

## Action List – Police and Crime Panel Meeting 26 April 2019

Agenda Item	Action	Responsibility	Status
4. Public Question Time	<p>The PCC to provide a response to Mr Jacklin's supplementary question:</p> <p>In your answer you refer to statistics from the victim or complainant survey. My concern is whether people accused of crimes are given an equal or fair treatment. Are there any statistics on the outcomes for defendants or those accused of crimes?</p> <p>In his 2017 review MP David Lammy concluded that "BAME individuals still face bias, including overt discrimination, in parts of the justice system." The statistics showed that, whilst there were small differences in conviction rates between BAME and white men for most classes of offence, for Public Order Offences the conviction rate for BAME men was 5 times higher than for white men. [www.theguardian.com/law/2017/sep/08/racial-bias-uk-criminal-justice-david-lammy]</p> <p>Given the 'discretion' the police may have when pursuing public order offences, and the risk that they may believe one complainant in preference to another, in my view there is a clear risk of bias in these types of offences.</p>	PCC	<p>Court performance information is measured and tracked by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).</p> <p>If you have a specific query regarding Prosecution Team performance would like some statistics by ethnicity, please submit your request to the CPS Public Enquiry Helpdesk, in the first instance, through the following email address: <a href="mailto:enquiries@cps.gov.uk">enquiries@cps.gov.uk</a></p> <p>It is also worth emphasising that Sussex Police recognises and understands the importance that bias can have in terms of decision making. Since 2017, the Force has mandated the completion of 'Unconscious Bias' training for all police officers and staff to improve the awareness of bias and to contribute towards more informed, fair and ethical decision making.</p> <p>I can confirm that 91% of all officers and staff have completed this training to date.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED.</b></p>

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<p>5. The role of the Commissioner in ensuring Sussex Police provide an effective response to the possession and use of offensive weapons in Sussex</p>	<p>The Panel considered whether under paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the report, the number of offences in 2018 involving a knife or sharp instrument (979) included the number of possessions in 2018 of a knife or sharp instrument (781).</p>	<p>PCC</p>	<p>I can confirm that the 979 recorded offences involving a knife or sharp instrument in 2018 (set out in 5.2 of the report) is the total number of offences where knives or sharp instruments have been used to commit violent crimes.</p> <p>The subset of offences that are included in this 'violent crime' category are defined by the Home Office as part of the statutory Annual Data Requirement (ADR) and include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attempted murder;</li> <li>Threats to kill;</li> <li>Wounding;</li> <li>Endangering life;</li> <li>Assault with injury;</li> <li>Racially or religiously aggravated assault with injury;</li> <li>Assault with injury on a police officer;</li> <li>Sexual assault on a female aged 13 or over;</li> <li>Sexual assault on a female child under 13;</li> <li>Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and over;</li> <li>Sexual assault on a male aged 13 and under;</li> <li>Rape of a female aged 16 and over;</li> <li>Rape of a female child under 16;</li> <li>Rape of a female child under 13;</li> <li>Rape of a male aged 16 and over;</li> <li>Rape of a male child under 16;</li> <li>Rape of a male child under 13;</li> <li>Robbery of business property; and</li> <li>Robbery of personal property.</li> </ul> <p>It is also worth emphasising that all possession offences, together with some other low-level offences, are excluded from the ADR submission.</p> <p>The 781 recorded possession of knife or sharp instrument offences in 2018 (set out in 5.3 of the report) are, therefore, separate to the figures quoted in 5.2.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED.</b></p>
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<p>5. The role of the Commissioner in ensuring Sussex Police provide an effective response to the possession and use of offensive weapons in Sussex</p>	<p>The Panel requested all of the ways the police could be contacted in both emergency and non-emergency situations, including entering 55 in a silent 999 call.</p>	<p>PCC</p>	<p>Sussex Police can be contacted using any of the following methods:</p> <p><b>Emergency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telephone 999 if: a serious offence is in progress or has just been committed; someone is in immediate danger or harm; property is in danger of being damaged or serious disruption to the public is likely.</li> <li>• The Home Office has a system in place called Silent Solutions, which helps callers, such as domestic abuse victims, who cannot speak to an operator. If you have not been able to signal that your call is an emergency by coughing after dialling 999, you will be put through to the operator. If you are in danger, you will be asked to dial "55", otherwise the call will be terminated. Further information about the process is available under this table.</li> <li>• If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use the textphone service 18000 or text 999 if you have pre-registered with the emergencySMS service. Further information is available through the following link: <a href="https://www.ngts.org.uk/how-to-use-ngt/contact-999-using-ngt.html">https://www.ngts.org.uk/how-to-use-ngt/contact-999-using-ngt.html</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Non-emergency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telephone 101 for non-emergency enquiries. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use the textphone service on 18001 101.</li> <li>• Telephone +44 1273 470101 if you are contacting Sussex Police from outside of the UK.</li> <li>• If you have speech or hearing difficulties or find it hard to communicate you can use the emergency text service 65999. Further information is available through the following link: <a href="https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/us/contact-us/sus/accessible-contact/">https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/us/contact-us/sus/accessible-contact/</a></li> <li>• Make a report online through the following link – <a href="https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/">https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/</a></li> <li>• Make a report in person at your nearest police station or contact point.</li> <li>• Sussex Police can also be contacted by social media: <a href="#">@Sussex_Police</a> (Twitter) or <a href="#">@Sussexpoliceforce</a> (Facebook).</li> </ul> <p><b>COMPLETED.</b></p>
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7. Commissioner's Question Time	The PCC to provide a link to the Serious Violence Strategy.	PCC	The Serious Violence Strategy can be viewed through the following link: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/698009/serious-violence-strategy.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/698009/serious-violence-strategy.pdf</a>  <b>COMPLETED.</b>
7. Commissioner's Question Time	The PCC to provide the current breakdown of officer recruitment to date since the 2018 precept uplift.	PCC	A total of 216 police officers were recruited to Sussex Police over five separate intakes in 2018/19.  Sussex Police is planning to recruit a further 168 student officers, take on 47 experienced transferees from other police force areas in England and Wales and 14 individuals through the Police Now – National Graduate Leadership Programme – in 2019/20.  This is anticipated to provide a total of 229 additional officers in post by 31 March 2020.  <b>COMPLETED.</b>

# Make Yourself Heard

In danger, need the police, but can't speak?

- 1 **Dial** 999
- 2 **Listen** to the questions from the 999 operator
- 3 **Respond** by coughing or tapping the handset if you can
- 4 If prompted, **press 55**  
This lets the 999 call operator know it's a genuine emergency and you'll be put through to the police.

