



POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR BEDFORDSHIRE

STRATEGIC BOARD MINUTES

Recorded 12th March, 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)
	Zara Brown, Chief Inspector (ZB)
	Sally Wright, Executive Personal Assistant (minute taker)

1. Welcome

KH welcomed the attendees and actions were updated as per the action log.

2. OPCC Updates and or formal requests to the Force

The OPCC Commissioning was discussed with a brief outline on which organisations money has been granted too and the reasons why. CK will send out the document with the full list and details. A lot of the focus was around early intervention and preventative measures, balanced with victim services. GF said he did not think there was anything controversial with any of the organisations or charities discussed or plans for the Police bids or Signpost additions.

GF said that the annual plan is out of sequence but is moving at a fast pace. The main changes are around the tactical delivery plans which are making sure there is a good link to the strategy going into the local delivery function. The force priorities are: protecting people against exploitation; protecting people against domestic abuse, rape, serious sexual offences; protecting people against domestic burglary; protecting people from cybercrime; tackling organised crime, gangs and serious violence; supporting vulnerable people; and preventing drug and substance misuse. The Chief Constable is yet to sign it off but there are not a huge amount of changes so he does not envisage this to be an issue. The local and national priorities are within the Police and Crime Plan priorities which there are no changes in.

There are also no changes within the national strategic policing requirements. There is a tactical demand plan for each of the departments and they are broken down within the three areas.

KH asked for a report on the retention of probationers. In 2018 26 left the force within their two year probation period. PW has requested this data from the People Board so he can look at the reasons why they have left. PW said that a lot of the probationers are not signing up to the pension scheme indicating they are not seeing it as a lasting career.



CK wanted to discuss the health and safety near miss forms and the structure of where they go and where they are reported to. CK asked for a summary of any current issues that the force think should be looked at because of it. This will be discussed further at the next Strategic Board meeting.

The risk mitigation plan for the June CSE Conference was discussed as GF and KH have had a discussion with Phil Simpkins CEO of Bedford Borough and the Mayor Dave Hodson. A speaker had been inadvertently approached but subsequently it was discovered by partners that the speaker advocates that no victim reports rape to police. GF and KH are in complete agreement that a platform should not be given to somebody who is going to expand those views which we profoundly disagree with. The attitudes and the activity of the officers in all three of the incidents of rape shown in Predators episode 24 Hours in Police Custody entirely discount of this having any rational basis.

3. Chief Constable Update

GF provided an update on behalf of the Chief Constable.

NPAS was discussed. The Chief is drafting letter in response to Mark Birds-Williamson and John Robbins to the Chief and PCC notifying us of the removal of the dampening to the cost apportionment for NPAS this year. The same letter is sent every 3 years and the cost has gone up every year. It will cost an extra £100,000. The wording of the letter is to invite them to suspend the increase in costs and then make it very clear to them that if they do not do this then it makes the sustainability of NPAS into question.

4. Efficiency

PW provided a PBB update. Everything has been agreed that was brought to the panel last time. At the moment we are looking at what the implementation plan looks like. Unison will be involved with regards to the consultation material. The staff will have the opportunity to give counter proposals to the consultation. The shift allowances will then be looked at and then we can go live. Emerald, SCIT and Community Crime will likely be pushed through by July 2019. The majority of the other departments will be September or October with Estates and Finance dropping into the end of the year or beginning of 2020.

The second stage of PBB will start at the end of April for three months.

5. Effectiveness

The crime performance template from the performance board was discussed. We have seen an increase in crime. This time last year we were on average 130 crimes per day and we are now on 156 per day. The increase that we have seen is consistent with national figures. There are encouraging knife crime and hate crime reductions. KH said that we are not hearing of successes, ZB will ensure that KH is sited on these. There has been a reduction in outstanding suspects. There has been a cleansing exercise with regards to Athena so the current figures should be accurate.

ACTION: ZB to send Op Maze results to KH.

ACTION: GF to provide a spotlight summary at the next Strategic Board.

6. Leadership and Culture

The Culture Board is not scheduled until next Friday so no update.

Discussed Better for Beds and the theme being celebrating Bedfordshire Police's successes. The event will include the high profile domestic abuse case where the victim was male, it will look at this case from the side of the Officer. The MC will be Martin Darlow and there will be a panel to answer direct questions from the audience. Amanda Bell from PSD and KH will make themselves available to be on this panel where their diaries permit them to do so. A discussion was held around KH and CK concerns over using Kings House as a venue due to its link to controversial homosexual conversion workshops. KH and CK do not believe the force should associate themselves with this venue as it goes against the culture and ethics it promotes. GF said that this is not a concern and they have gone through the Regional and National Ethics comity. It was agreed that instead of five sessions being held at Kings House and one in Luton that it will be reduced by one and therefore two sessions will be at an alternative venue.

7. Reporting against the Police and Crime Plan

Discussed above in agenda items 5 and 6

8. Quarterly reporting

Nothing scheduled.

9. AOB

There was no representative at the Key Strategic Board. This was the CSP delivery group update meeting which is the one where they are wanting to make decisions on funds. CK has suggested that Staff Officers and JS and CK meet up to run through all the partner meetings.

ACTION: CK and ZB to meet to run through all the public meetings that needs force and OPCC attendance.

Wendy Williams has requested a comment from KH about their recommendations around child protection. GF provided an overview and advised that the report is predominately positive with a couple of areas that require improvement. Such as, when children are detained in custody and the risk of missing children. The concerns are around documentation (accurately recording) and the delays in having an appropriate adult present. An internal audit has been carried out on custody which highlighted that we are not in the place we thought we were. However, GF pointed out that processes are being carried out correctly but it is not necessarily being documented. A discussion was has around mental health cases and it was agreed that custody is not a suitable place for people with mental health issues. GF said we have not detained anybody under S136 however this does not mean that we have not had people in police custody that are subject to mental health assessment. This is an area for development and it is being monitored.

MASH has a high work load for staff which we are aware of but GF said he hopes we can get a standardisation of practice then this will ease some of that pressure.



GF reinstated that this is not a re-inspection, this is a revisit, which uses different terminology in terms of language.

KH stated that she was pleased with the progress that has been made since 2016 and such was reiterated by Matt Parr.

KH explained that the last Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel was a very passionate and successful meeting. A representative from Crest attending and provided very positive feedback. Montel Neufville raised the concern that positive feedback on officers is given following a ride along is often 'hidden'. This is absolutely not the case but it was agreed more could be done around this. CK suggested we upload more good news stories on Beds Alert and social media.

A discussion was held around the signage for Lime Street as it is not clear where it is for anyone that does not know the town well. PW will link in with signage on this matter.

ACTION: PW to link in with CK around the signage for Lime Street station

BedfordBid do not want to donate the £5,000 they did last year to cover parking by Lime Street as they do not feel there are as many marked cars as they would like. It was never promised that there would be marked vehicles present, the money given was given on the basis that Police Officers on their way to and from work would be parking their own vehicles there to minimise their journey to Lime Street and so that they could pick up on what they saw too and from the station. When KH was last in Lurke Street car park she noted 4 marked police vehicle so they have had a service that is above and beyond what was promised to them. KH will ask write directly to BedfordBid and ask them to reconsider this.

ACTION: ZB and Paul Ayling to provide a briefing note on exactly what they have used Lurke Street car park for.