

## **Independent Custody Visitors North Group Meeting**

**Date:** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Location:** Conference Room, Thorpe Wood Police Station

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendees – Group Members**

JB

JC

AD

JD

RH

JM)

RP

GW

AW

#### **Attendees – other**

Nicky Phillipson (NP) – Strategic Advisor, OPCC

Hannah Watson (HW) – Volunteer Co-ordinator, OPCC

### **1. Welcome & apologies received**

AW opened the meeting, welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

Apologies were received from FC, OM, JR, PR and CS.

### **Minutes of previous North Group meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

- HW to update previous minutes to reflect this discussion – **completed.**
- HW to establish an action log for future meeting – **completed.**
- HW to book rooms and confirm dates – **completed.**

- HW to share summary when agenda sent out so people have an opportunity to look at it before the meeting – **carry forward**
- GA to send on missing report forms to OPCC – **completed.**
- GA to arrange for the cells at Huntingdon to be unlocked – **carry forward as no constabulary representative present**
- GA to look into an exit procedure for ICVs at Huntingdon – **carry forward as no constabulary representative present**
- GA to remind custody staff that ICVs are able to check CCTV and kitchen – **carry forward as no constabulary representative present**

### **Current performance & matters arising from visits**

Summary was shared

There were concerns from ICVs that the cleaning regime at Thorpe Wood may not be frequent enough or to a high enough standard.

2 ICVs reported that during a recent visit to Thorpe Wood they were not afforded with the respect which they usually experience. There was also a delay in accessing custody.

**Action:** HW to feedback issues to PCC so he can raise with the Constabulary.

ICVs also reported that some custody staff were not aware of the One Note system logging ICV issues.

**Action:** HW to liaise with Constabulary colleagues to ensure all staff are aware of the One Note system for logging ICV issues.

ICVs would like to know times of shift handover.

**Action:** HW to find out times of shift handover.

## **Restorative Justice**

Nicky Phillipson talked about Restorative Justice as DCI Dominic Human was required as a negotiator at an armed siege situation – he sent his apologies.

Restorative Justice is a process which “brings those harmed by crime or conflict, and those responsible for the harm, into communication, enabling everyone affected by a particular incident to play a part in repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward”.

Victims of crime in Cambridgeshire can now request to meet their offender in a restorative justice conference. Such conferences have been proven to help repair the harm crime causes by allowing the victim to explain to the offender the impact of their actions. It also enables the victim to understand why the offender behaved the way they did. The whole process is carefully managed at all stages by trained facilitators.

Not for profit community interest company, Restorative Solutions, has been appointed by the Commissioner and Constabulary, as a delivery partner to help develop restorative justice across Cambridgeshire in partnership with other agencies. The programme has been brought to fruition thanks to Ministry of Justice providing all PCCs with an initial two years' funding.

Take a look at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1s6wKeGLQk> for more information.

Dominic Human is the project lead and his contact details are below:

Email: [dominic.human@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:dominic.human@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

## **Independent Custody Visiting aide memoir**

During the consultation for the ICV procedures, a couple of ICVs suggested it would be useful to have an aide memoir to help when visiting. Several ICVs indicated they had developed their own aide memoir, so HW asked for these to be shared and she will draft something for the next meeting.

**Action:** ICVs to share any existing aide memoirs used and HW will combine and draft for discussion at next meeting.

## Updates

- Review of sections 135 and 136 Mental Health Act 1983  
The Review of the operation of sections 135 and 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 is now published - <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/review-of-the-operation-of-sections-135-and-136-of-the-mental-health-act>. The review aimed to address what was widely perceived as an excessive use of police cells to detain people under section 136, and in particular to ensure that children and young people are not being held in police cells when experiencing a mental health crisis.
- Transferring children from police custody to Local Authority Care  
The PCC has received a letter from the Home Secretary and Education Secretary about Local Authority duties to receive children transferred from police custody - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/transferring-children-from-police-custody-to-local-authority-care>.
- Voluntary Attendance Rooms – The rooms have been designed to carry out all processes regarding a person who voluntarily attends a police station for an interview regarding a recordable offence.
- Dealing with ingested / inserted drugs –new process has been developed by the force.

## Long Service Awards

At the annual meeting in January, Sir Graham handed out a number of long service awards. Several people were not at the meeting and it was hoped the

certificates could be presented at the meeting, but sadly they weren't at the group meeting either. To be carried forward to the next meeting!

### **Rotas**

AW will draft the next quarter's rota which will be shared with the OPCC.

### **Any other business and close**

There was none

**Date of next meeting** – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June at HQ, Huntingdon

### **Summary of actions**

- HW to share summary when agenda sent out so people have an opportunity to look at it before the meeting
- GA to arrange for the cells at Huntingdon to be unlocked
- GA to look into an exit procedure for ICVs at Huntingdon
- GA to remind custody staff that ICVs are able to check CCTV and kitchen
- HW to feedback issues to PCC so he can raise with the Constabulary.
- HW to liaise with Constabulary colleagues to ensure all staff are aware of the One Note system for logging ICV issues.
- HW to find out times of shift handover.
- ICVs to share any existing aide memoirs used and HW will combine and draft for discussion at next meeting.