



**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER  
FOR BEDFORDSHIRE**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW MEETING**

15 December 2022

No.	Business Review Meeting	Actions
	<p><b>Actions Update</b></p> <p>All actions were reviewed and have been updated on the log.</p>	
	<p><b>Head of Governance and Transparency</b></p> <p>The last few weeks have been extremely busy for the Governance team with JAC, Delivery Board and now prepping for Police and Crime Panel.</p> <p><b>Police and Crime Panel</b></p> <p>The panel is due to take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023, the focus of this meeting will be precept and Budget – requests for information have been sent out to the Team.</p> <p>The Chief Constable confirmation hearing took place on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December – position and appointment confirmed – information on the website.</p> <p><b>Joint Audit Committee (JAC)</b></p> <p>JAC took place on the 23 December 2022, the OPCC presented the strategic risk register.</p> <p><b>FOI/DP requests</b></p> <p>FOIs continue to come in and be managed by BC.</p> <p><b>Independent Custody Visitors / Dog Welfare Scheme</b></p> <p>Recruitment continues for ICVs. We currently have 32 ICVs at present with several undergoing vetting. The next induction session has been booked in for the end of January 2023. The ICV Panel session went very well, the PCC attended and thanked all ICVs for their dedication towards the scheme. ICVs completed mandatory training at the Panel.</p>	



	<p><b>Stop and Search/ Use of Force</b></p> <p>Recruitment has been successful – 2 new members and a deputy chair.</p> <p><b>Complaints</b></p> <p>Work is being completed in this area – Dip sampling and liaising with the Force.</p> <p>Reviews - one outstanding.</p> <p><b>Decisions</b></p> <p>All known decisions are now on the website. All team members are asked to remember the process in regards to decisions, if your department needs to draft a decision or you are aware of a decision made in a meeting, please let KB and BC know as we need to ensure nothing is being missed.</p> <p><b>Website Compliance – Specified Information Order</b></p> <p>Accessibility work has been completed on the OPCC website by BC and the website provider. The accessibility statement on the website has been updated in December 2022. The Cabinet Office is re-auditing the website w/c 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023. BC has briefed the office on accessibility and what is required from the team such as ensuring font type and size on emails is accessible, and how to use the ‘accessibility checker’ on Microsoft and for PDF documents.</p> <p>Documents will not be uploaded on the website unless they are fully accessible. If you have any questions or would like a run-through of how to make a document accessible, please contact BC.</p>	
	<p><b>Violence and Exploitation Reduction Unit (VERU)</b></p> <p><b>Community &amp; Engagement</b></p> <p>All projects have been commissioned and paperwork has been received back.</p> <p>The Community &amp; Engagement Lead has been out visiting all of the commissioned programmes.</p> <p><b>Communications</b></p> <p>VERU comms team attended various stakeholder meetings: regional county lines working group; pan-Beds monthly Child Exploitation and Missing meeting; police MVAWG board; Safer Streets governance and communications board; planning for future holiday activities and food programme.</p>	



VERU branded merchandise has arrived for our community events and we are working closely with Safer Streets events to attend their events as well.

'VERU in View' has been sent out stating what has been happening across the VERU landscape.

### **Data Analysis and Research**

Expanded the scope and requirements for the Strategic Needs Assessment that is being compiled. Refreshed the Outreach Summary to show community engagement and events the VERU have been involved in.

New client recording programme has started in VERU – OASIS – that will allow a consistent approach to how we manage the young people referred into and out to the VERU YIS programmes.

### **Education and Research Lead**

Linked in with Gangline regarding their involvement of gang members and absenteeism from education. Worked with Absenteeism Schools on the pilot to introduce and engage with a VERU Commissioned provider Dan Gaze Support team to build rapport and support YP in stages of their truancy and or absenteeism.

### **YIS (Youth Intervention Specialists) Work**

Referral meetings and events attended are very similar to previous month:

- Multi-agency child exploitation meeting MACE
- Contextual Safeguarding (CBC South)
- MAGPan
- Serious Youth Violence Panel
- CSE and Missing SPOC meeting
- Boson Silver
- Central Bedfordshire College Health and Wellbeing event
- Knife Crime/ Gang Presentation – Central Bedfordshire College
- Dallow Road – Op Weaver

### **Events – managed by Community & Engagement Lead**

- Working with OPCC for the Youth Conference – VERU to plan morning event and OPCC the afternoons. Expected date of events in Feb 2023



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Hope Hack – Damilola Taylor funded event to seek Youth voices – planned for end of March 23.</li> <li>• Kick-Off@3 – developing the next round for Bedfordshire – Youth led football tournament to choose one team to represent Beds at a final tournament in July 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b>Risks – nothing to report on this period</b></p> <p><b>Commissioning</b></p> <p>Commissioning cycle has been completed for the year cycle. Community and engagement lead has scheduled in monthly monitoring visits and will be using an adapted OPCC Monitoring form that will satisfy Home Office scrutiny and support data collection for Quarterly reports in the future.</p> <p>The Custody initiative – Changing Lives in Custody – CLIC – is developing, commissioned services through Reactive* progressing and we are now in vetting stage to get staff into Custody and liaise with 18-25 year olds.</p> <p>This is plugging a particular gap regarding services for this age group – Under 18’s come under YOS and their Stat obligation to support YP whilst in Police detention – butt up until now, the 18-25 do not get signposted or supported to break their cycle of offending.</p>	
<p><b>Head of Victim Services and Commissioning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Performance – Qualitative and quantitative</b></li> </ul> <p>Referrals into BVCS from the Force 605. Referrals pulled through by BVCS 0. There were 20 agency referrals and 15 self-referrals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New elements to log (issues or success)</b></li> </ul> <p>The Team is working hard to support referrals into BVCS.</p> <p>A new Victim Care Coordinator is in week 3 and progressing nicely. One has just completed vetting and one is being vetted at present.</p> <p>1 full time and 1 part time Business Support Administrator have been employed and are currently going through vetting and should arrive with us in early 2023.</p> <p><b>Bedfordshire Police Partnership Trust:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Performance – Qualitative and quantitative</b></li> </ul>	



	<p>Total number of referrals to the team for October is 65.</p>	
	<p><b>Commissioning and Income Generation Lead</b></p> <p><b>Updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Needs Assessment across all funds to be conducted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Victim and witness survey now live</li> <li>- TM has completed a needs assessment for the Community Safety Fund (CSF), this was utilised to inform a decision paper on spending for 2023 onwards.</li> <li>- Teams have an outline of other research projects to take place in 23/24</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Performance and monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commissioning team are preparing the Q2 presentation and are due to present to the Governance and Transparency team on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Commissioning activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A decision paper outlining the proposal for commissioning and funding opportunities in 23/24 was presented to and approved by the PCC on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Specifications have been released on the website and via email for competitive processes under £50,000.</li> <li>- All commissioning plans for 23/24 have been made with consideration for longer term future plans.</li> <li>- Co-commissioning/Partnership working – continuing discussion with 3 x LA’s regarding co-commissioning of both DA victim services and DA perpetrator programmes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Income generation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multiple deadlines for funding opportunities from Nov-Jan. Team working to identify which are appropriate for the OPCC.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Communication plans to share</b></p> <p>Publicising of victim and witness survey (continuing)</p>	
	<p><b>Project Manager – Policing and Contact and Safer Streets</b></p> <p><b>Safer streets:</b></p> <p>Ongoing issues with recruitment of an assistant which has caused a few issues and is meaning a greater workload for KC and CG on the educational side of the project. We are looking at various options of how we can fill the post.</p> <p>Several more engagements have been undertaken and a Crimestoppers campaign is running over the world cup highlighting VAWG.</p>	



	<p><b>Specials linked to Locations:</b></p> <p>Awaiting an update on how this is progressing.</p> <p><b>Retention rate and attrition:</b></p> <p>No real movement in this area as the impact of the student hub will take time to materialise. PE has asked to receive the weekly staffing data so that we are up to date on the uplift figures.</p> <p><b>Domestic Abuse focus on offender:</b></p> <p>No update in this area.</p> <p><b>Business partnerships:</b></p> <p>No update in this area.</p>	
	<p><b>Criminal Justice Project Manager</b></p> <p><b>The Criminal Justice Board (CJB)</b></p> <p>Met on 13<sup>th</sup> December; A new agenda format was trialled to facilitate more strategic discussions and actions going forward. The first half of the meeting looking at high level reporting from the three Board Workstreams, followed by a themed discussion relating to Mental Health appeared to work well and will be developed for future meetings.</p> <p>Previous gaps in attendance were identified and partners from Public Health, Mental Health and the prison service have all agreed to attend future meetings as members. Public Health and the Mental Health representatives were present on the 13<sup>th</sup> and contributed to the discussion raised by the CPS relating to mental health.</p> <p>A representative from Luton Housing, was also invited to contribute to an agenda item raised by the PCC Office and Beds Police, relating to Housing concerns for individuals leaving the prison service in view of the demand for accommodation placed on the Local Authority to house asylum seekers. Assurance was provided that the pathways are different and so there are no conflicting priorities in housing provisions for individuals leaving the prison system and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Annual planning meeting to be arranged to take place after the 22/23 Q4 meeting.</p> <p><b>Pan (Beds &amp; Herts) Performance Management Group:</b></p>	



This group (Chaired by the CPS) met on 24 November 2022; this is a joint Herts and Beds Performance group which has been heavily lead by Herts in the absence of a LCJB lead for Bedfordshire. Good progress was made toward bridging this gap. The key development being an agreement that in future, a performance report will be tabled for both areas with a narrative for any highlighted areas, in advance of each meeting.

The group also agreed to a joint scoping exercise looking at witness attrition, led by Herts Police and the Beds CJB Business Manager.

### **Victims & Witness Engagement Board (VWEB)**

This Group (Chaired by Beds Police), met on 28 November 2022.

Representation at the meeting is reasonably good across the multi-agency partnership.

The force maintains monthly discussions with CPS to deep dive and there are currently no areas of concern relating to file quality.

The group is accountable for VCOP which is looked at through the Force Performance Board. There is an action plan around victims' personal statement.

The group discussed new legislation relating to victims which will come into force in 2023, as responsibility for provide assurance to the CJB in terms of implementation across the partnership will sit with the VWEB.

### **Reducing Reoffending Workstream**

This Group met on 12 November 2022: Tom Moreton has moved on to another role within the Probation service, as such Doug Charlton, also from Probation, will replace Tom as Chair for this group.

Key discussions centred around the transitions subgroup which met for the first time on the same day as follows.

Invitations have been extended to colleagues in Mental Health and Public Health Commissioning from the 3 local authorities to join this subgroup to close some of the identified gaps around the table.

Public Health partners across Beds are working together to commission a dual diagnosis transitions nurse to support those young people (18-21 cohort) with mental health and drug and alcohol needs (hosted by ELFT/P2R- Adult drug and alcohol treatment service), looking at how to pick up those hospital admissions i.e., young people, admitted for alcohol poisoning or drug poisoning, thinking about how that might also relate to violent offences and things that might end up



	<p>with hospital admissions. The aim is prevention, to steer them away from criminality.</p> <p>CAMHS, the mental health Commissioner are match funding this role so there is the potential for two posts working across Bedfordshire.</p> <p>Public health and mental health partners are carrying this work forward and will report back to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Victim Needs Analysis (VNA)</b></p> <p>Work on the VNA is in various stages of progress. December 2022 was heavily focussed on preparation for the Q3 CJB. As such a more detailed report will be provided at the next BRM.</p>	
	<p><b>Early Intervention Project Manager</b></p> <p><b>School Absenteeism Pilot</b></p> <p>Work on the Pilot continues. Visits to many of the participating schools have been conducted. This has helped to generate 7 new referrals in the last few weeks.</p> <p>Meeting with Central Bedfordshire Exploitation Lead set up for W/C 19<sup>th</sup> Dec.</p> <p>Update report in preparation.</p> <p><b>Safer Streets 4 – Educational Initiative</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful focus group held with multiple educational establishments across Bedfordshire. Positive and constructive feedback was received that is being implemented to shape the Educational Toolkit.</li> <li>• Ongoing work with a national campaign called Our Schools Now. They have allowed us to utilise their resources within the toolkit. This would include KS3/KS4/KS5 lesson plans, posters, safeguarding resources.</li> <li>• Monthly steering groups are being held with partner organisations as well as key representatives within the force.</li> <li>• Ongoing conversations with Bedfordshire Universities to explore how best we can support their establishments also.</li> <li>• Funding for 3x new professionals to join Luton All Women’s Centre to support schools in implementing the toolkit.</li> <li>• Roll out of a school’s competition.</li> </ul> <p><b>Schools Debate</b></p> <p>Schools debate final took place on 07/12/2022 at Westminster – was a success!</p>	





	<p><b>Town Centre Outreach Programmes</b></p> <p>Working closely with the OPCC commissioning team around funding a Needs Assessment to highlight gaps in outreach programmes within Bedfordshire town centres, to support our Street Communities (this includes the homeless, street drinkers, drug users etc). Aim is for this to have been completed by Nov/Dec 22.</p> <p><b>Restorative Justice in schools</b></p> <p>Successful appointment of a RJ co-ordinator to BVCS, who will pick up the extensive work that the team previously undertook (in 2019) in implementing RJ practices in schools across Bedfordshire. Awaiting feedback from Commissioning team regarding whether this will be an internal or external project. Due to commence in 2023.</p>	
	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>No AOB reported.</p>	