



SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL

Public Priorities in the Sussex Police & Crime Plan 2024/28

27 September 2024

Report by The Clerk to Sussex Police and Crime Panel

Focus for Scrutiny

The Panel may wish to consider:

- The process for developing the public priorities and supporting objectives.
- How these have evolved since the current Plan was published.
- Whether the proposed Public Priorities reflect residents' priorities.
- Whether the proposed Public Priorities reflect national priorities.

1. Background

- 1.1 Following elections in May 2024, police and crime commissioners have until 31 March 2025 to publish a new Police and Crime Plan.
- 1.2 The draft Police and Crime Plan 2024/28 is scheduled to be scrutinised by the Panel at its meeting on 31 January 2025.
- 1.3 This item has been added to the agenda today at the suggestion of the Commissioner, to engage the Panel in the Plan's development.

2. Focus for Scrutiny

2.1 The Panel may wish to consider:

- The process for developing the public priorities and supporting objectives.
- How these have evolved since the current Plan was published.
- Whether they reflect residents' priorities.
- Whether the proposed Public Priorities reflect national priorities.

Tony Kershaw

Clerk to Sussex Police and Crime Panel

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Public Priorities in the Sussex Police & Crime Plan 2024/28.



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| To: | The Sussex Police & Crime Panel. |
| From: | The Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner. |
| Subject: | Public Priorities in the Sussex Police & Crime Plan 2024/28. |
| Date: | 27 September 2024. |
| Recommendation: | That the Sussex Police & Crime Panel note and comment on the report. |

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report seeks to introduce the three public priorities and the supporting police and crime objectives identified by the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) for inclusion in the new Sussex Police & Crime Plan 2024/28.

2.0 Public Priorities

2.1 The PCC has a statutory duty to set the police and crime objectives for their police force area through a Police & Crime Plan.

2.2 Following her re-election in May 2024, the PCC has identified three public priorities to include within the Sussex Police & Crime Plan 2024/28, alongside a series of supporting police and crime objectives, as follows:

| Public Priority 1 – Improve public trust and confidence. | Public Priority 2 – Relentless disruption of serious violence and organised crime. | Public Priority 3 – Support victims, witnesses and communities. |
|---|--|---|
| Make policing more visible to improve public confidence and tackle anti-social behaviour. | Reduce homicide, serious violence and knife crime in Sussex. | Improve the standard of investigations and the number of positive outcomes delivered for victims of crime. |
| Answering calls promptly and attending these calls for service in an appropriate timescale relative to threat, risk and harm. | Deliver enforcement activity across Sussex to target serious organised crime groups, and disrupt high impact crimes, including county line drug gang activity. | Maintain high quality and effective support services to safeguard for victims and witnesses. |
| Make the roads of Sussex safer with a dedicated policing unit created to address the 'fatal five' factors behind collisions. | Encourage greater reporting of traditionally under-reported crimes to Sussex Police to bring more offenders to justice. | Tackle sexual violence against women and girls to make them can feel safer in public spaces and at nighttime. |
| Provide an effective and accessible police service for our rural areas and communities. | Provide help, support and advice to individuals and businesses who have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber-crime. | Make funding available for community safety partners to deliver activities which reduce crime and divert young people from crime. |
| Tackle business and retail crime to make our shops and high streets safer places to work in and visit. | | Develop a partnership response to tackle and prevent perpetrator behaviour through offender programmes and interventions, to reduce repeat victimisation and reoffending. |

3.0 Public Consultation

- 3.1 In developing the Sussex Police & Crime Plan, the PCC is required to consider the views of the local community and victims of crime.
- 3.2 The public priorities have been developed following extensive consultation with members of the public in Sussex to ensure that the new plan reflects accurately the policing, crime and community safety issues that are most important to local residents and communities.
- 3.3 In 2023/24, the PCC carried out a comprehensive series of online focus groups – comprising two separate rounds in May and November 2023 – in conjunction with the Sussex Association of Local Councils to understand better the priorities of members of the public in Sussex.
- 3.4 The PCC also took the opportunity to ask the public to rate their policing priorities and to provide their views on precept levels through a combined survey around policing priorities and funding.
- 3.5 Additional feedback about the public priorities identified has also been sought from Sussex Police, Brighton & Hove City Council, East Sussex County Council and West Sussex County Council, alongside each of the 12 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) throughout Sussex.
- 3.6 The PCC would welcome any further feedback about the three proposed public priorities and the supporting police and crime objectives from the Sussex Police & Crime Panel members ahead of these being finalised.

4.0 Police & Crime Plan 2024/28

- 4.1 The PCC is currently in the process of preparing the new Police & Crime Plan for Sussex which is set to cover the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2028.
- 4.2 A draft copy of the plan will be brought to the Sussex Police & Crime Panel meeting on 31 January 2025 to formally review in accordance with Chapter 4 – Section 28(3) of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
- 4.3 The new plan will be launched as soon as is practicable after that meeting and, in any case, before 31 March 2025.

Mark Streater
Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer
Office of the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner