

# West Mercia Police and Crime Panel

Mr John Campion  
West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner  
Hindlip Hall  
Worcester  
WR3 8SP

7 August 2023

Dear Mr Campion

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I write to confirm that the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel reviewed your draft Annual Report on 27 July 2023 in a public meeting at County Hall, Worcester. Thank you for attending and answering questions.

As required in the Act, please accept this letter as the report of the Panel following its consideration of your draft Annual Report 2022-23.

During the consideration of the draft report, the Panel:

- noted the improvements highlighted in your report and shared your frustration about the pace of the delivery of improvement and change within some areas of West Mercia Police.
- welcomed the additional 500 police officers that had been recruited, nevertheless highlighted the need for more visible policing in towns, parishes and rural areas to improve public confidence and perception. Members of the Panel were grateful to you for your offer to work with them to improve public perception.
- noted the success of the partnership working with Telford & Wrekin Council to deliver the Safer & Stronger Communities programme.

The Panel raised a couple of points for which a response is formally requested:

- Page 4 of your report refers to the 500 police officers that have been recruited, and you confirmed during the meeting that the number of police officers is the highest establishment figure on record in West Mercia. Please supply the detail around the number of new recruits in front line facing roles.
- With reference to page 7 of your report (The Year in numbers 2022/23), in future reports please could you include comparative figures from previous years and some context, as to whether progress was 'on track' for these indicators.

I note that you are required to have regard to the Panel's report and provide a response which will be published; I look forward to receiving this response in due course.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Barry Durkin  
Chairman, West  
Mercia Police and Crime Panel  
c/o Legal and Governance  
Worcestershire  
County Council  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP