

Monthly Assurance Meeting October 2016 – Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday 19 October 2016 @ 14:30

Chair: John Campion

Minutes: Jackie Irvin, Policy Officer, OPCC

Venue PCC Conference Room – Hindlip

Attendance:	Name: John Campion Anthony Bangham Chris Singer	Capacity: Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Chief Constable (CC) T/Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)
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Apologies:	Tracey Onslow Andy Champness	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC) Chief Executive Officer, OPCC (CEX)
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1.	OUTSTANDING MATTERS - actions arising from the September meeting There were no outstanding matters.	ACTION
2.	OPERATIONAL AND REPUTATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS An update was provided on current operational matters including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The police operation for the badger cull, now ended, had gone well. • Livestock in Bewdley – Police had been called to deal with a loose bull in the town centre and rifle officers had brought the incident to an end with the consent of the owner. • The outcome of a crown court case in Hereford of an officer charged with failing to investigate historic offences. The officer had been found not guilty of all charges. • Planning for a forthcoming EDL demonstration to be held in Telford. 	
3.	CHIEF OFFICER MEETING / EXECUTIVE BOARD – UPDATE An update from the Executive Board had been provided at the preceding weekly meeting.	
4.	HOLDING TO ACCOUNT:	
4a	PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN:	
	1) Reducing harm and protecting people in communities – the volume	

of violent crime (VAP) shows a 15% year to date increase compared to 15/16. What is being done to understand and address this?

Findings

1. Domestic violence and alcohol are two of the main factors influencing violent crime levels; however the number of incidents involving these issues has not changed and they are not driving the current increase.
2. A more detailed local analysis has been undertaken and circulated to local policing areas (LPAs) so that they can see what is happening in their areas.
3. Of the 385 additional offences of *violence against the person with injury* 151 have involved dangerous or out of control dogs. It is considered that a rise in the number of dogs from Eastern Bloc countries may be contributing to this. The police only have limited powers if the dogs involved aren't breeds on the official dangerous dogs list. More work with partners is being undertaken and tactical interventions are in place at the LPA level.
4. There has been an increase of 388 offences of *violence against the person without injury*. New offences relating to coercive behaviour and revenge porn are included and are responsible for 32 and 21 offences respectively. It is not known yet what 'normal' is for these offences. The implementation of the multi agency safeguarding hubs (MASH) is also widening the number of reports going the police.
5. The force understand the traditional drivers of violent crime and is putting responses in place to address the increases resulting from them, and will also be seeking further develop its response to emerging issues.

Actions arising:

There were no actions arising.

2) Making sure officers and staff have the skills to support vulnerable victims – What reassurance can the CC give that the level of training in place regarding coercive control, stalking and harassment offences is sufficiently robust and comprehensive?

Findings:

1. The national police lead for stalking and harassment is a West Mercia officer.
2. In June 2015 a new online package dealing with abusive relationships had been introduced and 2363 officers, specials and staff have completed the training.
3. Although there have been over 30 cases relating to coercive control since the legislation came in, there have still not been any prosecutions. An uplift of cases is anticipated following the current vulnerability training.

<p>4. Coercive control is now included on the domestic abuse risk assessment forms (DASH). It is not a direct question asked to the victim, instead all the information given is used to determine whether coercive control is a factor.</p> <p>Actions arising:</p> <p>There were no actions arising.</p> <p>3) Making sure the police provide the right response to incidents at the right time - Within the Crime Bureau there is a back log of approximately 3,300 crimes that require a decision. How is this being addressed?</p> <p>Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ACC for local policing is overseeing the backlog and what is to be done to address it. 2. An anticipation that future system changes would fix problems had led to under performance. This was not acceptable and problems needed to be addressed now. 3. The crime bureau backlog is beginning to reduce but an action plan with a deadline is required. 4. The PCC questioned whether there was an organisational problem causing susceptibility to systematic process failures. The crime bureau being just one example. Managers have become accepting of processes as they are, to move forward and improve systems will require a change in mentality. <p>Actions arising:</p> <p>An update on recovery plan progress to be provided to the November meeting.</p> <p>4) Reducing harm and protecting people in communities – At the September holding to account meeting the CC suggested that it is an opportune time to look at best practise and new ways of working to address domestic burglary. What is the approach and timescales for this?</p> <p>Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The level of domestic burglaries has begun to reduce. 2. Best practise identified through the new investigative model will be issued to officers. <p>Actions arising:</p> <p>There were no actions arising.</p> <p>5) Reducing harm and protecting people in communities - Is there appropriate training and supervision for officers and staff when driving police vehicles, given that 949 force vehicles have been involved in RTCs since 2013?</p>	<p>CC</p>
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	<p>Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The figures include malicious damage, slashed tyres etc, not just accidents; however an increase in the number minor bumps is a concern. Having a range of cars with and without parking sensors is one possible cause. 2. The new telematic system will have an impact. 3. Response officers are trained to a level above the national requirement. <p>Actions arising:</p> <p>There were no actions arising.</p>	
<p>4b</p>	<p>DELIVERY OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:</p> <p>Talent Management – The CC to provide an update on the progress of the talent management programme.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A draft strategy for the alliance has been prepared, covering all aspects of talent management. It is intended to be a three year strategy, with a supporting implementation plan. Once approved, it is intended that the strategy and plan will go live in January 2017. 2. Direct entry could have an impact on future policing, particularly at Inspector level. <p>Actions arising:</p> <p>Once the Talent Management strategy has been to Executive Board it is to be shared with the PCC.</p> <p>Digital Forensics – Has there been any learning from the implementation of the digital forensic kiosks and what impact has the implementation had on performance?</p> <p>Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The PCC had been shown the new forensic kiosks and had been impressed by both the technology and the knowledge and enthusiasm of the person demonstrating the equipment to him. 2. A number of lessons learnt had been identified from the roll out of the technology: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Location is important; they need to be operationally located near custody suites. b. Locations with 24 hour access and dedicated staff are best. c. Supervisors need to be able to recognise high demands d. Train the trainer capacity needs to be increased. <p>The review is ongoing and will be finalised post implementation</p> 3. Systems are in place to monitor use and the aim is to have 200 trained staff by April 2017. 4. The CPS has been asked to clarify whether its evidence requirements mean the content on the device only or the device as well. If it is the former the evidence could be extracted from a confiscated device and 	<p>CC</p>

	<p>then the device handed back to the owner.</p> <p>5. Damage to electronic devices when in transit to the central unit had been a problem. Legal service had identified two issues; poor packaging of items during transit and no record of condition made when devices are initially taken. Processes need to be changed to address the issues.</p> <p>Actions arising: PCC to be given a debrief on the post implementation review March 2017.</p>	DCC
4c	<p>HMIC INSPECTION PROGRAMME / MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SERVICE IMPROVEMENT BOARD (SIB)</p> <p>No items on the agenda.</p>	
5.	<p>AOB:</p> <p>There was none.</p>	
6.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>29 November 2016</p>	