

DRAFT



TRUST, INTEGRITY AND ETHICS COMMITTEE
Wednesday 11 February 2015

Attendees:

Warwickshire OPCC:

Ron Ball (Chair)	Police and Crime Commissioner (RB)
Neil Hewison	Chief Executive (NH)
Debbie Mullis	Policy and Research Officer (DM)

West Mercia OPCC:

Bill Longmore	Police and Crime Commissioner (BL)
Barrie Sheldon	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (BS)
Andy Champness	Chief Executive (AC)

Police:

David Shaw	Chief Constable, West Mercia (Items 10 & 11 only) (DS)
Amanda Blakeman	Assistant Chief Constable (Items 10 & 11 only) (AB)
Jason Wells	Detective Superintendent (Item 4 only) (JW)

Independent Members:

Chris Cade (CC)
Susanna McFarlane (SM)
Clive Parsons (CP)
Jane Spilsbury (JS)
Col. Tony Ward (TW)

Apologies:

None

1. Welcome and Introductions

Ron Ball opened the meeting and welcomed the Committee Members.

It was agreed to consider items 3 and 4, prior to item 2.

3. (1) Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 November 2014

On page 3, item 4, TW advised that the reference to Jeremy Williams, should read, DCI Jerry Reakes-Williams.

On page 3, item 4, TW had stated that key names of police officers had been redacted, in place of retracted.

On page 8, item 10, paragraph 6, TW asked that the word 'not' be removed from the first sentence, to read, '...as it means that no crime has taken place.'

The remainder of the minutes of the committee meeting held on the 21 November 2014 were deemed to be a true and accurate record.

3. (2) Matters Arising

The actions had all been completed. Of note:

The Terms of Reference for the Rape 'No Crimes' review were raised. RB noted that this would be discussed at item 7 on the agenda.

CC raised that the Committee information on the Warwickshire PCC website was not up to date. NH advised that this was due to the new website being set up and that the information would be updated in due course.

Action: NH to arrange for the Committee information to be updated on the Warwickshire PCC website.

4. Covert Powers Presentation

D.Supt Jason Wells explained his role as Head of Special Operations for the Alliance. This included serious and organised crime, surveillance, technical support, economic crime and specialist operations.

JW provided an overview of each of the work areas, along with examples of the types of work that had taken place. JW confirmed that the team worked with partner agencies, such as the prison service.

JS asked about the threat of terrorism. It was agreed that this would be a future agenda item, to be discussed further at Item 9, Any Other Business.

JW was thanked for his attendance at the meeting.

ACTION: DM to circulate the covert powers presentation to Members.

2. Selection of Committee Chair

Committee Members had met prior to the meeting to discuss this item. Members did not think it appropriate for one of them to be the Committee Chair. CC stated that if they were to chair, they would need to be impartial and would not be able to participate in the meeting.

The Members proposed that a Chief Executive chair the meetings. AC explained that as Monitoring Officer and as an employee of the PCC, that the Chief Executives would not be independent and that Members were scrutinising the Chief Executives as well as the PCC.

BL felt that the Committee had been set up to represent people's views and therefore a Member should lead the discussions.

SM questioned what the role of chairing would involve. Would it be a media role for example? AC advised that this could be part of the role but initially the role would be to chair the formal meetings. SM asked that media training be provided if Members were to carry out this role.

After some discussion, SM made the suggestion that the Members took turns to chair the meeting, alphabetically by surname for the next year. This was agreed. CC took over the chairing of the meeting. The next meeting would be chaired by SM.

ACTION: DM to produce rota for chairing of meetings.

Members had found their pre-meeting useful and agreed to continue this. They would meet on the morning of the next meeting.

ACTION: DM to arrange room booking for the pre-meet on 30 April.

5. Complaint Dip Sampling Terms of Reference and Report

The Terms of Reference for complaint dip sampling had been amended to reflect the changes proposed by RB at the previous meeting. Files were now nominated on the day of the dip sampling process. TW and CP were being trained to use the Centurion system, to enable them to view complaint files electronically rather than hard copies that took time to be printed.

CP reported that the investigations were good but the time taken was an issue.

TW explained that the Peter Jones of the West Mercia PCC office had been supporting the dip sampling process but was due to retire shortly. Tracy Hudson from the West Mercia office would provide support going forward.

AC questioned whether the investigations were perhaps overly thorough dependent on the subject matter and that this could be the cause of delays? TW and CP agreed to monitor this at future sessions.

BL highlighted the importance of identifying where lessons could be learned.

SM asked that the complaint type is given on the report form rather than a code. This was agreed.

ACTION: CP and TW to include the complaint type on the dip sampling complaint report.

Items 11 and 12 took place at this section of the meeting, with any members of the public asked to leave the meeting.

The meeting was then continued at item 6 as a public meeting.

6. HMIC Crime Data Integrity Review – Feedback on Visits

The Committee Members provided feedback on the visits they had made.

CC stated how useful the visits had been and particularly that Joy Preece, the Alliance Crime Registrar had been excellent.

TW felt there was no question of the Force hiding crimes following the visits.

BS proposed a public media statement be made about the HMIC Crime Data Review, comparing the report to what was now happening. It was agreed that this would be actioned when the Alliance had made further progress.

SM pointed out that it had been useful to visit the control centre and to meet with the Alliance Crime Registrar and Crime Bureau Manager, but questioned whether what the Members had been shown was the same at grass roots level.

BL suggested that Members could spend time at an operational level with officers on patrol to see the public interface.

BS proposed anonymous visits by the Members to police stations to go out on patrol in police cars or on foot with an officer. This was further discussed and it was felt that it could be difficult for this to be arranged anonymously due to health and safety issues and whether an officer would be available to take the Member on patrol.

CC had previously completed a ride along in a patrol car and advised that forms had to be completed in advance. CC felt that a ride along helped with understanding rather than inspecting the Force.

JS felt that the Committee needed assurances that the Force was doing what they stated on the recent visits.

BS suggested that Members listened in to calls coming into the control room. Members had done this as part of their visit to the control room but felt that it would be beneficial to spend a longer period of time doing this.

It was pointed out that Members had been recruited to attend four meetings per year, but were being asked to attend much more than this, with several visits and training sessions having taken place.

NH suggested that the Members carried out different activities and fed back. It was proposed that Members decide whether they wished to listen in to calls in the control room, go on foot patrol with a police officer or to take part in a ride along. DM would make the arrangements once Members had agreed who would do what.

ACTION: DM to make arrangements for Members to take part in the activities outlined.

NH suggested that a media piece could be released following these visits.

JS proposed that regular performance updates be provided to the Committee on service delivery.

ACTION: DM to see what performance data was available on service delivery and how this could be incorporated into the Work Plan.

7. Rape 'No Crimes'

The Terms of Reference were agreed.

CC, SM and JS had volunteered to participate in the review as CP and TW carried out the monthly complaint dip sampling.

It was pointed out that Members needed to know why they were carrying out the review and what they were going to see. It had also been helpful for Members to visit the crime bureau and control room to understand how crimes were recorded before completing this piece of work. The Alliance had been carrying out their own review of the files, many of which were hard copy, so they had not been available until this time.

NH explained that the review would involve looking through case files and that some of the subject matter could be uncomfortable. Although the review would be independent, he also highlighted the importance of having specialist technical support from the Force.

It was agreed that Martin Lakeman, the Worcestershire Strategic Co-ordinator for Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence, would be part of the review team due to his experience in this field. Others would be sought from partner agencies to support the Members with this piece of work.

NH agreed to progress this piece of work.

ACTION: NH to progress the review.

8. Members Training on Code of Ethics and Cultural Change Programme

SM and CC had attended the training. CP, TW and JS were due to attend.

SM advised that the training was a full day and was a good, open and honest discussion that was well delivered. The training was delivered to managers who in turn cascaded this information to their teams. The courses included a mixture of officers and staff. SM felt that it was worthwhile attending to understand what the Alliance aimed to achieve.

9. Any Other Business

CP felt that of the training completed so far, the Members were missing the strategic overview. He requested that the PCCs provided an overview of their role, practical priorities and how the role had changed since they were elected.

It was agreed that on the morning of the next meeting, BL and RB would provide a one hour briefing covering these areas.

ACTION: DM to schedule a PCC briefing on the morning of 30 April.

JS requested that presentations be provided on terrorism and child sexual exploitation (CSE). The Members agreed that CSE was a priority and asked that this presentation take place at the next meeting, with a presentation on terrorism at the July meeting.

ACTION: DM to arrange for a presentation on CSE to be provided at the next meeting and a presentation on terrorism for the July meeting.

Members requested media training. AC agreed to speak to the West Mercia PCC Media Officer, Gareth Boulton, to produce a training package.

ACTION: AC to arrange for Gareth Boulton to produce an approach to media training.

It was agreed that the following items would be on the agenda for the April meeting:

- A session from PCCs in the morning, prior to the meeting.
- A presentation on child sexual exploitation.
- HMIC Crime Data Integrity Review.
- Update on the rape 'no crimes' review.
- A report on complaints statistics.
- Media training approach.

It was unknown if the Interception of Communication Inspection report had been published.

ACTION: DM to establish if the Interception of Communication Inspection report has been published and to arrange a presentation to the Committee as appropriate.

The Committee Work Plan had the following items for the April meeting that would be moved:

- A member of the Out of Court Disposals Group to be invited to the Committee to provide an update. – To be moved to the July meeting.
- A representative of the Alliance Stop and Search Board to provide a presentation. - To be moved to the October meeting.

ACTION: DM to update the Committee Work Plan to reflect these changes.

RB advised that the new Warwickshire Chief Constable, Martin Jelley, would be starting in April and requested that he be invited to meet the Members at the next meeting.

ACTION: DM to arrange for Martin Jelley to be invited to meet the members at the next meeting.

10. Date of Next Meetings

After the meeting, changes were made to future meeting dates as follows:

10:30am, Thursday 23 July 2015, Stratford District Council
1:30pm, Thursday 29 October 2015, venue to be confirmed

Closed Session

The following items were deemed restricted and members of the public were asked to leave the meeting.

11. HMIC Police Integrity and Corruption Inspection

CC David Shaw attended the meeting to provide an update on progress against the HMIC Police Integrity and Corruption Inspection.

ACTION: DM to add the HMIC Police Integrity and Corruption Inspection to the agenda for the July meeting.

12. Professional Standards Department Internal Review Update

CC David Shaw and ACC Amanda Blakeman provided an update on the internal review of the Alliance Professional Standards Department.

ACTION: DM to circulate performance data from the Alliance Professional Standards Performance Board