



## POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR BEDFORDSHIRE

### STRATEGIC BOARD MINUTES

27 March 2018

Conference Room 2, Beds Police HQ

#### PRESENT:

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Kathryn Holloway, Police and Crime Commissioner (KH)</b>
	<b>Jon Boutcher, Chief Constable (JB)</b>
	<b>Mark Lay, Acting Assistant Chief Constable (ML)</b>
	<b>Phil Wells, Chief Finance Officer (PW)</b>
	<b>Sharn Basra, Detective Chief Superintendent (SB)</b>
	<b>John Murphy, Staff Officer to the Chief Constable</b>
	<b>Clare Kelly, Chief of Staff, OPCC (CK)</b>
	<b>Anna Akerman, Director of Policy, OPCC (AA)</b>
	<b>Nuala Goldsboro, Executive Assistant to the PCC - minutes (NG)</b>
<b>Apologies:</b>	<b>Garry Forsyth, Deputy Chief Constable (GF)</b>
	<b>Jackie Sebire, T/Assistant Chief Constable</b>

- Minutes agreed from meeting held on 01 March 2018 (February meeting) - two spelling corrections made on p.2 & p.3
- Action Updates are recorded on the rolling action log

#### **Victims Hub:**

ML said he was looking at solvability figures within the Hub and will update soon. CK said Sean O'Neil from Cyber was looking for a base in the Hub as Sean is currently based with Cyber.

KH advised that there will soon be an update regarding funding found for Mental Health Triage.

### **OPCC Update/Engagement Pack:**

CK talked through a presentation on the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) as several of the Executive Team might not be clear on members of the OPCC, why they attend certain meetings and what they do.

CK mentioned that she went to an Independent Advisory Group (IAG) in Luton and reported back that they don't feel that the communication between them and the Force is as good as it could be. CK asked if we could re-check the list for any critical incidents. SB advised that IAG attended the Gold Group Meeting. CK said apparently they weren't informed of a recent shooting. ML advised that we need to be mindful of the pace people are informed at, he also said the push back on this to say KINS were informed, as were the Chief Execs, and that we are giving early Comms as much as we can. CK said that the Comms list needs to be updated with IAG to ensure it doesn't happen again but the OPCC heard great things from the IAG about the usual levels of communications, this was a once off.

**Action: JB said that he will look into the entire Comms Strategy regarding IAG.**

**Action: JB asked CK for information regarding the shooting so he can write to Luton IAG. He also asked for details on work being done on taxi drivers which can then be released to the public.**

### **Chief Constable Update**

**Leighton Buzzard** was suggested as a pilot area for community teams to undertake public engagement work as over the last two years there has been consistent community problems within Leighton Buzzard. KH suggested we use social media while doing this. There will be individuals who may be critical, so for officers to do this they need to have backing from the senior team. JB said he would like to know why there is hesitancy around this especially as there is a lack of community confidence within Leighton Buzzard. ML said we have been speaking to IAG members so that we can access these communities (this is ongoing at the moment). JB said parish meetings are also being arranged and that he wants to take this away and discuss with Dave Boyle and report back. PW said this links into the minister's note about how we can 'interact digitally'. KH added that all local authorities use social media and that it's a natural progression. JB pointed out that we need to be more modern in our thinking.

**Local Authority children's homes:** AA said this could marry up with Community Policing. KH said she would like a report back with regards to irregularity so we can prove how much contact we have with partners. ML said the issue is mapping out all of the looked after children. ML will look at this and share back. KH said she has been told by local authorities that we don't know where these young vulnerable people are and that we need to know the demand coming into this area. ML said there is significant effort looking at those who move

county and keeping track of them from a criminality point of view. JB is concerned that if a child came into the county that we were not made aware of how they would be identified and that they should be reviewed by multi-agency partners.

**Action: ML to confirm the contact we have with Local Authority partners re children's homes, is there a representative for each?**

**Action: JB suggested a letter should be sent from him and Trevor to them asking for good will notification.**

**Estates:** – KH asked about the current position on Greyfriars - PW said the decision is that we are not extending the waiting time requested by the clients of Lambert Smith Hampton and will look at what the appropriate course of action is to move this forward.

**Effectiveness:**

The next PPOG Meeting is due soon (date TBA). We are waiting to see further details when the report comes out. KH asked what our general response is with regard to areas of improvement. JB advised that the new control room was one of the requirements (as per their recommendations) and that there is lots of other work in place and being tested by the DCC. There is also an audit of what we are doing to keep on track of our delivery plan. JB also suggested that we invite the new HMIC Staff Officer (Linda McCarthy's replacement) to come and meet us to talk through what we are doing.

**Action: KH asked for a note for bullet points on HMIC Effectiveness activity - JB will provide this.**

**Knife crime:** – the presentation from Juliette Everett on knife crime has been postponed until the April Strategic Board. ML said he could provide further updates also – lots of work with the prison (organised gangs), work with schools (year 7 upwards) and that theatres and charities are also on board. KH said the Ministry of Justice are very impressed with work going on with Bedfordshire Police and the Prison Service.

**Chief Constable Complaints:** Nothing to report.

**Leadership and Culture:**

**Op Qualis:** CK gave an update from her meeting yesterday with the region reference to criminal justice. Two key things – the commissioning work and also victim and witness care (opportunities for further training). JB said he is happy with that. KH asked what more we can do to train young officers and also older officers in service who have become complacent. SB said we have invested well in training, cascading through to teams and in disclosure training at sergeant level. He also said that it is clear, because of capacity and demand,

instead of QA and sign off sergeants are just signing off. SB said the forms have been changed so that this no longer gets missed. It was suggest that we invest more in our sergeants. KH pointed out that we have had 3 months of unacceptable figures and that the response going back to Adrian Foster (CJB) is that we are investing and dealing with this proactively. SB said that from August all our trends were heading in the right direction until January when figures declined and that each month all stats are looking at highlighting cases: Last month - Domestic Abuse cases were looked into where victims retracted statements and each one was contacted to check that this was the correct decision. Lastly, we need to challenge the CPS - we are now going to record how many cases we have pushed back on and where the CPS have changed their minds. KH said Nav Malik and Northgate warned that with Athena coming in this could cause problems for the 6 month integration.

**Action: ML follow this up with Nav Malik re Athena integration & Op Qualis.**

HMI - Crest advisory – JB advised that there have been no early findings. With regards to the PEQF system, KH asked if we are going to have to apply extra training to those officers who don't have degrees and as we don't have the resources, what are we planning to do. PW said the report from Rachel Wilkinson (HR) on this shows that we either need to push back on this, or accept and put a plan in place. JB said he told the College of Policing that he doesn't support this and that two other forces have also said they don't plan to go along with this. JB said he is worried that we could sleepwalk into this. There is a general concern that this would put a stop to vocational policing. KH said we should push back and ask that the entire scheme is modified. PW said he is not sure if this is part of the Policing Minister's requirements.

#### **Finance:**

PW talked through the Capital Programme - Appendix B – first year 18/19 ICT strategy. Appendix C shows what funding looks like over 4 year period.

#### **AOB:**

- PW / JB said we will meet with Steve Hegman to discuss the data we have under Custody.
- CK said that there have been some communication issues with regards to the Victims Hub and asked for this to be noted if Chief Officers found not all officers fully understood the Hub. PW suggested that a brief/blog needs to come from the Chief Constable to update officers.