

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR BEDFORDSHIRE

STRATEGIC BOARD MINUTES

Recorded 21 November, 2019

Confirmed with	Kathryn Holloway, Police and Crime Commissioner (KH) <i>Chair</i>
	Garry Forsyth, Chief Constable (GF)
	Gavin Hughes-Rowland, Staff Officer (GHR)
	Trevor Rodenhurst, DCC (TR)
	Phil Wells, Assistant Chief Officer (PW)
	Clare Kelly, Chief Executive, OPCC (CK)
	Susie Moid, Temporary Executive Personal Assistant (minute taker)
Apologies	Jacqueline Sebire, Assistant Chief Constable (JS)
	Zara Brown, Chief Inspector, Staff Officer (ZB)

1. Minutes of last meeting on 29.09.19

Spelling amendments were logged for the September Strategic Board and confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

See Action Log for updates on open actions and where completed actions were confirmed and discharged.

The PCC took A.O.B first and raised the following issues to the Force:

Rape figures were discussed at the Bedfordshire Criminal Justice Board and the Crown Prosecution Service had asked about progress in the area of rape convictions. The PCC requested a more detailed response. The data will be presented in the next Strategic Board. Other areas that require further information at Strategic Board are: the VERU, Serious Violence funding and plans and, as suggested by ACC Sebire two Strategic Boards ago, crime in the elderly community. All these items will be for the December Strategic Board. The Chief Executive asked for data breaches to also be included in the next agenda along with the plans on where mitigations will be worked on for low level or no assurance items in audits.

Action: CK to add the following to the December agenda: Rape, crime in the elderly, audits, data breaches, Serious Violence, VERU.

The PCC asked where the report on the health of the workforce was as agreed with Bedford College. After discussion the following action was agreed.

Action: ACO Wells to establish where we are with the health screenings and with the report the College were doing on the Health of Bedfordshire Police.

2. OPCC Updates

A: Exit Interviews

Exit Interviews are in hand and will be reported upon at the December Strategic Board.

B: Estates:

The PCC had noted on the estates paper provided by the Force that the NET team (Neighbourhood Enforcement Team) had been located into Houghton Regis. She asked when this was. It was the summer of 2019. They may remain there but this is being discussed by the Exec who will confirm the future location to the PCC.

Action: David Old to establish when the NET officially launches and to ensure CC and PCC do a shared communication item

Further to the estates item the PCC enquired as to when the windows would be available for Luton and HQ.

Action: ACO Wells to establish when will the window quotes and timeline will be ready for replacement at HQ and Luton

C: Uplift Plan

Discussing PEQF the PCC was keen to ensure details on exact numbers in classrooms is well known.

Action: ACO Wells - referencing PEQF to confirm how many officers would be in the classroom (is it 144) in year 2022?

D: Protect the Protectors

The PCC approved the communication plan that was presented reminding all that a joint photograph between Bluelight should be utilised. More detail is required on this topic moving forward.

E: Custody inspection

The OPCC provided the Force with a paper of the key issues that HMICFRS presented to the Force after the unscheduled inspection. Key points to note were that the OPCC wanted assurance reference recording standards and that CCTV was working appropriately. The Force confirmed both these elements were being managed through PEEL and that CCTV is working in Luton custody. The OPCC will be updated through attending PEEL on progress of the actions but was pleased to note that the DCC had already written back to the HMICFRS with an update on the most prevalent issues.

F: The OPCC recorded items they would like detail on for the December Strategic Board. These included, Custody Build Action Plan, Audits, Data Protection.

3. CC Update

The Chief Constable updated the PCC and OPCC on the most pressing topics for him. These were PEQF and PBB. In reference to PEQF, the Chief has written to the Head of College of Policing.

Action: Chief Constable to share his letter reference PEQF plans to the College with the PCC

In relation to PBB, the Chief reported that all was progressing well. However, a pause on some of the key moves was required because there was a need to understand the national position on funding, which may not be until January 2020. The Chief reported that CIT had taken on an extra load and would be one of the first areas to be supported by incoming recruits, as soon as is possible.

Action: OPCC to support CIT with a moral boost for all the extra work they have taken on

The outcome of the pensions challenge in court was also something key to ensuring a well-planned budget moving forward.

4. Efficiency

Efficiency was covered by the PCC, update offered as part of the Chief Constable's update at item three.

5. Effectiveness

A: Crime Figures

The DCC presented the key areas to the PCC and OPCC explaining that overall performance is moving in the correct direction and he is still pleased to see under reported crimes going up which translates to our officer's understanding the need to support victims.

The DCC was asked by the PCC if there was a correlation in solved rates going down with CIT coming to be. The DCC thinks this is too early to say but will keep a watching brief on the situation.

The Chief Executive asked the Chief if he is happy with the level of RUIs, specifically the amount with possession of weapons. The CC confirmed he was.

B: Serious Violence

In reference to serious violence the DCC explained that robbery still remains within upper control limits which is the average for England and Wales and is not a concern for this Board at this time. Gun crime continues to experience a long term increase. The PCC praised the DCC's approach to presenting the data at the Strategic Board and asked it continues in this style.

C: VERU

A paper was not supplied to the Strategic Board as requested however a conversation was had around the way forward with a focus on engaging partners and ensuring the quality of the Home Office returns is regarded with high importance by all. The OPCC and Force will work collaboratively with partners to meet the challenge of this exciting opportunity to invest in our young people.

6. Leadership and Culture

A: Complaints

The Chief Executive applauded the way in which the Chief's office conducted their responses to complaints as this meant the public are receiving a good service when they raise issues of dissatisfaction, this is evidenced by the low number of formal complaints about the Chief Constable that the OPCC receives.

B: Culture

The Chief described that although he appreciates the workforce may be tired of surveys they do show us very interesting results that must be worked on by the Executive Team. They are essential in understanding the workforce. The PCC confirmed her support for them but appreciated why people would be tired and emphasised the fact that we must evidence what we do with survey results to keep people engaged.

7. Quarterly reporting

A: Demand

Rape is showing as red on the 5x5 risk matrix. The PCC has already asked for this to come back to the next Strategic Board in more detail. The Chief Executive praised the design of the new format of the demand papers. The PCC reminded all of the importance of these documents as they can be used to evidence the progress the Force makes to the Government.

B: Capital reports

The Capital reports were presented by the ACO and reflect work currently underway across the estate. The PCC approved these papers with no changes.

8. AOB

The Chief Executive updated the meeting on the progress of the Signpost Post Implementation Review. She thanked the Force for Phil Eaton's time but requested more of it to ensure the quality framework he designed was implemented. She asked for another month to work on the following items and will report back in January.

- Quality Assurance
- Policies Updated
- Recruitment to be implemented on agreed shortages
- Options for structure and management moving forward
- Process of contact and update for victims

Decision point: Force agreed to more of Phil Eaton's time to be given to improving the quality assurance in Signpost.

Next meeting: 11.00am 16 December 2019 (Exec Conference Room)