



## SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL

**Councillor Judy Rogers**

Chair

Sussex Police and Crime Panel

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Date: 4 July 2023

Dear Commissioner Bourne,

Thank you for attending the Panel's annual meeting on 30 June, at which statutory scrutiny of your Annual Report 2022/23 was undertaken.

The Panel raised a number of issues, which will be set out in due course in the draft minutes and action list. For the purposes of this report, I would like to particularly highlight the Panel's observations and suggestions below:

- Panel members acknowledged the success of the Rural Crime Team and suggested more mention could be made of its work within the Report, or as part of ongoing communication with residents.
- Feedback received from residents called into question the effectiveness of hotspot policing in certain areas of Sussex, and members questioned how the Commissioner was measuring performance under the initiative.
- Whether more could be done by Sussex Police to promote the role of Police Community Support Officers as a long-term career choice in itself, as opposed to being considered a stepping stone to becoming a police officer.
- Members questioned the generally positive nature of the Annual Report, whilst raising concerns about the findings in some areas, in the light of the HMICFRS PEEL inspection report considered later on the same agenda, particularly when evidence of good or improved performance in the Report was based on crime data that the Inspectorate had called into question.

I would be grateful if I could receive your response to this letter by Friday 11 August 2023. Your response will be published on the Panel's website and included with the papers for the Panel's September meeting. If you have any queries, do please contact me.

On a personal note, thank you for your warm wishes following my election as Chair. I look forward to working closely with you in the coming year as we serve the residents of Sussex.

Yours sincerely,

*Judy Rogers*

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Chair of Sussex Police and Crime Panel