



BUSINESS CO-ORDINATION BOARD

APPROVED MINUTES

Date: 9th October 2019 **Time:** 15:00
Location: Conference Room 3, Cambridgeshire Constabulary Headquarters

Members: Jason Ablewhite Police and Crime Commissioner
Nick Dean Chief Constable
Ray Bisby Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Dorothy Gregson Chief Executive, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

In Attendance: Jim Haylett Head of Business Development, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner
Colin Luscombe Director of Estates, Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Aly Flowers Senior Policy Officer, Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Matthew Warren, Jane Gyford and Dan Vajzovic.

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. To approve the minutes of the Business Co-ordination Board meeting held on the 18th September 2019

3.1 The Business Co-ordination Board (the "Board") approved the minutes from the meeting held on the 18th September 2019 as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were then signed.

4. Business Co-ordination Board Action Log

4.1 The Chief Executive took the Board through the Action Log, asking the Board to note in particular the following actions, which they then discussed as follows:

4.1.1 6.0 - Agenda Item 9.0, 24th January 2019, relating to civil parking enforcement

The Police and Crime Commissioner (the “Commissioner”) advocated that there needs to be a consistent approach across the county regarding how to tackle parking infringements. Both the Commissioner and the Chief Constable are keen that a county-wide solution to this issue is found and not one that Cambridgeshire Constabulary (the “Constabulary”) should be responsible for. It was noted that both Cambridge City Council and Peterborough City Council have de-criminalised parking infringements and Fenland are considering this as an option. The Board agreed that the Commissioner and the Chief Constable meet with the remaining District Councils for them to consider taking forward de-criminalisation.

Further Actions:

- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to arrange a series of meetings between the Commissioner, Chief Constable and Chief Executive Officers and Leaders of each of the District Council to discuss a range of issues including civil parking enforcement.
- Update to the Board in December 2019 on the Constabulary’s outputs from their working group highlighting proposed way forward.

4.1.2 10.0 - Agenda Item 9.1, 31st July 2019, relating to crime recording compliance rates

The Chief Constable provided an update on the Constabulary’s crime data integrity (CDI) recording rate. CDI compliance was improving month on month, and while progress has been slow, the speed of change is likely to result in more sustainable improvements going forward as awareness among staff improves. The Chief Constable recognised, that whilst overall compliance was over 80% and going in the right direction, it was not where the Constabulary aspired to be, and hoped by putting improvements in place compliance would soon be over 90%.

Further Action:

- CDI compliance rate report to be brought forward to November Board, outlining work to raise the compliance rate.

5. Police and Crime Plan – Victims Theme

- 5.1 The Chief Executive took the Board through the report in detail which focusses on the OPCC's activity to deliver broader partnership support to the priorities set out in the Victims theme of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan (the "Plan"). The key points the Board were asked to note and discuss in this high level review of strategic issues were:
- 5.1.1 Although the six-monthly victim support services data was currently unavailable given the timing of this report to the Board, informal quarterly monitoring was showing a strong upward trend in the percentage of victims being referred to support services and the outcomes secured.
 - 5.1.2 The Victim and Witness Hub continued to function well, with a sense that it was integrated into the heart of the Constabulary, with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) reports talking positively about this as a model.
 - 5.1.3 The OPCC had worked constructively with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) in respect of outcome monitoring, although significant changes to the way outcomes are monitored are being proposed in-year, which could provide challenging given service providers have set up their monitoring systems based on the previous MoJ monitoring framework requirements.
 - 5.1.4 The Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) funding from Government is coming to an end, (as reported to the Board in September), so the OPCC is looking at a model to manage the risk if future funding is not given and the service that can be provided within any available resource.
 - 5.1.5 The re-commissioning of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) through the partnership working between the OPCC, the Constabulary and NHS England is underway.
 - 5.1.6 An operational strategy for the support of people in the event of a major crime incident has been driven forward by the OPCC and the Constabulary, including specialist training to Victim and Witness Hub staff.
- 5.2 The Commissioner concluded this by emphasising that the Victim and Witness Hub was seen as best practice in the country, how the partnership approach to the re-commissioning of the SARC was exemplar, and that both the OPCC and the Constabulary had responded well to the MoJ's requirement for the provision of support in the event of major crime.
- 5.3 The Commissioner did express his concern around victim satisfaction, particular the level of follow-up after the initial report and sought the Chief Constable's views on this. The Chief Constable acknowledged this position and felt that the introduction of a new supervision policy would help drive further improvements for victims. Compliance with the Victims Care Contract is slowly improving and continues to be monitored.

- 5.4 The Chief Constable then provided the Board with a detailed overview of the Constabulary's report on delivery of the Victims theme of the Plan, which the Board noted and discussed as follows:
- 5.4.1 Whilst there had been a significant number of Domestic Abuse crimes recorded in the three months to June 2019. Operation Encompass, which seeks to ensure pastoral care within schools around children who have experienced Domestic Abuse within their household, has been fully embedded and having a positive impact.
 - 5.4.2 The deterioration in the prosecution possible outcome rate was discussed, with the Chief Constable acknowledging this is not where the Constabulary should be. The Chief Constable reported that the Constabulary must make greater efforts to embed the use of Out of Court Disposals, particular for lower level Domestic Abuse offences where these forms of disposal are appropriate. Linkages are being made with the Restorative Justice co-ordinators and Outside Links.
 - 5.4.3 The Commissioner asked if the recent increase in the number of Child Sexual Abuse crimes were as a result of historic cases or those children being exploited as a result of county lines. The Chief Constable reported that the historic cases were now levelling off, and that more new cases were now being reported. A partnership working group had been set up across the county to focus activities to prevent children from being exploited, and to identify and safeguard those who are already being exploited. The additionality within the neighbourhood teams should also help identify those at risk of exploitation at an earlier stage.
 - 5.4.4 The Commissioner wanted to know if partner agencies had enough resource to ensure that vulnerable children were being safeguarded and where necessary being put in places of safety. The Chief Constable assured the Board that tackling child exploitation was a Constabulary priority, and that a multi-disciplined team was looking at intervention and enforcement across the Constabulary, and linking with other agencies, but was unable to give assurance on other agencies resourcing.
 - 5.4.5 The Commissioner indicated that following on from the success of The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP), the the next iteration of partnership working should be focussed on prevention to tackle drug misuse. It was incumbent on all partners, when looking at their future demand, to make this a priority.
 - 5.4.6 The Board discussed the reduction of the VAWG central funding and the victims interventions commissioned through Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council and how this would impact on the service provided to victims. The Board agreed that the Commissioner and the Chief Constable should jointly write to the leaders and Chief Executive Officer of Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, regarding the future funding for Domestic Abuse and the impact of the VAWG funding

coming to an end and need to work with government to achieve sustainable funding.

Action: The Commissioner and Chief Constable to jointly write to the leaders and Chief Executive Officer of Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, regarding the future funding for Domestic Abuse and the impact of the VAWG funding coming to an end and need to work with government to achieve sustainable funding.

5.4.7 The Chief Constable concluded by stating that this report provided positive updates from the Constabulary but equally that there were a few challenges, in particularly regarding outcomes, Crime Data Integrity, and victims referral.

6. Financing of Southern Police Station – Commercial in Confidence

6.1 The Director of Estates gave a verbal update to the Board regarding the financing of the proposed Southern Police Station. The Board noted that another update would be provided to the November Board meeting.

7. Strategic Risk Management

7.1 The Chief Executive introduced this joint OPCC and Constabulary report regarding the Strategic Risk Register.

7.2 The Board were specifically asked to note risk SR4.4 and how it directly relates to the previous discussions on the need for custody provision to meet Home Office requirements. The Board noted how both the Commissioner and the Chief Constable are responding to this risk through a proportionate response to an operational imperative by proposing to build the Southern Police Station.

7.2 The Chief Executive highlighted risk SR3.1 that the Commissioner and Chief Constable fail to manage the finances effectively, and sought the Board's discussion on this. In response, the Chief Constable provided feedback on the Constabulary's recent Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment (STRA) challenge panels. The STRA panels went through critical areas of the Constabulary's operational business, which brought together risks and benefits in a holistic way, with a number of growth bids being made against risks. The next step is for the Chief Officer Team to collate the findings and bids to map against the strategic risk assessment, taking into account the uplift in new police officers, the Plan, and national policing priorities. These will then feed into the budget and resourcing planning process, and to ensure that the deployment of officers and staff is based upon threat, risk and harm.

7.4 The Chief Executive updated the Board on the independent review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, and Hertfordshire (BCH) Strategic Alliance which runs the collaborated operational and organisational support service functions in response to risk SR3.2. The Chief Executive is one of the Senior Responsible Officers for the review, and is currently working with consultants to look at the terms of reference for the review, one of which is to look at the processes regarding clear and strengthened accountability.

7.5 Risk SR3.3 was discussed by the Board regarding effective partnership working with communities in particular the prevention and demand management work. The Chief Executive reported that there was sophisticated partnership work underway. The Public Service Board was coming together to engage at pace, with a real awareness of risk and demand facing the public sector across their functions, and an appetite to find solutions to these issues.

7.6 The Board noted the report, the risks, the controls in place and future actions to mitigate any risks.

8. Cambridgeshire Constabulary EU Exit Preparedness

8.1 The Chief Constable provided the Board with an update on the Constabulary's planning and preparation at a local, regional and national level for the UK's planned exit from the European Union.

8.2 The Constabulary's governance and the tactical response to the planning assumptions and activities were provided. The Chief Constable considered that the Constabulary are well placed regarding their readiness to respond as required. The Constabulary are a key partner in the Cambridgeshire Local Resilience Forum, and are also linked into the policing response regionally and nationally.

8.3 The Commissioner sought reassurance that the Constabulary had adequate resilience to deal with all eventualities and that if the Constabulary were called upon to assist others, then there would still be sufficient numbers of officers and staff in Cambridgeshire. The Chief Constable confirmed that through the various regional and national mutual aid arrangements in place, that if the Constabulary require assistance it would be available, as would the Constabulary's assistance to other forces. However, given the nature of this complex work, there may be outcomes which cannot or have not been reasonably foreseen. Through the Resilience Forum and the Constabulary's own resource planning team, appropriate measures to best mitigate against any risks were being planned for, factoring in adherence to minimum staffing levels, with the use of overtime considered where necessary.



Ray Bisby