Safety Forum considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I of the Act).
- 1.6 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public not be excluded from the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 2.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Community Safety Forum meeting held on 25 February 2013 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 Refreshing of the community safety partnership Website is now complete and arrangements in place to ensure it is always up to date. You can access it through *safeinthecity.info* There is easy access to reporting arrangements (for anti-social behaviour, crimes and incidents) and information about the work of partnership services including the work of Local Action Teams. This is your website so please do regard it as your resource and let us know if you need help with accessing or using it
- 3.2 The Police & Crime Commissioner has published her Police & Crime Plan for 2013 to 2017 and we are working very closely with the Office of the PCC and with community safety colleagues in East and West Sussex to ensure we our crime and safety priorities are complementary and integrated where that produces the best solutions to crime and safety problems
- 3.3 Since the tragic events in Woolwich some weeks ago and the increased public presence of the English Defence League, we have increased the arrangements we already had in

place to monitor tensions and any difficulties in the city that could in any way threaten all public safety. We have been in constant contact with the community leaders of the Muslim Forum and Mosques and Dr. Yagoub who is Chair of our Racial Harassment Forum to provide re-assurance to the Muslim and all faith communities. On Wednesday of this week, our Chief Executive, Superintendent Neville Kemp and community safety staff are meeting with those community leaders to talk about what more we can do to help provide re-assurance and to listen to the concerns that they have.

4. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

4.1 There was none advised.

5. MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

5.1 There was none advised.

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

6.1 Councillor Bowden raised the issue of arson attacks on Islamic buildings in London following the murder of Drummer Lee Rigby. Councillor Bowden asked if there were any special measures in place to protect such buildings within Brighton & Hove. He also enquired if the use of the city by the March for England for demonstrations remained appropriate following the use of the seafront for the St Georges Day March. Councillor Bowden pointed out that traders on the seafront had been severely affected by this years march and did believe the route had been well thought out.

6.2 Ch Spt Kemp advised the Forum that a Community Impact Assessment had been carried out and the local Imans had been contacted to offer advice and receive feedback on potential issues. Meetings had also been held with Brighton & Hove City Council involving the Chief Executive and Community Safety Commissioner. There had been an initial police presence at some locations, but this has been scaled back with community agreement. The Forum was advised that there was no specific local intelligence regarding potential attacks. Regarding demonstrations, Ch. Spt Kemp confirmed the Sussex Police view that their duties included facilitating peaceful protests or marches. The location for the St George's Day March had been carefully considered and included consultation. Because of the containment involved the police had greatly reduced levels of violence from previous years by shortening the march and keeping protesters away from the city centre. The Police were open to having a wider ranging debate across the city to find the best location for any future march. He reiterated that the police had no powers to ban such demonstrations, merely to direct and locate any assembly. Only local authority can request a ban from the Home Secretary and this had to be on the grounds that it would be impossible to police the event.

6.3 The Commissioner Community Safety said that her team and the police had been in regular communication. They would continue to offer support to local communities to

protect premises as required and would meet again later in the week. It was also reported that a meeting had been held immediately after the March for England event. Initial reports from community groups believed the policing had been successful. It was **agreed** that a report would help guide future policing of such events. The cost of policing the event had not exceeded 1% of the total police budget, so under Home Office guidelines no additional funding was available.

- 6.4 Ms Brennan pointed out that residents at Clarendon Mansions had found themselves within a controlled area on the day. They had had cars towed and effectively housebound from 09:30 until mid afternoon. She believed such impacts on the community had to be considered better.
- 6.5 Ch Spt Kemp agreed these were valid points and **agreed** that the police would engage better with the local community on such issues in future.
- 6.6 Councillor Barnett believed that the police had worked effectively on the March for England event, but that the city should not welcome such demonstrations. She believed that the use of The Level may be more appropriate in future.
- 6.7 Ch Spt Kemp advised that there was a huge amount of planning involved in such events. Using The Level could itself prove problematic, but the location of events was constantly under review.
- 6.8 Mr Tonks had spoken with traders who advised him that both sides had been “out for a fight” and many of these had been people from outside of Brighton & Hove. He believed banning such divisive demonstrations was the only way, as has happened in some other cities, because the far right posed an increasing threat, particularly to the Muslim community.
- 6.9 Ch Spt Kemp stated that the police intelligence was that it was approximately 50% of demonstrators came from within the city. He believed it was the dynamic of demonstration and counter demonstration that led to the threat of violence.
- 6.10 Mr Gandy raised the issue of response times to the 101 number being inadequate. In Bevendean elderly residents in particular had previously been calling PCSO’s, via the officer mobile phones. The officer had now been told they could use their mobiles and this, allied to the 101 slow response times, was causing concern.
- 6.11 Councillor Marsh was also unhappy at the removal of mobile phones from PCSO’s and the ability to residents to get a speedy response. She asked for reassurance that they will be issued once more. Councillor Simson had personal experience of using the 101 number and the waiting time had of over 20 minutes was unacceptable. She agreed that the use of mobile phones by PCSO’s was vital.
- 6.12 Ch Spt Kemp was aware that initial 101 response times had been slow, but these were now improving. He was unaware of the mobile phones being removed from PCSO’s and he **agreed** to look into this and report back.

7. NATIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES WHICH IMPACT LOCALLY: STANDING ITEM

7.3 None advised.

8. COMMUNITY TRIGGER

8.1 The Forum received the report and presentation from Peter Castleton, Community Safety Manager. The Community Trigger considered a harm based approach and looked to achieve better understanding with residents about what can be achieved regarding anti social behaviour (ASB). Community Trigger was becoming an integral part of dealing with ASB. The report contained details how the process worked and the outcome of the initial uses.

8.2 Councillor noted the great variety of cases and the use of the process in managing expectations. The Community Trigger appeared to bring a range of service users and providers together. The current system was mainly online based and Councillor Simson asked if alternatives could be explored to ensure that the most vulnerable and disenfranchised groups can access the process.

8.3 Mr Castleton advised that residents can also access the 01273 29273 line to access the Community Trigger process. Police and ASB officers could also activate the process if the threshold was reached. The process was also being used to monitor hate crimes.

8.4 Councillor Bowden asked if the process considered the types of perpetrators and if they were local to the city.

8.5 Mr Castleton highlighted that almost all ASB was neighbour/local resident based. There were often common threads such as mental health or local neighbourhood issues.

8.6 Ms Tikly asked if with the new health reforms the Director of Health had been involved in the Community Trigger process.

8.7 Mr Castleton confirmed that he Director of Public Health had been contacted and the aim was to make this a fully joined up system.

8.8 **RESOLVED** – The report was noted.

9. LOCAL ISSUES: STANDING ITEM

9A COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PERFORMANCE FOR 2012/13: CRIME TRENDS AND PERFORMANCE

9.1 Linda Beanlands, Commissioner Community Safety, presented the report contained within the agenda. The following paragraphs were highlighted:

- 3.1 The long term decline in crime had levelled out, but still showed an overall decline.
- 3.3 There was meeting of the Local Action Team (LAT) chairs next week and the LAT's had been excellent in helping reduce crime in their local areas.

- 3.4 Community Safety Projects had improved substantially.
 - 3.6 The reduction in drug related deaths was expected to continue.
 - 3.10 There was an emphasis on the health care needs of potential re-offenders, a high proportion of which were mental health needs. Better assessment was leading to improved treatments and it was hoped to report on this at a later date.
 - 3.12 There was mixed news on the alcohol related crime and injuries.
 - 3.17 On ASB there was again mixed news. Further reporting may be needed and the public would be encouraged to use the 01273 292735 line.
 - 3.22 There is no longer a national Safe and Well at School Survey, but the council continued to carry out its own work.
 - 3.25 Concerns remain about the level of domestic violence (DV) prosecutions being withdrawn.
 - 3.27 The change of the DV age definition was highlighted.
 - 3.28 The increase in sexual offences may in part, be down to greater reporting of historical crimes.
 - 3.31 The increase in reporting of hate crimes was to be welcomed and may be down to the excellent work that had been done to encourage reporting.
- 9.2 Councillor Simson highlighted several issues. She wondered if further literature could be produced to promote the LAT's; the under reporting of crime remained a problem; the increase in sexual offences was of concern; vehicle crime was at a low level but rising.
- 9.3 Ms Beanlands **agreed** to report directly to members regarding LAT materials. She reiterated that many of the sexual offences reported were older than 28 days and **agreed** that future reports could show this split. On car crime the police did not see this as at a low level and would continue to monitor.
- 9.4 In response to a question from the floor Ch Spt Kemp confirmed that a guilty verdict was the guide the police used for a "successful outcome" to a DV case. Judgements as to whether to proceed to prosecution remained with the Crown Prosecution Service. He also confirmed to Councillor Bowden that DV cases also included reports from the LGBT community.
- 9.5 Councillor Barnett asked if PCSO's could attend incidents of car crime where damage had been caused to a vehicle to offer reassurance. Ch Spt Kemp agreed that in areas of targeted damage reassurance was required. The issue of PCSO's attending routinely was a matter of capacity and the police were already looking at producing a burglary follow up scheme.
- 9.6 Mr Gandy welcomed the reductions in crime, but was also concerned about under reporting, especially with the issues around the 101 line. He believed the LAT's had an important role to play in raising awareness to aid crime reduction. He added that the PCSO's were also an excellent resource to aid with this work.
- 9.7 Councillor Carden highlighted that the flow information between police, LAT's and councillors was vital to help raise awareness and improve crime reduction.
- 9.8 Ms Beanlands **agreed** to produce a report to the next meeting to aid discussion on crime reporting issues.

9B REDUCING BURGLARIES: SUCCESSFUL APPROACHES - PRESENTATION BY SUSSEX POLICE

- 9.9 The meeting received a presentation from Detective Inspector Claire Shiel. Reported burglaries in Brighton & Hove were below the national average. Despite this there had been a spike in burglaries reported during the period December 2012 – February 2013. Because of this appropriate resources were used, two significant arrests were made and the reported figures have reduced accordingly. For future the future planning the police are looking at shared resources with other forces in the south east. There is also a move towards a more predictive nature of deploying resources when particular individual or gangs are operating.
- 9.10 To help raise awareness working with community groups such as meals on wheels, such as has taken place in Hertfordshire, was under consideration. The use of social media to raise awareness with groups open to burglary, such as students, was also to be used. Improving intelligence from the wider community is always welcome. The police are looking to monitor the potential sources for selling of stolen goods, such as second hand stores, ebay and Gumtree. In Kent the Medway Council Act requires second hand stores and pawn brokers to take much greater detail of the sellers and something similar would be welcome in Brighton & Hove.
- 9.11 Improved spot checks on known routes of burglars will also be used by the police. Many offenders are high risk repeat burglars and intelligence on their movements will be shared between forces. At the other end of the spectrum youth offenders, while sometimes difficult to deal with, are to be monitored in partnership with the Probation Service and hopefully diverted away from crime.
- 9.12 Drug testing in custody, along with compulsory rehabilitation and monitoring should aid with removing the need for some individuals to reoffend. There is also the Band of Brothers mentoring scheme for 16-24 year olds. The burglary unit are a dedicated team, who will aim to use all the ideas outlined, but continue to arrest and charge perpetrators accordingly.
- 9.13 Councillor Bowden wondered how drink related offenders are treated as opposed to drug user offenders. DI Shiel stated that drink is a recognised cause for offences and offenders need treating accordingly.
- 9.14 In response to a question from Councillor Wakefield DI Shiel confirmed that the police do not target vans in their stop search routines, but the vehicles of known burglars or vehicles with relevant intelligence.
- 9.15 Councillor Simson believes that a lack of consequences led to low level crime such as shoplifting, which could lead to burglary. DI Shiel that arrests and the increased use of CCTV would aid in slowing this potential route to other offences.

9C DEALING WITH VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN & GIRLS - PRESENTATION BY COMMISSIONER FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

9.16 The report was deferred to a future meeting.

10. SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL: MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2013; 7 FEBRUARY 2013 & 4 APRIL 2013

10.1 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the minutes be noted.

11. EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY: MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2013

11.1 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the minutes be noted.

12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

12.1 **RESOLVED** - The dates of future meetings be noted.

The meeting concluded at 6.07pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this day of

Report to Community Safety Forum – 7th October 2013**Subject: Crime trends and performance in Brighton & Hove: Position up to August 2013**

Contact Officer: Name: *Ruth Condon* Tel: **29-1103**
E-mail: ruth.condon@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report describes recent activities and progress relating to priority areas in the [Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011-14](#). It also provides statistical updates for key crime groups for 2013/14, ie. April to August 2013.
- 1.2 Graphs showing monthly crime data from April 2009 to August 2013 are also provided. These set recent data in the context of both longer term trends and also seasonal crime cycles (where applicable).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) The Community Safety Forum notes the information provided in this report and is invited to:
 - i) Feedback on any developments from their community or organisation's experience which may help the understanding and interpretation of the data and trends contained in this report.
 - ii) Consider the potential for supporting crime reduction and community safety priorities within their own organisation or local community.

3. INFORMATION:**Total police recorded crime**

- 3.1 After seeing a long term decline, the trend in total crimes recorded by the police levelled out in 2012/13. However a downward trend is again in evidence over the first five months of 2013/14 (Apr to Aug) and there is a further 8% decline in total crimes compared with the same months in 2012/13¹. After showing an increase in

¹ During 2012/13 national changes to the reporting of fraud and forgery meant that from Oct 2012 a large proportion of these offences were no longer reportable to the police. Omitting fraud and forgery offences to make a better comparison, total crimes have reduced by 6% over the first 5 months on 2013/14 compared with the same period in 2012/13.

2012/13, theft and handling offences have decreased by 5% so far in 2013/14 and this will have influenced the positive trend in total crimes since they make up about half of total crime.

Neighbourhoods and quality of life

- 3.2 Following a year on year decline in the number of criminal damage offences recorded by the police up to 2012/13, numbers have continued to drop; in the first five months of 2013/14 there were 5.7% fewer crimes than there were in the same months of 2012/13.
- 3.3 In the first four months of 2013/14 there has been an increase in the number of non-accidental fires recorded by the fire service. This overall rise is a consequence of a particular rise in secondary (less serious) fires – primary (more serious) fires are fewer in number and have actually been in decline.
- 3.4 An example of work in neighbourhoods is that which is taking place in two neighbourhood locations in the city centre (Norfolk Square and the High St Car Park) to address anti-social behaviour and other issues related to drug and alcohol misuse and people sleeping rough. The Neighbourhood Liaison Officers in the Community Safety Projects Team have been working with Sussex Police and local residents to carry out street audits to inform the development of local action plans to address problems.

Drugs Misuse

- 3.5 There is a national and local focus on getting drug users into treatment and helping them to recover from dependency and lead a drug-free lifestyle. In 2012/13 419 people left drug treatment of whom 230 people (55%) left treatment in a planned way, an improvement on 50% in 2011/12; 90% did not represent to services within 6 months.
- 3.6 The use of legal highs or 'new psychoactive substances' is an important issue for the city. An evening clinic for users of these drugs is planned to open before Christmas and will be staffed by a multi-disciplinary team. This is intended to attract those who have not already accessed existing services.
- 3.7 A working group is meeting regularly to take forward the 19 recommendations of the Independent Drugs Commission report. The Commission will review progress made in April 2014.

Reducing Offending

- 3.8 Following a rise in the total number of acquisitive crimes (incl. theft/handling, burglary and robbery) over the last two years, the first five months of 2013/14 are showing a decrease of 2.4% compared with the same months in 2012/13. However, in the case of the more serious acquisitive crimes of burglary and vehicle crime, these have continued to increase into 2013/14 compared with the same months of 2012/13. Following historically low numbers of domestic burglaries in 2011/12, there was a steep rise in domestic burglaries during the summer of 2012 and numbers remained high until January 2013, although there has been a general decrease since then. Access has been gained due to doors or windows being insecure in about half of all domestic burglaries. Neighbourhood Policing Teams have carried out a significant amount of crime prevention advice work, there have been visits by the crime prevention officer and a wide range of media opportunities to get the message across have been utilised. This included a week long campaign in September, focusing on the work of the Priority Crime Team, sending out regular messages on Twitter to update the community on offences that are occurring, on prevention work, and on

investigation being undertaken in response to incoming reports. There have also been some significant arrests during this period.

- 3.9 There were fewer vehicle crimes in 2012/13 compared with 2011/12, but in the first five months of 2013/14 numbers have risen compared with the same months in 2012/13. This rise has been seen in both theft of and theft from vehicles, but thefts of vehicles have shown a particular increase. A key contributor to the increase in vehicle crime over this period is the theft of mopeds and off road bikes mainly in East Brighton. The East Brighton Neighbourhood Policing Team have been targeting the area during this period, and are looking at further tactics for identifying the offenders and tackling the issue following the production of an in-depth profile into the problem.
- 3.10 Partnership work aimed at stopping reoffending and tackling the underlying reasons behind offending is ongoing. This has included screening and referring offenders with medical needs into treatment. Although initially this service has been developed and funded as part of a pathfinder, it is hoped that funding will be found to continue this work in the longer term.
- 3.11 Locally and nationally there have been significant changes being made to the way in which offender services are being managed, with offender assessment and the management of the highest risk offenders being retained by the probation service, while the management of other offenders may be opened up to other service providers. There will be close monitoring around the way in which these changes are being implemented and managed.

Alcohol Misuse and Alcohol-related Disorder

- 3.12 Alcohol-related hospital admissions were on an upward trend from the beginning of 2010 until October 2011, but this trend has reversed since then. Numbers recorded in 2012/13 were 9% lower than in 2011/12 and continue to show a further decline in the first three months of 2013/14.
- 3.13 There were 627 police recorded crimes of injury violence in the first five months of 2013/14, 7% below the same months in 2012/13. This is a good start to the year, following a slight increase in these crimes which occurred in the year 2012/13 compared with 2011/12.
- 3.14 A piece of work aimed at addressing the 'drinking culture' in the city is being carried out in liaison with the University Student Union Service to promote a programme of 'Brightonian Days' for Freshers Week offering a series of alcohol-free events, such as cultural tours of the city. Another new initiative which is being piloted in two schools in the city involves the development of 'parental alcohol contracts'. This work will include a 'Talking to your teens' workshop for parents and carers where they will devise the contract between themselves and then publicised to all parents/carers.
- 3.15 One of the other strands of work around alcohol misuse involves early intervention and treatment. There has also been work to ensure that links are in place between Alcoholics Anonymous and other services.

Anti-Social Behaviour

- 3.16 In the first five months of 2013/14 there were 5,800 incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded by the police, 2.4% fewer than in the same months of 2012/13.
- 3.17 The dedicated duty line for reporting anti-social behaviour and hate incidents/crimes has been running since May 2012 (01273 292735 or communitysafety.casework@brighton-hove.gov.uk). In the 11 month period up to March 2013 the duty line received 559 calls. 354 of those related to ASB, 78 to race, 27 to disability, 12 to sexual orientation, 2 to gender identity, 3 to religion and 83

others. In this period 113 new cases were taken on by the Community Safety Casework Team with others being referred to other agencies as appropriate. Between April and August 2013 (5 month period) there were 318 calls to the duty line; 218 of those related to ASB, 33 to race, 5 to disability, 16 to sexual orientation, 5 to religion and 40 others. Over this same period there were 75 new cases for the Casework Team.

- 3.18 The police, Casework Team and a range of other partner agencies have been working together to address the behaviour of a particular group of young people who have been committing ASB and crime. As well as enforcement work, other kinds of support and diversionary activities for those in the group are now in place. The group has now dissipated to a large extent, while a few individuals are being managed by the Youth Offending Service to reduce their offending.

Children, Young People and Families

- 3.19 Police-recorded crimes against young people aged under 18 have reduced in each of the last two financial years and are continuing to do so in the first three months of 2013/14.
- 3.20 The number of young people aged 10-17 entering the criminal justice system continues to decrease (69 in 2012/13 compared with 95 in 2011/12)². In part, this drop is related to introduction of the alternative youth justice disposals (which have replaced Reprimands and Final Warnings) which divert young people from the criminal justice system. Local partnership work between the police and youth crime prevention team has supported this diversionary approach by offering programmes with a strong restorative aspect. A single Youth Early Help pathway was launched in September and provides a more streamlined process for referring young people to youth services (including crime prevention). A joined up process will ensure that all relevant agencies are involved at the earliest stage to reduce risk factors.

Domestic Violence

- 3.21 In the first 5 months of 2013/14 there were 1,398 domestic violence crimes and incidents recorded on the police crime database, which compares to 1,491 in the same months in 2012/13. Due to changes in process as a result of the introduction of a new police crime recording system in May, these data need verifying.
- 3.22 From October 2014 the commissioning of services for victims will become one of the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Brighton & Hove and other Sussex partnerships are working with the PCC's office to undertake an analysis of the needs of victims and witnesses, including those who have suffered domestic violence, in order to help inform resourcing decisions.

Sexual Offences

- 3.23 The number of police recorded sexual offences in the first five months of 2013/14 was 164, and this compares with 120 recorded in the same months of 2012/13. This continues the increase seen during the second half of 2012/13, with serious sexual offences increasing more than less serious offences.
- 3.24 There are plans to commission an independent sexual violence advisor (ISVA) service jointly between Brighton & Hove and East Sussex in future in order that the ongoing provision of this service for residents in both areas can be made more resilient.

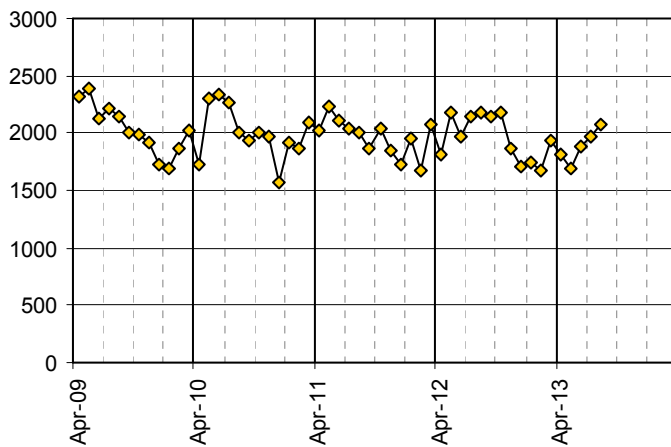
² Numbers in 2013/14 to date await confirmation.

Hate Incidents and Crimes

- 3.25 Sussex Police have been undertaking staff training and other work to improve procedures for recording hate crimes and incidents on their crime/incident recording system. The police recorded 96 racist and religiously motivated incidents and crimes in the first five months of 2013/14 compared with 80 in the same months of 2012/13. The respective figures for LGBT hate incidents and crimes recorded by the police were 46 in the first five months of 2013/14 compared with 26 in the same months of 2012/13. These increases are likely to have been influenced by these improved police recording procedures and administrative changes. In addition, the Sussex-wide seminar held in March on how to widen engagement between partner agencies and communities around the reporting of hate crimes as referred to in the last report contributed to the ongoing drive to improve reporting rates. Sussex Police has developed an action plan to take forward work identified at this seminar.
- 3.26 The Racial Harassment Forum marked its 25th anniversary at People's Day; this helped to increase awareness about reporting of racist and other hate incidents, and raised profile of the RHF, other partners and BME communities. The day provided a platform for positive messages about the diverse communities that share our local space and a sense of belonging to the city, thus undermining racist and extremist narratives. The first Trans Pride event in July was supported by the partnership and provided an opportunity to promote the reporting of trans hate incidents. Reporting by LGBT people via Facebook is an additional way of reaching out to this community. Specific LGBT groups from whom reporting tends to be less common are lesbians, older LGB communities and those who may be marginalised for more than one reason (eg. BME LGBT people).
- 3.27 The police have recorded 12 disability hate crimes and incidents in the first 5 months of 2013/14; this compares with four recorded in the same months of 2012/13 so this represents a positive result in terms of the aim to encourage people to report and to improve recording. However, reports to the Community Safety Casework Team have been low with only 5 reports being made in the first five months of 2013/14.
- 3.28 The Casework Team has created leaflets to publicise their services, and distribution has been specifically targeted to improve reporting from disabled people. Posters aimed at increasing the understanding and reporting of disability hate incidents have been put on the front page of Safe in the City website (www.safeinthecity.info). In addition, outreach work with disabled people and organisations continues and the Casework Team are now running a monthly surgery at the Fed Centre for Independent Living.
- 3.29 The Grace Eyre Foundation are working on an initiative to increase reporting with the learning disabled, creating a video and leaflet to enable identification and reporting of abuse, disability hate incidents and promoting safety within the community. The video (funded by the Learning Disability Development Fund) will also cover the issue of safety on public transport.

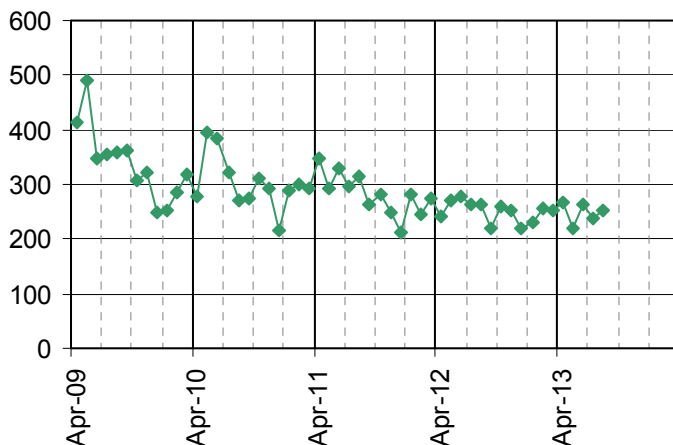
Crime trends up to August 2013 (monthly data)

Total Crimes, Apr 2009 to Aug 2013



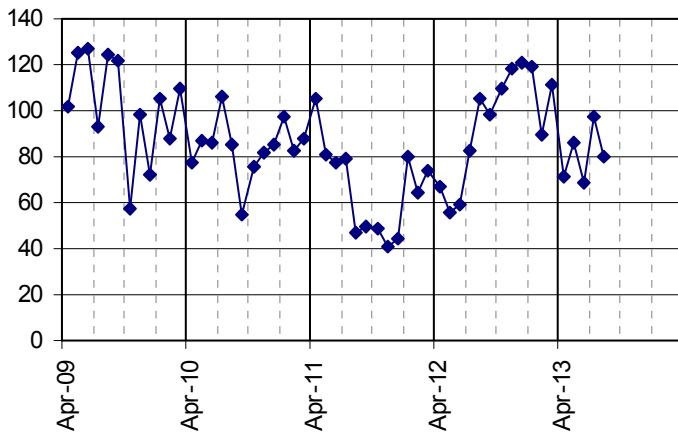
3.31 The number of crimes recorded by the police has continued to demonstrate a seasonal pattern with numbers rising over the summer compared with the winter months. Compared with the summer months last year numbers are lower.

Criminal Damage, Apr 2009 to Aug 2013



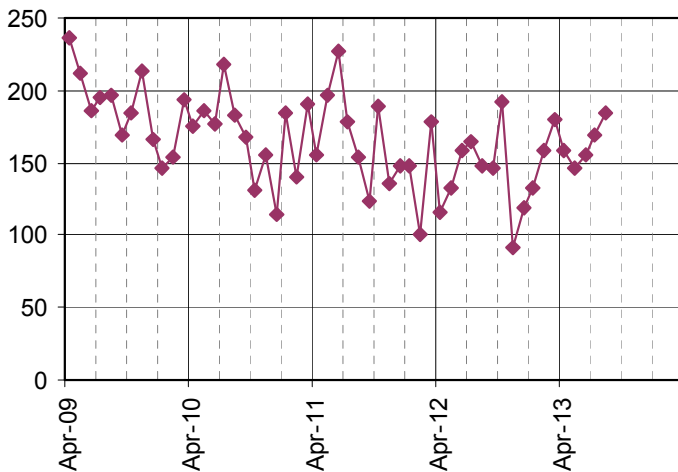
3.32 The long term downward trend in criminal damage continues. In contrast to earlier years when numbers tended to be higher in the early summer, there has not been a particularly noticeable seasonal effect in the numbers of offences over the last 18 months.

Domestic Burglary, Apr 2009 to Aug 2013



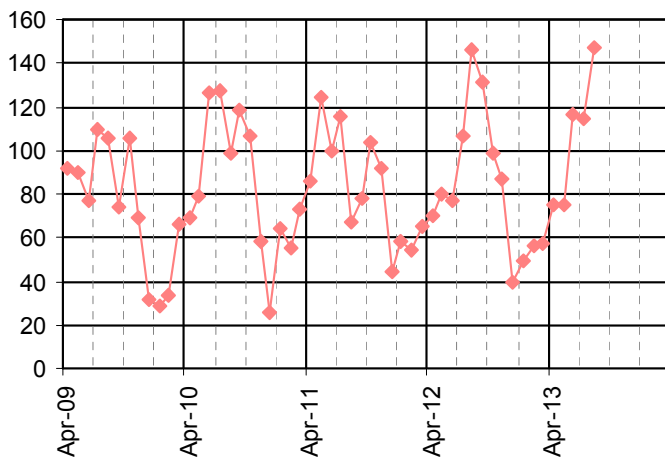
3.35 The average number of domestic burglaries since April 2013 has dropped notably from the monthly average last winter, although is higher than the same months in 2012.

Vehicle Crime, Apr 2009 to Aug 2013



3.36 The number of vehicle crimes has been on a long term decline, but over the last few months there are signs that they may be increasing.

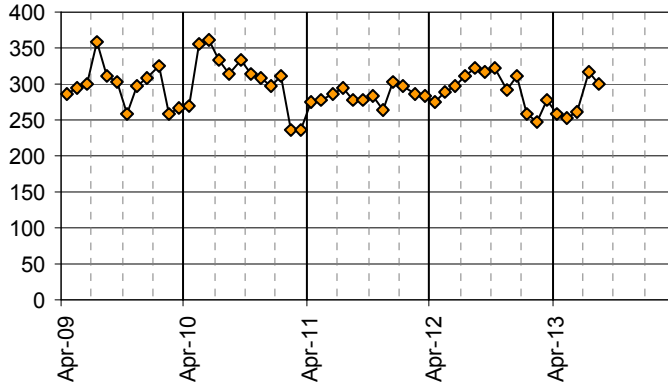
Theft of a Pedal Cycle, Apr 2009 to Aug 2013



3.37 A strong seasonal pattern in cycle thefts continues and is linked to those months when more people tend to cycle. The trend this year is broadly similar to 2012.

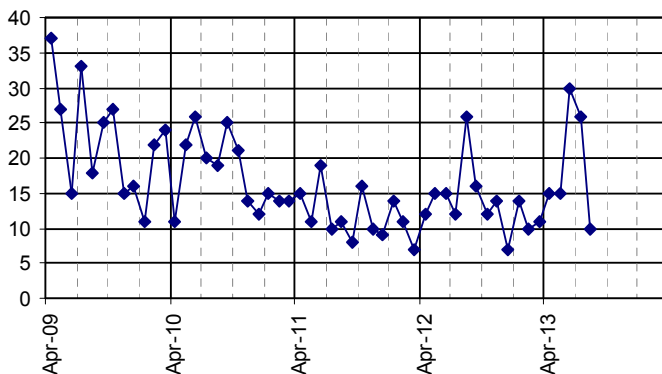
Police crime data presented in this report only reflect those crimes which are reported and recorded. There is likely to be a level of underreporting in many crime types. However, domestic violence and the hate crimes on this page may be particularly liable to underreporting.

Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents
Apr 2009 - Aug 2013



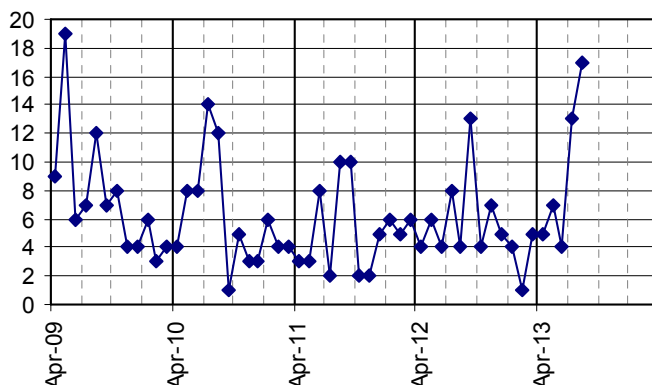
3.38 The number of police recorded domestic violence incidents and crimes each month has been within the range of about 250 and 320 for the last two years.

Racist and Religiously Motivated Crimes and Incidents (police crime database),
Apr 2009 to Aug 2013



3.39 The police have been undertaking work to improve their identification and recording of hate incidents and this is likely to be the reason for the recent increases on numbers recorded.

Homo/bi/transphobic crimes and crime-related Incidents (police crime database),
Apr 2009 to Aug 2013



3.40 The number of police-recorded homophobic, biphobic or transphobic crimes and incidents rose in 2012/13 and has shown a particular increase in July and Aug 2013.

Crime statistics 2013/14: position at end Aug 2013

	number of crimes Apr 12-Aug 13	number of crimes Apr 13-Aug 13	rank within 15 bench-marked CSPs ³
Police recorded crimes			
Total Crimes	10301	9435	10
Criminal Damage	1318	1243	13
Injury Violence	672	627	6
Sexual Offences	120	164	n/a ⁴
Domestic Burglary	370	403	5
Theft from/of a Motor Vehicle	719	816	6
Theft and handling (excl. motor vehicle theft)	11137	11564	9
Pedal Cycle Theft	480	529	7
Police recorded crimes and crime-related incidents			
Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents ⁵	1491	1389	n/a
Racist/Religiously motivated Crimes and Incidents	80	96	n/a
LGBT Hate Crimes and Incidents	26	46	n/a
Disability Hate Crimes and Incidents	4	12	n/a

³ Brighton & Hove is matched for comparative purposes with 14 other Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) according to a range of socio-demographic and geographic variables. A rank of 1 is the best; 15 is the worst; 8 is the middle position. Data reflect the ranking for the most recent three month period.

⁴ Because sexual offences, DV and hate crimes are subject to underreporting and local work is being undertaken to increase reporting of these crimes, it is not appropriate to judge performance in comparison with other Community Safety Partnerships based on the number of police recorded crimes.

⁵ This includes incidents where the victim is of any age, not just 16 and over as in the national definition, so will be a slight overestimate.

Brighton & Hove
Preventing Violence Against
Women & Girls: An Integrated
Strategy and Action Plan

2012-2017

Violence Against Women & Girls

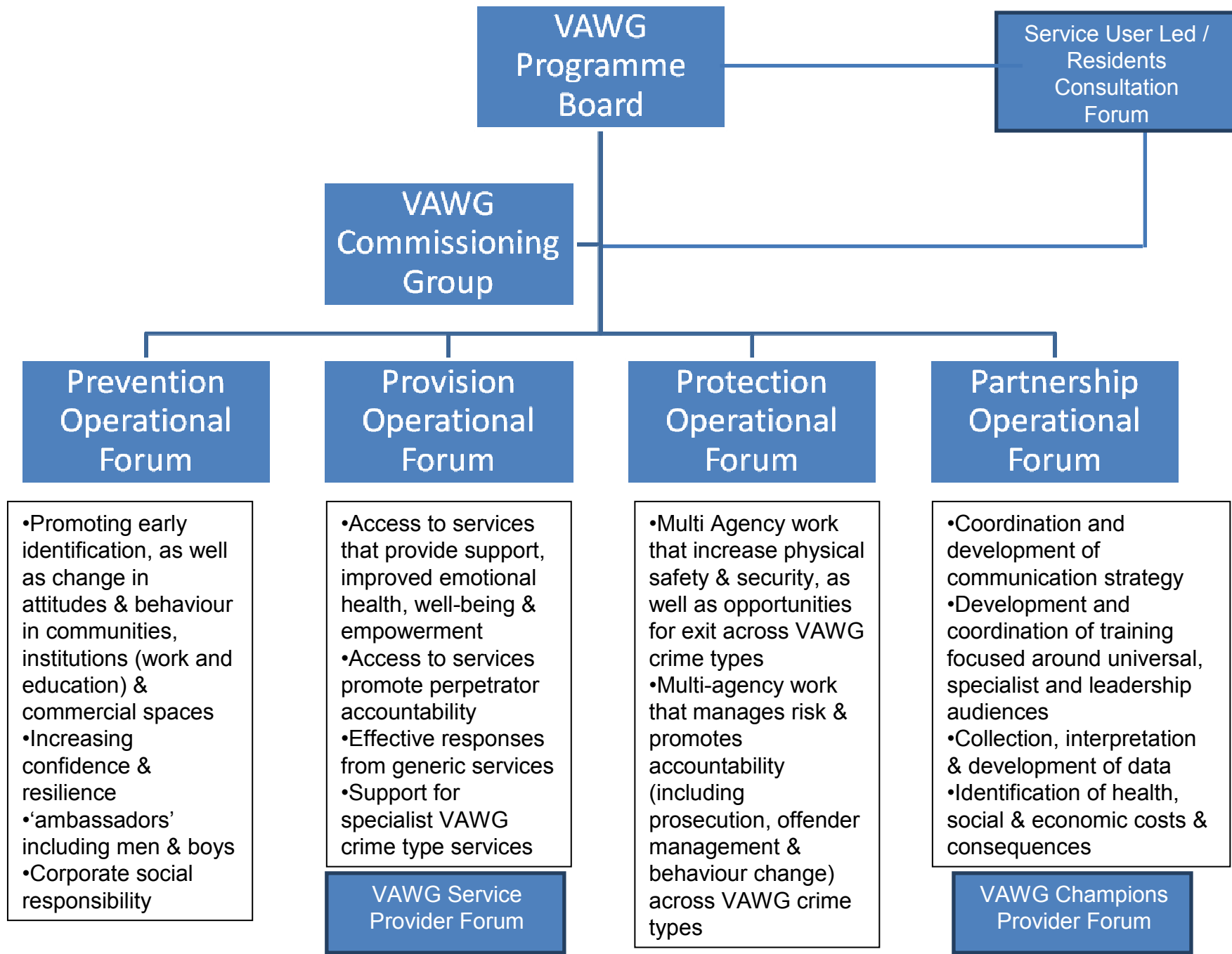
- Human and emotional cost cannot be underestimated
- Includes rape, domestic violence, forced marriage, crimes committed in the name of 'honour', female genital mutilation, stalking, trafficking and sexual exploitation
- Cause of death and disability, linked to mental health problems, post-traumatic stress disorder, self-harm, suicide, misuse of drugs and alcohol, and great harm to children and whole families

Violence Against Women & Girls

- Since 1993, the United Nations has repeated its call to take 'integrated measures to prevent and eliminate VAWG'
- Since 2009, UK governments have recommended every local area develop a co-ordinated approach to preventing and ending VAWG
- Recommendations from a Department of Health Taskforce, a review into the role of schools, the Stern review of the Criminal Justice System, are the basis of a national framework

Violence Against Women & Girls

- In Brighton & Hove, we have made significant progress in improving services for victims of domestic and sexual violence and have begun our work on dealing with trafficking
- However, an integrated strategy in line with the national framework, will lead to more effective and targeted policy making across all services, improved identification of the links between offending behaviours, improved responses to all victims and more effective preventative work to develop longer term solutions
- Working toward a pan-Sussex integrated strategy



Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM	Agenda Item 21 Brighton & Hove City Council
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Sussex Police and Crime Panel

28 June 2013 – at a meeting of the Panel held at 10.30 a.m. at County Hall, Lewes.

Present:

Paul Wotherspoon	Arun DC
Warren Morgan	Brighton and Hove CC
Eileen Lintill	Chichester DC
Dr Howard Bloom	Crawley BC
Chris Dowling	East Sussex CC
John Ungar	Eastbourne BC
Brian Donnelly	Horsham DC
Andy Smith	Lewes DC
Christopher Snowling	Mid Sussex DC
Robin Patten	Rother DC
Claire Dowling	Wealden DC
Brad Watson	West Sussex CC
Paul Yallop (1)	Worthing BC
Graham Hill	Independent
Sandra Prail	Independent

(1) Substitute for Tom Wye

Apologies for absence were received from David Simmons (Adur DC) and Tom Wye (Worthing BC).

In attendance: Katy Bourne, Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner; Steve Waight, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner; Mark Streater, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer of the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (OSPCC); John Eagles, Chief Finance Officer of the OSPCC and Ninesh Edwards and Matthew Evans (Host Authority - West Sussex CC).

Election of Chairman

1. The Panel proposed and seconded Brad Watson as Chairman of the Panel for the forthcoming year. The appointment was agreed by the Panel.

Resolved – that Brad Watson is elected Chairman of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing year.

2. The Chairman took his seat and the Panel noted the appointment of Warren Morgan as the additional co-opted member from Brighton and Hove City Council for a period of one year. The Panel also noted the following appointments to the Panel:

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Ben Duncan, Brighton and Hove CC; Eileen Lintill, Chichester DC; Dr Howard Bloom, Crawley BC; and Chris Dowling, East Sussex CC.

Declarations of Interest

3. In accordance with the code of conduct members of the Panel declared the personal interests contained in the table below. Please also see paragraph 16 below.

Panel Member	Personal Interest
Andy Smith	Chairman of Lewes Community Safety Partnership
Brad Watson	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership
Robin Patten	Member of Rother Safety Partnership
Graham Hill	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership Senior Service Delivery Manager for Victim Support charity Member of Crawley Community Safety Partnership Board
Christopher Snowling	Member of Mid Sussex Safety Partnership
Brian Donnelly	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership
Claire Dowling	Chairman of Safer Wealden
Paul Wotherspoon	Member of Safer Arun Partnership
Eileen Lintill	Chairman of Chichester Safer Community Partnership
Dr Howard Bloom	Chairman of Crawley police Liaison Group
Chris Dowling	Member of East Sussex Safer Community Partnership

Election of Vice-Chairman

4. The Panel proposed and seconded Chris Dowling as Vice-Chairman of the Panel for the forthcoming year. The appointment was agreed by the Panel.

Resolved – that Chris Dowling is elected Vice-Chairman of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel for the ensuing year.

Minutes

5. Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel held on 4 April 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

Part II Matters

6. The Panel was asked to consider if the minutes on the Part II agenda should be brought into Part I. The Panel agreed that the grounds for exemption of the minutes on the Part II agenda still applied and it was agreed that they would be considered in the closed session.

Review of Panel Membership and Proportionality

7. The Panel considered a report by the Clerk to the Panel which set out the political makeup of the Panel's constituent authorities (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The Panel was asked to: consider the reappointment of the two independent co-opted members; consider whether the two County Councils should be invited to make one additional appointment each to address the political

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balance of the Panel; and agree the party political affiliation of the two additional members.

8. The Panel considered the following points:

- To ensure political balance on the Panel it was proposed the status quo was retained; that the total Panel membership should number 20 and two additional appointments from the County Councils be sought to address political balance. It was noted that any change to the political composition of political parties in Sussex since the Panel's inception was negligible and that the two additional seats should be allocated to the Liberal Democrats; and
- In future the two additional County Council appointments should be able to take their seats at the annual meeting. *The Clerk to the Panel agreed to investigate the provision of this arrangement for the next annual meeting of the Panel.*

9. Resolved – that the Panel agrees:

- 1) To renew the appointment of the two independent co-opted members for a period of one year;
- 2) To seek two additional local authority members from the County Councils for a period of a year; and
- 3) That the two additional County Council appointments should be drawn from the Liberal Democrat political party.

Public Question Time

10. The Chairman introduced the public question time which was an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of the Panel and the Commissioner. Two questions had been received by the deadline (schedule of questions attached to the signed version of the minutes).

11. The first question received was for the Commissioner, the questioner was unable to attend the meeting and the Chairman posed the question which queried the recruitment of PCSOs in preference to appointing frontline officers. *The Commissioner responded to explain that 30 more PCSOs would be appointed shortly but a recruitment exercise was also currently in progress to appoint 80 Police Constables. In addition there was an intention to appoint 120 Special Police Constables in due course.*

12. The second question received was for the Commissioner and the questioner was in attendance to ask a question which queried the holding time for calls to the 101 non-emergency telephone service. The questioner had experience of being kept on hold for 15 minutes whilst using the phone line and requested that the Commissioner considered more resources be dedicated to the service or calls be redirected to a police station. The questioner suggested that monitoring of holding times should be undertaken and that the extension numbers of police stations should be published. *The Commissioner explained that since April the number of calls answered within 60 seconds had dropped from 74% to 54%, the Chief Constable had recently updated the Commissioner and performance had fallen to 46.2%. Sussex Police's target was to answer 75% calls within 60 seconds and the current level of performance had been caused by the introduction of a new call handling system. The need for improvement was acknowledged and work was being*

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expedited by the force to address the situation. The Commissioner explained to the questioner that a system to transfer calls to police stations was being considered and further information would be available later in the year. The Commissioner noted the suggestions of the questioner.

13. The Panel raised the following points in relation to Question 1 regarding PCSOs:

- PCSOs were valued by local communities as they provided visible policing.
- Increasing the pay and powers of PCSOs would address the perception that their sole function was to reduce the cost of policing. *It was explained that PCSOs had the power to carry out an arrest as a civilian and that PCSOs were trained to provide community policing rather than specialisms.*

14. The Panel raised the following queries in relation to Question 2 regarding the 101 non-emergency telephone service:

- The level of staffing at the centre which answered the calls was queried and whether there had been a recent increase or decrease in the numbers of staff? *The Commissioner explained she would look into the matter and provide a response.*
- How the targets and performance of Sussex Police compared to other police forces and when it was likely that performance would be raised to 75%? *The Commissioner would provide a response following the meeting.*

Police and Crime Commissioner's Annual Report

15. The Panel considered a report by the Commissioner which provided detail of the work undertaken since November 2012 to the financial year, ending 31 March 2013 (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The Commissioner introduced the report, outlined the four priority areas contained in the Police and Crime Plan and provided detail of achievements under each of the areas. The Commissioner highlighted the valuable work of Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) which was reflected in her guarantee to maintain the current funding levels in 2013/14. The launch of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Campaign with Sussex Police was highlighted which took place in advance of the Christmas period when there was an escalation in reports of domestic violence over the 24-hour period from an average of 40 reports a day to 120. In response to concerns from the public regarding detection rates in burglary cases the Commissioner had established a burglary tasking group and the positive impact of this group on detection rates and burglary reduction were marked.

16. Dr Howard Bloom declared a personal interest as a member of Crawley CSP.

17. The Panel raised the following issues with the Commissioner:

- The recruitment exercises were welcomed by the Panel and it was queried whether this would result in larger numbers of 'visible' Police Officers. *The planned appointments represented recruitment above establishment levels. Visible policing was of great importance and the use of modern technology would enable officers to spend more time in the community.*
- There had been a change in the provision of statistics to the joint action group between Adur and Worthing which were formerly compiled by West

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Sussex County Council. The data had been used as an evidence base in the location of Local Area Teams (LATs) and to assess their success. The Commissioner was asked if she could assist LATs that no longer received the statistics. *The issues would be raised with the Chief Executive of West Sussex County Council.*

- The Panel was reassured by the continued funding for CSPs and the Commissioner's acknowledgement of the value of the Partnerships.
- The work of the Commissioner in respect of domestic abuse was supported particularly in light of the statistics quoted of incidents over the Christmas period.
- The Panel congratulated the Commissioner on the identification of savings during the year and sought further information regarding the sources of the underspend of £11.9m. *The Deputy Commissioner explained that £4m had resulted from a proactive savings programme which anticipated the requirement for future savings. A number of vacancies had not been filled during the year which contributed to the underspend. There was a need for on-going savings which would become more challenging to achieve.*
- The positioning of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras was raised and the importance of working with forces from bordering areas to help control cross-border crime. *Funding was available for the positioning of more cameras and work would be undertaken with adjoining areas to ensure strategic placement.*
- The level of progress made in the development of the online reporting tool to encourage hard-to-reach groups and victims of hate crime to report crime. Detail of the engagement undertaken with specialist service providers in Sussex working with hard to reach groups/victims of hate crime was requested. *The project was still at an early stage and more information would be provided after the meeting. An intelligence-led scoping exercise was to be undertaken across Sussex to identify areas of need and ensure a focus of service upon such areas. It was suggested that members of the Panel could form a working group to examine the issue and assist the Commissioner.*
- What work was being undertaken to address the potential impact on domestic violence resulting from the changes to welfare provision and would the Commissioner lobby the Ministry of Justice to seek a strengthening of domestic violence sentencing guidelines. *The Commissioner explained that she had met with Inspire, the Worth Project and was involved in the Troubled Family Initiative. The Commissioner was prepared to discuss the lobbying of the Ministry of Justice.*
- The incidence of mobile crime was raised particularly the targeting of supermarkets without adequate security and the Commissioner was asked what she could do to address the issue. *The Commissioner acknowledged the problems associated with mobile and business crime and identified the recently established Business Watch scheme in Hastings as an example of an effective programme to combat the problem.*
- The Panel noted that planning for the current year included closure of existing police stations and the transfer of services to alternative accommodation. The Panel was supportive of shared accommodation and co-location of services particularly with local authorities in Sussex. The absence of a police station in North Wealden was raised as a concern. *The Commissioner explained that the policy was part of a five-year strategy with the intended closure of 25 traditional police stations but with closures mitigated by the opening of 30 Sussex Police outlets. This was consistent*

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with public demand for more visible policing and followed the outcomes of the review of estates which had identified a number of buildings with high maintenance costs. The Commissioner referred to the example of the police station in Brighton which had been sold to the City Council and services co-located to the Town Hall which had achieved savings of £900,000 and also meant that the station was open for an extra 1.5 hours per day. A hub had also been established at Crawley library which offered the opportunity for co-ordination with community groups such as those offering support to victims of domestic violence. The programme represented an investment of £20 million over 5 years which would result in savings for Sussex Police. The Commissioner confirmed that no police station or facility would be removed from an area without appropriate, alternative accommodation first being in place locally.

- *The Panel asked the Commissioner how the cost of her office compared to the budget of the Sussex Police Authority (SPA). The Commissioner outlined the cost of the SPA which was £1.175 million and the cost of her office which was £1.184 million. These figures did not take account of inflation and therefore in real terms there was a decrease in costs under the new regime. The Commissioner acknowledged that to operate within current financial circumstances with the imperative to realise continual savings was a significant challenge particularly whilst attempting to respond to public expectations.*

18. Resolved – that the Panel notes the Commissioner’s Annual Report and agrees to write to the Commissioner to outline the comments made.

PCP Working Groups and Work Programme

19. The Panel considered a report by the Clerk to the Panel which contained a proposal for the establishment of a working group of the Panel to examine the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan for 2014/15 (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). It was intended that the working group would work with the Commissioner in developing areas of the Plan where it was felt that the Panel could provide valuable input. The Panel was required to agree the establishment of a working group and its membership.

20. The Panel was supportive of the proposal and proposed the following membership: Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Panel; an independent member; a representative from the District and Borough Councils in East Sussex; a representative from the District and Borough Councils in West Sussex; and a representative from Brighton and Hove City Council.

21. The following nominations were made to the working group: Graham Hill to act as the independent member on the Panel with Sandra Prail as his substitute; and David Simmons to act as the representative of District and Borough Councils in West Sussex. The representative from District and Borough level in East Sussex and the representative from Brighton and Hove City Council would be subject to further discussions and confirmed at the next meeting of the Panel. It was proposed that the same system of substitution for quarterly meetings of the Panel would operate for the working group.

22. Resolved – that the Panel agrees:

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

1) the formation of a working group to examine the Police and Crime Plan for 2014/15;

2) the following membership and nominations to the working group:

Chairman of the Panel – Brad Watson

Vice Chairman of the Panel – Chris Dowling

1 Independent Member – Graham Hill (Sandra Prail as substitute)

1 representative of West Sussex District and Boroughs – David Simmons

1 representative of East Sussex District and Boroughs – tbc

1 representation of Brighton and Hove City Council – tbc; and

3) the substitutes of participating members would be entitled to attend meetings of the working group when the principal member was unavailable.

23. Paul Wotherspoon left the meeting at 12.08 p.m.

Future Working Groups

24. The Panel considered topics for the formation of working groups and it was proposed that the Panel could provide valuable input to the work of the Commissioner in the area of victim support. It was proposed that a paper be provided to the next meeting of the Panel outlining a proposal for a working group concerning victim support.

25. Resolved – that the Panel supports the formation of a working group concerning victim support and agrees that a proposal be presented to the next meeting of the Panel.

Panel Work Programme

26. The Panel considered its work programme of items to be debated at meetings of the Panel over the course of the forthcoming year up to the next annual meeting in June 2014 (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes).

27. Resolved – that the Panel:

1) Agrees the work programme for the forthcoming year until the annual meeting in June 2014; and

2) Notes the dates of the meetings in 2013/14:

11 October 2013

24 January 2014

27 June 2014

28. Chris Dowling left the meeting at 12.11 p.m.

Quarterly Report of Complaints

29. The Panel received and noted a quarterly report by the Clerk to the Panel of complaints received by the Monitoring Officer over the course of the last quarter

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

(copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The report outlined the initial handling of complaints received and provided an update on complaints previously reported to the Panel.

30. Paul Wotherspoon returned to the meeting at 12.13 p.m.

Written Questions

31. The Panel received and noted a written question received prior to the meeting and response provided by the Commissioner (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The Commissioner provided an update to the information contained in the response and confirmed that an organisational chart for the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner was now available on the website together with all other required information.

Questions for the Commissioner

32. The following issues were raised by the Panel under Commissioner's question time:

- The Commissioner was asked for her view on the enforcement of 20mph zones. *The Commissioner confirmed that local authorities led on the introduction of 20mph and was hopeful that police would provide enforcement.*
- It was asked if the proposal to be considered for the victim support working group at the meeting in October accorded with the Commissioner's timescales for advancing the priority. *The Commissioner confirmed that it was a four-year plan and therefore fitted with her timetable.*
- The costs of providing public order policing as detailed in the Commissioner's annual report was raised and what provision was there to recoup the costs. *The Commissioner confirmed that the costs in the report related to the policing of marches and if the cost reached a certain threshold the costs could be recouped from central government. The costs incurred in Sussex were not a level that was sufficient to receive money from central government.*
- What work was being undertaken following the recent spending round announcement? *The Chief Finance Office confirmed that he was currently working on the implications of the spending round announcement and that more details would be available to the meeting of the Panel in October.*

Annual Budget Report from the Host Authority

33. The Panel received and noted a report by the Clerk to the Panel providing details of the income and expenditure of the Panel over the first year of its operation (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes).

Exclusion of Press and Public

34. Resolved – That under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, of Schedule 12A, of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified under the item and that, in all the circumstances of the case,

Unconfirmed minutes – subject to amendment/confirmation at the next meeting of the Panel

the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

Meetings (Part II) of the meeting held on 4 April 2013

Exempt: paragraph 1, Information about individuals

35. Resolved – that the minutes (Part II) of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel held on 4 April 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

Chairman

