

**22nd April, 2013**

**Police and Crime Commissioner**

**Ward(s)**                      All

**Portfolios:** Cllr Zahid Ali, Portfolio Holder for Public Protection

**Executive Summary:**

This report provides an overview of the role of West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner and reports on progress towards developing a Local Police and Crime Board in Walsall. It has been produced to support Members in their discussions with Bob Jones, West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner who will be attending the Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel on 22nd April, 2013.

**Reason for scrutiny:**

To support Members in their discussions with the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, Bob Jones, and to seek the Scrutiny Panels views on developments towards a Local Police and Crime Board for Walsall.

**Recommendations:**

To note the report and comment on the proposal to develop a Local Police and Crime Board for Walsall.

**Background papers:**

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

**Resource and legal considerations:**

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 transferred the control of police forces from police authorities to elected [Police and Crime Commissioners](#). The [first police commissioner elections](#) were held in November 2012, and will be every four years thereafter.

**Citizen impact:**

This report is to support Scrutiny's discussions with the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner who promotes his commitment to consultation and community engagement, local decision-making and letting people have their say. The report

also provides a proposal for enhancing community engagement on community safety matters, through the introduction of a Local Police and Crime Board in the Borough which includes representation from local communities.

**Environmental impact:**

There is no environmental impact to be drawn to Scrutiny's attention.

**Performance management:**

The performance management arrangements are provided in overview within the report. There is an opportunity to further explore these with the Commissioner through his attendance at Scrutiny on 22nd April, 2013.

**Equality Implications:**

The Home Office undertook an equality impact assessment of its proposals for policing, including the introduction of the PCC positions, and this is entitled "The Equality Impact Assessment Report - Policing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Re-connecting the police and the people".

**Consultation:**

Briefings through the Safer Walsall Partnership and at Scrutiny have previously taken place to support the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner. This report through the attendance of the Commissioner at Scrutiny on 22nd April, 2013 provides a further opportunity for Members to consider the important role played by the Police and Crime Commissioner. It also provides an opportunity for Scrutiny to consider the introduction/role of a Local Police and Crime Board within Walsall.

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**Appendix 1: Proposed New Model for the Safer Walsall Partnership Board/Walsall Local Police and Crime Board.**

**SAFER WALSALL PARTNERSHIP BOARD/  
LOCAL POLICE AND CRIME BOARD (Four meetings per year)**

**1 Representatives from the following "Responsible Authorities"**

**Walsall Council  
West Midlands Police  
Health (Clinical Commissioning Group)  
Probation  
West Midlands Fire & Rescue Service**

**Plus 1 representative from**

**Walsall Housing Group, the Commissioners Office (plus a support Officer), Walsall Voluntary Action.**

**1 Representative from each Area Partnership (6 Representatives)  
3 Representatives from "Communities of Interest" eg Victim Support**

**Community issues/  
priorities**



**Area Partnerships (Six covering the Borough)**

- North Walsall,
- Darlaston & Bentley,
- Brownhills, Pensall, Rushall & Shelfield, Aldridge & Beacon
- Aldridge & Beacon
- Walsall South
- Willenhall & Short Heath

**VCS Communities of Interest**

For example Victim Support

In addition to the above it is proposed that the partner agencies within the Safer Walsall Partnership meet between full Board meetings at six week intervals. Agencies to be represented at the core meetings are: Walsall Council, West Midlands Police, Health (Walsall's Clinical Commissioning Group), Probation, West Midlands Fire & Rescue Service, Walsall Housing Group, Walsall Voluntary Action and a representative from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office (and a support officer).