



POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR BEDFORDSHIRE

STRATEGIC BOARD MINUTES

Recorded 14th May, 2019

Confirmed with	Kathryn Holloway, Police and Crime Commissioner (KH) <i>Chair</i>
	Garry Forsyth, Deputy Chief Constable (GF)
	Phil Wells, Assistant Chief Officer (PW)
	Clare Kelly, Chief Executive, OPCC (CK)
	Gavin Hughes-Rowland, Staff Officer (GHR)
	Sally Wright, Executive Personal Assistant (minute taker)
	Mark Upex, Superintendent (stayed for the BEBIT presentation only) (MU)

1. Welcome

KH welcomed the group and explained that the meeting would begin with a presentation from Superintendent Mark Upex regarding BEBIT.

2. BEBIT presentation

MU discussed the below presentation:

The main key points from the presentation are listed below:

- A solvability tool that predicts whether a crime is likely to be solved. This is based on responses to 8 key questions.
- All crimes recorded are ones which carry a custodial sentence. We are not looking at offences such as Hate Crime or Domestic Violence.
- The recording of crimes is on the balance of probability.
- The first sample was small, 1,000. More samples have taken place and the results have been consistent throughout.
- BEBIT created because of the rise in VAP recording. This will reduce the pressure on resources.
- There is no direct financial costs, however officers will have to be allocated time to be trained.
- KH asked what period of time this is being assessed over. MU explained this has not been decided yet but he will receive monthly feedback.
- This has not been discussed at the IAG yet.
- If the offender has a criminal history this will be flagged and picked up in the investigation stage.
- Bedfordshire Police are currently 9th in the Country for crime recording.

- KH expressed her concern that she was not sighted on BEBIT before the Strategic Board meeting. KH has to justify the use of this to the public so she should have been involved in the decision to endorse it.
- Training has already began

3. OPCC Updates and or formal requests to the Force

Comms plan for BLRF:

GF and Superintendent Nick Lyall have the overall responsibility over the Comms plan. However, Sarah Cox is Chair and David Old is the Deputy Chair. There is an overall engagement across Bedfordshire in preparation for Brexit. This will be discussed further at the next Strategic Board.

4. CC Update

BWV – All officers have a BWV and there should not be an occasion where they are unable to switch theirs on. GF explained that the officers see the resource as a positive tool for them. However, we are reliant on the officer uploading the footage that they want. The process of this is changing and shortly everything will be downloaded without the officer being able to control or chose this.

Use of force – The recording of this is the best it has been but we are still not entirely compliant. There are concerns that officers might see the scrutiny as a negative step. There will be a monthly reporting through ACC performance board where all uses of force that relate to an officer are flagged.

Personal safety training – This was updated in 2017, all officers now get PSD training and this is closely monitored.

GF said that whilst we have made significant changes we need to keep an eye on it and not take let standards lower.

5. Efficiency

PW said that we have a diverse mix of intakes this year which has been very encouraging. Hayley Hunter has moved into recruitment team and is doing a fantastic job.

Due to the new HR system we are keeping details of who and why probationers are leaving separately and this will be part of the agenda for the next Strategic Board.



6. Effectiveness

Crime performance figures and comparisons were discussed as per the below presentation:

7. Leadership and Culture

Chief Constable Complaints:

There have been three Chief Constable complaints since the last Strategic Board, one of which has been referred to the IOPC as it mentions Northern Ireland.

Culture:

Better for Beds will be rearranged for when the new Chief Constable starts. This is because they may have their own vision of what it should look like and involve.

8. Reporting against the Police and Crime Plan

Two reports submitted to the OPCC on progress outside of the meeting.

9. Quarterly reporting

Restricted Documents

10. AOB

Force's response to HMIC Child Protection Post-Inspection Review. JS discussed the below report:

Key points:

- Custody – On a monthly basis JS is provided with details of children that have been in custody. JS ensures she looks at these personally and is confident we have the right governance in place. There are some delays in the force sending referrals to the MASH, this is due to volume and capacity. Overtime and additional officers have been allocated to reduce the risk of this happening. JS explained that any high risk child is sent through immediately but it is medium to low risk referrals that can experience a delay.
- CMIT – 7 officers are within CMIT but 5 are allocated to historical cases. KH expressed her concerns over historic cases taking priority over current live cases. Reassurance was given over this as CAVAA would be linked in and in a lot of historic cases, the offence is still happening.



- PW has had conversations with Steve Hickman from the Home Office to look at where we have spent money. The Home Office have recently given a grant to Lincolnshire for CSE.
- Think child – continue to be rolled out. Patrol officers do know what to look for.

National County Lines Coordinator Report:

Key points:

- National County Lines - Nothing unexpected was shown within the report. When the threat is high BOSON take responsibility. CLVT (County Lines Victim Triage) has been set up.
- MDS – MRN referral in. Gives suspected victims housing for 28 days. MDS can be used as a defence for county lines offences, this has caused controversy and it has not yet been used in Bedfordshire.
- The use of the theatrical group Alterego was discussed as this has been rolled out in schools across Bedfordshire. KH did have concerns that when she went to watch one of these plays that the actors were answering questions at the end which were incorrect. It was suggested that officers should attend the performances so that they can answer any questions that are raised.

Briefing the PCC on the Sexual Harassment in the workplace National Strategy:

Key points:

- Sexual Harassment – Currently we have 3 PSD cases with inappropriate behaviour where it is thought there has been an abuse of power. All the investigations are ongoing and we need to understand what our position is within our force. A Survey will be launched in July and the Communications team will share this.
- CK said that we need to know what we are doing with the survey results and how we manage expectations. There needs to be a strategy plan on how to encourage officers and staff to complete the survey.
- There are very few female Sergeants and Inspectors being promoted. KH has concerns over this and wants to be kept up to date on this.