



Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

PERFORMANCE WORKING GROUP

APPROVED MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 5th May 2015

Time: 14.00

Location: OPCC Office, Cambourne

PRESENT:

Sir Graham Bright	Police and Crime Commissioner
Dorothy Gregson	Chief Executive, Cambridgeshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Mark Hopkins	Assistant Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Sue Ratcliffe	Principal Performance Analyst, Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Cristina Strood	Head of Policy and Performance, Cambridgeshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Howard Thackray	Policy and Performance Officer, Cambridgeshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Apologies

1.1 No apologies were received.

2. Welcome

2.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner (“the Commissioner”) opened the first meeting of the group by outlining the purpose of the Performance Working Group, that being to explore Cambridgeshire Constabulary’s (“the Constabulary”) performance issues ahead of the formal reporting through the Commissioner’s Business Coordination Board (“the Board”) on the 4th June 2015. The Commissioner confirmed that he wants the Constabulary to continue to focus on getting the job done and not on measures

and targets as ends in themselves. Whilst the Chief Constable is responsible for the management of the Constabulary's performance, the Commissioner will continue to monitor the Chief Constable's performance management arrangements in order to hold him to account for the Constabulary's performance.

3. New Performance Framework

3.1 Cristina Strood outlined the purpose of the Commissioner's new performance framework, to fully reflect the updated Police and Crime Plan and the Constabulary's threat, risk and harm approach. There was some discussion on the need to strike the right balance to ensure performance information is used to inform decision making and driving organisational learning. The Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) was content with the proposed approach to the new performance framework.

4. Performance Reporting

The Group discussed performance issues related to levels of recorded crime, domestic abuse, burglary and hate crime as follows:

4.1. Recorded Crime

4.1.1 A discussion took place about the increase in recorded crime (as previously reported to the Board in April 2015) the majority of which is victim based. The increase is reflected nationally, regionally and for the Most Similar Groups (MSG) of police forces. Cambridgeshire's crime rates (per thousand population) remain comparable regionally and with the MSG of forces.

4.1.2 The ACC reiterated that this did not reflect a decline in public safety but that the public felt more confident in reporting crime, driven by the Constabulary's campaigns and high profile historic national cases in the media. There was still a significant level of historic cases coming forward and hidden demand with under-reporting of child sexual exploitation, domestic sexual abuse and computer-enabled crime.

4.1.3 The ACC reassured the Group of the proactive approach taken by the Constabulary with the realignment of resources to match demand.

4.2 Domestic Abuse and Prosecution Possible

4.2.1 The Group discussed the recent improvements in domestic abuse response times and prosecution possible outcome rates. The ACC reassured the group that safeguarding begins at the point of a call for service; with the scale of safeguarding designed to meet the level of risk identified.

4.2.2 Improvements in domestic response times remain a focus for the Constabulary in order to ensure a sustained improvement is achieved; with a move to using victim led appointments for the less urgent cases where appropriate.

4.2.3 The ACC explained the complexity of the caseload with vulnerable victims. Some of the cases may not result in prosecution and prosecution is not always the best outcome for potentially traumatised victims.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

4.2.4 More resource had been put into public protection and the whole organisation is alive to vulnerability issues. The challenges of this work were recognised and support for staff is monitored.

4.3 Burglary

4.3.1 Stable levels of dwelling burglary were noted by the group, alongside a low prosecution possible rate. The ACC informed the Group that the use of intelligence in investigating burglary was being reviewed and it is anticipated that this will improve prosecution rates.

4.3.2 Burglary Victim Satisfaction remains high with 94.4% satisfied with the service received from the Constabulary, though satisfaction with 'follow up' was lower. The ACC recognised, that this is an area for continual improvement and as such the Constabulary needs to maintain contact with victims to provide on-going support whilst their cases are on-going.

4.4 Hate Crime

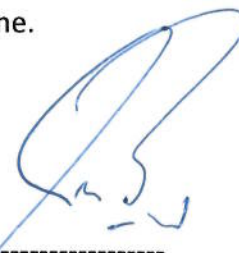
4.4.1 The Group discussed Hate Crime and whether the willingness to report this crime where victims previously had not was the main reason for the increase in recorded hate crime.

4.4.2 To address this the ACC has commissioned research on the growth in recorded Hate Crime so the Constabulary could better understand the issues driving the rise in recorded Hate Crime.

- ***It was resolved that the Constabulary would share the outcomes of its research on the growth in recorded hate crime with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner once complete.***

5. Date of next meeting

5.1 Next meeting is scheduled for 14th July 2015 at Cambourne.



Sir Graham Bright