



**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Constable

**Date:** 30 March 2016

## OPERATIONAL UPDATE

### 1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an operational update to the Business Coordination Board ("the Board"). The paper covers any exceptional issues relating to Cambridgeshire Constabulary's ("the Constabulary") recent performance, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) inspections, significant operations and effective and efficient policing.

### 2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

### 3. Performance Update

3.1 There are no exceptional performance issues to bring to the attention of the Board at this time.

### 4. HMIC Inspections Update

4.1 Force Insight work is scheduled for April 2016, with HMIC attending a number of strategic meetings to gain an insight into the Constabulary's governance. This work will help inform the PEEL assessment of the Constabulary in 2016.

4.2 The first PEEL inspection of the Constabulary of the year is expected to take place between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016, and will cover the Efficiency, Legitimacy and Leadership elements of PEEL.

### 5. Significant Investigations / Operations

- 5.1 A male from March was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment at Peterborough Crown Court on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016, after being convicted of nine counts of sexual assault and rape, spanning a 20-year period and involving four victims. In sentencing, the judge commended all the officers for their hard work on the case, which was long and complex.
- 5.2 A Cambridgeshire Police Officer has been sentenced for an offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990, having admitted the offence at an earlier hearing. The officer was sentenced on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016 to two months imprisonment, suspended for 12 months, and ordered to pay £250 costs at Cambridge Crown Court. Previous charges faced by the officer have been stayed, ending the proceedings, and the investigation into these matters has been referred by the Professional Standards Department to the Independent Police Complaints Commission for independent investigation. The officer convicted at court remains suspended pending internal misconduct proceedings.
- 5.3 A male from Whittlesey has been jailed for 10 years after being convicted of sexually assaulting a teenage girl over a period of five years. The male was arrested in March last year, after the victim came forward and reported the offences, and was subsequently charged with four counts of sexual activity with a girl, spanning a period from 2008 to 2013. He sentenced at Peterborough Crown Court on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016.
- 5.4 A prisoner at HMP Whitemoor, who stabbed an inmate in the neck last year, has been given a further life sentence. The male was already serving a life sentence after being convicted of wounding with intent to resist or prevent lawful apprehension offenses against a person, as well as burglary, in 2001. While serving his sentence in HMP Whitemoor, he was further convicted of the attempted murder of an inmate in 2010 and issued another life sentence. In October last year (2015) the male was charged with attempted murder, possessing a bladed article in a prison and causing grievous bodily harm with intent. He denied attempted murder, but pleaded guilty to the other charges. The guilty pleas were accepted by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) with direction for the attempted murder charge to lie on file. On 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016, he appeared at Peterborough Crown Court and was sentenced to life in prison, with a minimum term of six years, and a further 18 months to run concurrently.
- 5.5 A Cambridgeshire Police Officer has been found guilty of two counts of common assault, which took place in October 2015, following a trial at Luton Magistrates Court on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016. He was ordered to pay a £750 fine, £650 costs and a £50 victim surcharge, and given an eight month restraining order. The officer remains suspended from duty pending consideration of police misconduct matter.
- 5.6 A husband and wife from Peterborough, who sexually assaulted a toddler were sentenced to 14 and 13 years imprisonment respectively at Peterborough Crown Court on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Between October 2012 and December 2014, the couple sexually assaulted and took images of a girl they were babysitting. The girl was 13 months old when the abuse began. The male pleaded guilty at an earlier hearing to two counts of sexual assault of a child under 13, four counts of taking indecent photographs of a child, three counts of possession of indecent photographs of a child, possession of a prohibited image of a child, possession of an extreme pornographic image and making 4,524 indecent photographs of children. The female pleaded not guilty to two counts

of sexual assault of a child under 13 and one count of distributing indecent photographs of a child but was found guilty following the trial. While sentencing the couple, Judge Enright described the case as one of the worst cases of abuse of a baby that he had seen, and said that neither of them had shown 'genuine remorse'. Judge Enright also awarded Detective Constable Lloyd Metselaar a commendation for the quality of his investigation into these offences.

5.7 A male who walked into a Cambridge bank with an imitation gun and demanded money has been jailed for six years. The male targeted NatWest bank, in Fitzroy Street, at about 4.15pm on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016, entering the bank and demanding money, allowing staff to believe the fake gun in a bag he was carrying was real. The male tried to flee with a large quantity of cash but was tackled by a member of the public and was arrested by police. On 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016, he was sentenced to six years for robbery and 18 months for the imitation firearm offence, to run concurrently.

## 5.8 **Operation Griffin**

5.8.1 Between November 2011 and April 2012, Chinese artefacts and rhinoceros horns worth millions of pounds were targeted in six incidents – two thefts and an attempted theft from Durham University Oriental Museum, robberies at Norwich Castle Museum in Norfolk and Gorringes Auction House in East Sussex and a burglary at the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Investigations were launched by local police forces and a number of people convicted for their parts in carrying out the thefts. However, it soon became apparent that an organised crime group was planning and commissioning the crimes.

5.8.2 'Operation Griffin', an investigation led jointly by Cambridgeshire and Durham Constabularies, and supported by the National Crime Agency (NCA) and the National Police Chief's Council (NPCC), was launched in June 2012 to bring those behind the conspiracy to justice.

5.8.3 As a result of the investigation, a total of fourteen men were charged in connection with all six incidents. All have now been convicted of conspiracy to steal, following the conclusion of the most recent trial at Birmingham Crown Court on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016, and are awaiting sentence.

## 5.9 **St Neots Homicide**

5.9.1 A male from St Neots has pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility following the death of a female in St Neots on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2015. The male appeared at The Old Bailey via video link on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016 to enter his plea, and will be sentenced on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

5.9.2 The Force Control Room was called on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2015 by the Ambulance Service, with a report of concern from a male at a property in Curlew Close, St Neots. Armed officers attended and forced entry into the house, where the body of a female was found. A post mortem concluded that she had died from multiple cuts to the neck.

5.9.3 A male was arrested at the scene on suspicion of murder and taken to Hinchingbrooke Hospital for treatment for a serious but not life threatening injury, before being taken to Thorpe Wood Police Station for questioning - where he was later charged with murder.

5.9.4 A Domestic Homicide Review has been commissioned by the Huntingdonshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP), which will look into the circumstances of this incident, and will report back to the CSP in due course.

## **6. Effective and Efficient Policing**

### **6.1 Child Sexual Exploitation Campaign**

6.1.1 The Constabulary has launched a month-long campaign for March 2016 to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation. Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse in which the victim is given something in exchange for sexual activity with the abuser, and is a crime that can affect girls and boys, anytime, anywhere, regardless of their background or culture. In 2015 the Constabulary received 140 reports of child sexual exploitation.

## **7. Recommendation**

7.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<b>Source Document</b>	
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Chief Inspector Paul Ormerod, Corporate Development Directorate, Cambridgeshire Constabulary