

**POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR BEDFORDSHIRE
DELIVERY AND BEATING CRIME MINUTES – PART 2**

21st October 2021

Attending:	Festus Akinbusoye, Police Crime Commissioner (FA)
	Garry Forsyth, Chief Constable (GF)
	Phil Wells, Chief Finance Officer (PW)
	Sharn Basra, Assistant Chief Constable (SB)
	Madelyn Doggrell, Staff Officer DCC (MD)
	Rachel Glendenning, Staff Officer (RG)
	Gemma McCormack, PA to PCC and Chief Executive (GMc)

PUBLIC SECTION

FA welcomed everyone to the second part of the meeting which is the public section of the meeting. FA noted that the name of this meeting has now changed from Strat Board to Delivery and Beating Crime and explained the reason why the name has changed was because he wanted the meeting to be a reflection of exactly what I am here to do which is to hold the Chief Constable accountable for the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the objective of the Police and Crime Plan is to beat crime in Bedfordshire and to support victims.

ITEM 9: OPCC UPDATES

9.1 Police and Crime Plan, 100-day summary and Year One plan

FA updated that overall, we are heading in the right direction in terms of Officer numbers as one of the priorities was around the Community Policing Team. We have an agreed number for the Establishment and in some parts of the County we are seeing more of a Police presence and this impact on this in terms of Residents reporting anti-social behaviour and crimes is very positive. We are going to be digging a bit more in to this to try and replicate it across the rest of the County. In regards to early intervention for crimes we are going through the funding and those who want to put in bids for services across the County, we will be finalising the outcomes shortly for those who have put in bids for 2022/2023. A huge number of bids have been around domestic abuse and violence against women and girls, perpetrator training. We also plan to run the Summer of Fun again next year for the full 6 weeks of the school summer holidays.

ITEM 10: COMMUNITY POLICING

10.1 Community Policing Model Establishment Update

SB discussed the Hub Model and advised that the current establishment is 59/67 which is 4 down from the previous month (2 resigned and 2 moved into other areas). The difference of 8 staff have now been identified, 1 is an external applicant and 7 are internal and we are currently looking at dates to move them across from their current teams. FA asked if there was anything that can be done to fill in the current gaps? GF advised that we do not want to have any abstractions if we can avoid it but we are determined to get to a full establishment and maintain those numbers. We are looking at identifying the depleted areas and using community teams to fill those gaps.

There was a discussion regarding the recent posts on social media about Flitwick. GF advised that historically crime levels are lower in this area than in previous years. FA shared that he is concerned that crimes are starting to move areas such as Woburn Sands and GF updated that the Force have two daily meetings where crime trends and locality areas are discussed. GF advised that he will keep FA updated on anything that is raised in relation to the North/Central areas.

SB updated that the establishment for PCSO's is currently 43/47 and there is a new intake on Monday.

FA advised that he is concerned about deployment and that the level of patrolling in the county is better in some areas than it is in others with Central Bedfordshire having the least amount of visible patrols. GF confirmed that we are working through this and are keen to expedite but at this time we do not have a high standard of Community Officer. GF advised that they are implementing a Social Media Academy however FA raised concern that not everyone has or uses the Internet or social media and that this may be something that needs further looking into. GF advised that currently there are 67 Community Officers who will all be involved in the Social Media Academy.

SB updated that all Community Policing Teams should be tasked and briefed at the Community Setting Priority Meetings. FA asked if the calendar of these meetings could be made available for the public to see and he has received feedback that this is not currently in place and that communities and Local Councillors have not always been aware of when these meetings are happening. SB advised that this should be in place already but will check and make sure that it is.

Action – SB to ensure that all community priority setting dates are made available.

FA discussed the information for police officers which is available on police.co.uk and should include photographs and contact information. FA advised that this information is not up to date and said that it would be good for residents and communities to be able to know who their local officers are. GF advised that he will look into the current process and how it is working in terms of ensuring that the correct information is available. GF advised that within the current review that is taking place, he will incorporate that Councillors are updated on who their Sergeant is for each area.

Action – GF to report back to the next meeting.

ITEM 11: EFFECTIVENESS

11.1 Signpost Update

N/A.

11.2 Victim Satisfaction in Force (VCOP Dissatisfaction/Complaints)

N/A.

11.3 Police Data trends including stop and search breakdown

SB advised that as this meeting is earlier in the month than usual, he did not have the time to prepare the stop and search data for September but said that he will bring this information to the next meeting,

11.4 Recruitment

PW shared that the target for the organisation uplift for 2021/2022 is currently 1,379/1,384 Officers which is 5 away from the year end target. PW also advised that any Officers we recruit from now until year end will eat into the uplift, the figures are currently;

54 – Year 1
53 – Year 2
72 – Year 3

There are 50 more Officers at year end than the uplift target allows us to have. In the October intake there are 13 Officers from the black, Asian and other ethnic minorities and of the December intake we are anticipating that there will be 20.

PW shared that the turnover of Officers is going down by 8% where we had originally predicted 10%. GF advised that we will be higher than the National average as we have more people currently in the category of those who are most likely to leave.

PW updated that as of this Monday with the PCSO's intake we will have 8 which will take us above the establishment.

11.5 Retention (attrition) figures with protected characteristic breakdown for Officers, Staff and Specials

FA asked regarding the 8% turnover of Officers and what this will do for our workforce overall? PW advised that he will provide this information at the next meeting.

Action – PW to provide Officer turnover information at the next meeting.

12: VOICE OF THE PUBLIC

12.1 Issues Raised to the OPCC (File Quality, Tutors and Out of Court Disposals):

FA discussed the concerns around how long it has taken for Officers to arrive at 999 emergency calls. FA spoke about a case that had been brought to his attention where someone had contacted the Police to report drug dealing that was taking place outside their home and that some drugs had been left behind in their front garden. They were asked to bring the drugs to the Police Station however they were concerned to do this as they did not want to have the drugs in their car and also if they had been pulled over by the police on their way to the Station. GF advised that the response time could be as a result of other issues that are happening at the same time. FA agreed to provide any issues like this to GF's attention in future.

GF updated that there is a new 5 Tier Graded Response System which was put in place on the 1st October 2021 and advised that so far it is working reasonably well. GF reported that Thrive Guidance has also been reissued to all call handlers and staff in the control room. GF shared that the aim is to answer all 999 calls within 10 seconds, however for the past 3 consecutive months the control room has received over 10,000 999 calls but the workload pressure should not affect the quality of the support being provided. GF also advised that dip sampling is being carried out during every shift in the Control Room.

SB updated in terms of dissatisfaction said that 29 cases are now closed and 18 remain open but there is no target in place in terms of resolution at this time. FA asked how long it takes for Customer Services to respond to a complaint? SB advised that he will provide this information at the next meeting.

Action – SB to provide information regarding complaint response times.

13: VERU

13.1 VERU Monthly Performance:

SB shared that in Quarter 1 35 referrals were received and in Quarter 2 38 referrals were received in relation to 14 – 17-year olds which are split across the County. SB shared that excellent engagement work has been happening. FA commended Kim, her team and SB for the excellent work they have done and continue to do.

ITEM 14 NEXT AGENDA

Community Policing Attrition piece.
Violence around women and girls – this is on the agenda for December.
Control Room updates.

ITEM 15: INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

15.1 Information document to be loaded onto website for the public: to items 9 -13



15 Q2.docx

GF updated that the HMIC Inspection will finish this week and will report feedback at the next meeting.

Action – GF to provide feedback from the HMIC Inspection.

Date of Next Meeting:

25th November 2021