



## SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL

**Christian Mitchell**

Chairman

Sussex Police and Crime Panel

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28 June 2022

Dear Commissioner Bourne,

### **Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner – Annual Report 2021/22**

Thank you for attending the Police and Crime Panel meeting on Friday 24 June 2022, at which you presented your Annual Report and answered the Panel's questions. We wish you a swift recovery from your Achilles injury and appreciate that you nonetheless attended the meeting in person.

The Panel recognises that the meeting marked your tenth year in office and commends your dedicated service to the Force, in addition to your engagement with the Panel since its inception in 2012.

Your report was well-received by the Panel in what we perceived to be another transitional year for local policing as the nation emerges from the pandemic.

In my summary at the conclusion of the debate, I highlighted the improved performance of the contact centre's call handling times and update on police recruitment as areas of particular interest to the Panel.

Three formal recommendations were agreed:

- That the data included in the section on diversity should include the equivalent data for the Sussex population as a whole, to give context to the achievements of Sussex Police. That a narrative be included in the section on diversity, to bring to life achievement in this area.
- That the Annual Report includes a section on progress against Sussex Police's net zero ambitions, and in addressing climate change generally.
- That the Annual Report sets out the net change in officer numbers for the year, so that the number of officers recruited can be seen in the context of the numbers of officers leaving the organisation.

In respect of other points raised by Panel members, we will follow this up with your office and publish an action list on the Panel's website.

I would be grateful if I could receive your response to this letter by Friday 19 August 2022. 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, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

*Christian Mitchell*

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