

Summary

The purpose of this framework is to outline the Commissioner's objectives and overall vision through the commissioning of services. The framework will explain how this will be achieved.

This framework has been adopted by the OPCC for North Wales.

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INTRODUCTION BY COMMISSIONER

I am pleased to introduce my Commissioning Framework. The aim of this document is to outline what I want to achieve through the commissioning of services and provide a framework for how I intend to make it happen.

As Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales, I have been elected by the public to set the strategic direction for policing. Part of my role includes the commissioning of services either from the police service directly or from partners in the public, private voluntary and community sectors to support the delivery of my police and crime plan for Wales.

The Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 charges Commissioners with keeping the police fund, setting and managing the budget for policing, making grants and entering into agreements for the supply of goods and services. Further to that the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 empowers Police and Crime Commissioners to commission local services that are intended to help victims, or witnesses of, or other persons affected by, criminal offences and anti-social behaviour.

I am a firm believer in joint commissioning and during my term as commissioner, we will explore all opportunities. By working with our partners on the Safer Communities Board, I will be exploring future opportunities for joint commissioning. Joint Commissioning is a strategic approach to planning and delivering services in a holistic, joined-up way. Whilst the statutory responsibility for commissioning is mine, and mine alone, I do support any joint commissioning strategy that delivers efficiencies and ultimately improves the service afforded to victims of crime across our region.

I published my first police and crime plan in October 2021. I wrote the plan with the support of the public following a number of consultation events and an online survey. I listened to what the public wanted and the concerns of the business community. The voluntary sectors have had significant contribution to the plan alongside senior officers, staff and our statutory partners who work hard to support us with the utmost professionalism. As a result, my priorities reflect the main areas of threat, risk and harm that we must focus on in north Wales including;

- **Delivering safer neighbourhoods**
 - Tackle and prevent rural and wildlife crime
 - More efficient and effective police officers and police staff
 - Improve Road safety
- **Supporting victims and communities**
 - Tackle and prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence
 - Safeguard vulnerable people
 - Tackle and prevent cybercrime
 - Establish a victims panel
 - Tackle and prevent Hate crime
- **Fair and effective Criminal Justice System**
 - Introduce a North Wales Female Offender Strategy
 - Increase the use of Restorative Justice
 - Support and protect children and young people and divert them away from the Criminal Justice System

- Address the root causes of offending and support the rehabilitation of people who have offended

This commissioning framework will support the delivery of my objectives and my overall vision.

Andrew Dunbobbin
North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Commissioning Framework has been developed to support the commissioning function of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales ('the Commissioner').
- 1.2 It is important that I first clarify what I mean by Commissioning in the context of this framework. Commissioning is a formal statement of plans for securing, specifying and monitoring services to meet people's needs at a strategic level. It applies to services provided by public agencies, the private and voluntary sectors.
- 1.3 Commissioning is not something I can do in isolation; it involves creating a vision and consensus among many organisations including partners, service providers, service users and the public. In recognition of this I have developed my commissioning work streams within three strands of work:
 - **Crime and Disorder Fund** – which is intended to support effective partnership working to deliver solutions for the people of North Wales by tackling issues identified throughout North Wales in assessing crime and disorder.
 - **Victims Commissioning Fund** - this is grant funding provided to the PCC by the Ministry of Justice to provide services to victims and witnesses of crime and to ensure that they receive the best support.
 - **VAWDASV Grant** – the VAWDASV Board appointed the OPCC as the accountable body (Regional Banker) for the VAWDASV Grant from the Welsh Government. The joint funding by the OPCC and the VAWDASV grant (previously paid directly to the LA's) to be amalgamated into one pot to protect the current IDVA, ISVA, CSA and perpetrators programmes in all six local authorities.
- 1.4 In addition to these three strands, I have commissioned through the Home Office, funding to support and add value to all of these areas of work through the SAFER STREETS initiative.

2. The Police and Crime Plan

- 2.1 The core aim of this framework is to support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan, and the delivery of my priorities.
- 2.2 To deliver this vision for North Wales I have established new objectives for the police service. They are:
 - **Delivering safer neighbourhoods**
 - Tackle and prevent rural and wildlife crime
 - More efficient and effective police officers and police staff
 - Improve Road safety
 - **Supporting victims and communities**

- Tackle and prevent domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Safeguard vulnerable people
- Tackle and prevent cybercrime
- Establish a victims panel
- Tackle and prevent Hate crime
- **Fair and effective Criminal Justice System**
 - Introduce a North Wales Female Offender Strategy
 - Increase the use of Restorative Justice
 - Support and protect children and young people and divert them away from the Criminal Justice System
 - Address the root causes of offending and support the rehabilitation of people who have offended

2.3 Throughout my Police and Crime Plan I have emphasised the importance of working effectively in partnership and I intend to work closely with local partners to prioritise resources and ensure that we work together effectively to commission services.

3. Use of Resources

3.1 Commissioning is about securing the best outcomes and the best value in a long term sustainable manner by making the best use of all the resources available from money to partnerships, along with:

- a need to understand the needs of users and the local communities (including seeking feedback) and put that at the heart of the commissioning process
- engaging the expertise of the third sector and market leading organisations to understand the contribution they can make and consider investing within those areas to enhance service delivery

3.2 Within the Police and Crime Plan I established principles to ensure the effective and efficient use of resources, and these principles will apply to the Commissioning Framework:

- Ensure target resources to fulfil statutory responsibilities and deliver the police and crime objectives.
- Work with partners to ensure services are delivered in the most effective way.
- Ensure that staff and officers are appropriately equipped and have adequate support services to maximise the time they have available to deliver policing service.
- Ensure that resources are used appropriately; I will monitor income and expenditure throughout the life of this Police and Crime Plan. HMIC value

for money profiles will assist me with this work, by enabling me to compare North Wales Police with other forces.

- Deliver Social Value in the form of Social, Economic, and Environmental and Cultural wellbeing to the people and communities of North Wales.

4. Commissioning cycle

4.1 I have developed my commissioning work streams within three fields of work; this is to enable greater clarity about how I intend to deliver the differing work areas, to reflect the different development stages of each of these fields and to highlight what the strategic intention. The three work areas will follow the core Commissioning cycle shown below:

4.2

UNDERSTAND	Recognise local outcomes, needs, resources and priorities; aligning services in collaboration with stakeholders that take account of provider and service user information and build on others' work.
PLAN	How to address needs effectively, efficiently, equitably and in a sustainable way, individually and collaboratively
DO	Make decisions to secure improved co-commissioning outcomes
REVIEW	Monitor service delivery against expected outcomes and report how well it is doing against the plan and recognising that this is not a closed loop but an on-going cycle.

4.3 Outcomes are particularly relevant at the **do, review and plan** stages of the commissioning cycle and reflect the changes, benefits or learning resulting from the services provided

5. The Commissioners' Crime and Disorder Fund

5.1 The funding landscape has changed as a result of the introduction of Commissioners.

5.2 The Home Office decided to allocate funding previously made up of grant funding streams, including the Community Safety Fund, the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) Fund, the DIP Drug Testing Grant, and the Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Funding to Commissioners.

5.3 For 2013/14 the Home Office allocated £1,379,000 to North Wales (a reduction of £174,734 on the grant funding streams available in 2012/13). From 2014/15 the Home Office transferred that funding to be within the core policing grant, rather than being allocated to Commissioners as a separate funding stream. This change enables greater flexibility to respond to local need; however this change also exposes the funding to cuts to the general police fund by central government as happened in 2015/16.

- 5.4 For 2021/22 I have allocated £1,577,938.00 to the Crime and Disorder Fund. This funding was allocated to support activities within the Police and Crime Plan and distributed to agencies and organisations across North Wales.
- 5.5 This allocation of the Commissioner’s Crime and Disorder Fund does not account for the totality of funding that is used in North Wales to support community safety. The aim is to provide multi-agency solutions to needs identified within the annual strategic assessment of community safety that work towards delivering the Police and Crime Plan.
- 5.6 I know there are communities and organisations which have innovative projects that can help make our communities safer, and it is important that through my commissioning framework I also provide for communities to access funding directly to support this work.
- 5.7 In 2021/22 I will continue to support the participatory budgeting grant funding programme “Your Community, Your Choice”. Each year a total of £42,000 will be made available across North Wales to fund up to 12 projects, and the people of North Wales will decide which projects receive the funding.
- 5.8 I intend to continue to provide funding to the North Wales Police and Community Trust (**PACT**) charity. The charity has established several accessible funding streams including Neighbourhood Policing Team Small Grant Fund (Grants of up to £250.00 available only to Police Officers to help them support local grass-roots community groups) and grants of up to £2,000.00 for community and voluntary groups (applications are accepted from all those groups which are working in partnership with their Neighbourhood Policing Team).

6. **Victims’ Commissioning Fund**

- 6.1 Following the changes introduced by the Anti-social-behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 the Ministry of Justice and Home Office has provided funding to commissioners to enable the commissioning of local victims’ services.
- 6.2 The Ministry of Justice will retain responsibility for Commissioning some high impact and specialist victim support services, which include:
 - 6.3 Rape support centres (not Sexual Assault Referral Centres)
 - 6.4 Homicide services
 - 6.5 Court based witness service
 - 6.6 Victims of human trafficking
 - 6.7 National Victims Helpline

In order to prepare for commissioning of victims’ services I have commissioned a review of the independent needs assessment to identify the requirements that victims in Wales may have for support services. This review of the needs assessment will commence in 2021 and will be used to further develop commissioning intentions for victims’ services in north Wales. My intention is to commission appropriate broad support services for

victims in addition to more intensive support for victims who have suffered greater emotional, physical or other impacts.

- 6.8 For 2021/22 the Ministry of justice has allocated £816,354.00 to the OPCC to deliver victims' services across North Wales. However £759,754.00 will be used for core victims' services and £56,600.00 will be ring fenced to support child sexual abuse services. During 20/21 the Ministry of Justice also awarded an additional £617,015.00 to support IDVA and ISVA provisions across the region.
- 6.9 Further work is going to be undertaken in terms of co-commissioning with the Welsh Government, Local Authorities, HMPPS and Health Boards to ensure that we are maximising new opportunities for our services given the current climate of severe financial restraints.

7. VAWDASV GRANT

- 7.1 The VAWDASV Board appointed the OPCC as the accountable body (Regional Banker) for the VAWDASV Grant from the Welsh Government. The joint funding by the OPCC and the VAWDASV grant (previously paid directly to the LA's) to be amalgamated into one pot to protect the current IDVA, ISVA, CSA and perpetrators programmes in all six local authorities.
- 7.2 The Strategic Board and the regional banker (OPCC) have worked together to ensure that the commissioning plan for 2021/22 joins the current funding by the OPCC and the VAWDASV grant into one pot and protects the current IDVA and ISVA provision, as well as ensuring that there are programmes for perpetrators offered in all six local authorities.
- 7.3 The Board have agreed on an Outcomes Framework from which the commissioned services can choose the most appropriate to report on. This framework will initially apply to the IDVA, ISVA and perpetrator services, but following the inclusion of other funders during 2021/22, a wider framework will be agreed to ensure greater cohesion and consistency of reporting.

8. Communication

- 8.1 I will publish this document along with details of the projects and work programmes that receive financial support through the delivery of this commissioning framework on my website <http://www.northwales-pcc.gov.uk>.