



## SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL

**Bill Bentley**  
Chairman  
Sussex Police and Crime Panel

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2 July 2020

Dear Commissioner Bourne,

### **Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner - Annual Report 2019/20**

Thank you for attending the Police and Crime Panel Meeting on Friday 26 June 2020, at which you presented your Annual Report and answered the Panel's questions.

The Panel commended your report, and the good work which it represents. Your report ties in with the feedback received from our residents, which I think is important value that Panel members are able to add through their scrutiny.

At the meeting, the importance you and the incoming Chief Constable place on equalities issues was made very clear, and was a reassuring message for the Panel, with positive implications for public confidence in policing in Sussex.

During the debate, stop and search was raised, and you were able to share information on the scrutiny to which you had subjected the Chief Constable. Tackling hate crime was discussed, and the Panel was informed of an increased BAME representation among the latest cohort of officers. Having received reports on this latter issue in the past, Panel members are fully aware of the significant amount of work that has gone into driving this improvement.

I feel the annual report would be an appropriate place to draw attention to progress made in this crucial area and therefore I would be grateful if you could give consideration to including a section to highlight equalities achievements in future annual reports.

I would be grateful if I could receive your response to this letter by Friday 21 August 2020.

If you have any queries, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Cllr Bill Bentley**

Chairman

Sussex Police and Crime Panel