

## **Briefing for Police and Crime Commissioner**

**Topic:** Transparency and the OPCVC Publication Scheme

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### **Purpose of briefing**

To outline the OPCVC responsibility for complying with the Freedom of Information Act and the way policies and practices in place to ensure the highest levels of transparency to our communities and the general public.

### **Background**

The OPCVC Transparency Policy sets out the information that the OPCVC will make publicly available, both through our website and on request. It also sets out information that is excluded from this policy and how to appeal decisions relating to some types of exclusions. It is informed by best practice and existing legislation including The Freedom of Information Act and the Data Protection Act. Under the FOI Act, all public authorities, including the OPCVC, must have a Publication Scheme setting out the information routinely made publicly available.

### **Current Issues**

The OPCVC launched a completely new and enhanced website in March 2021 improving our communication with people, communities, and partners; making information easier to find and enhancing our transparency. Durham OPCVC have continued to retain the CoPaCC Transparency Quality Mark since its launch in 2015, marking six years running as of 2020-21.

### **Decisions Needed**

The routine review and enhancement of our transparency activities.

### **Partnership Involvement**

This is not a partnership forum and does not have specific partnership involvement.

### **Police Involvement**

There is no Constabulary involvement.

### **People to Meet**

The OPCVC Chief Executive, Senior Media Officer, Governance Manager, and Head of Governance & Finance.