

**OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR BEDFORDSHIRE  
PERFORMANCE AND GOVERNANCE BOARD  
TUESDAY 23 MAY 2023**

<b>Attendees:</b>	Anna Villette, Chief Executive - OPCC (AV)
	Dan Vajzovic, Deputy Chief Constable – Force (DV)
	Katie Beaumont, Head of Governance and Transparency - OPCC (KB)
	Phil Wells, Chief Finance Officer – Force / OPCC (PW)
	Rachael Glendenning, Exec Staff Officer – Force (RG)
	Wayne Humberstone, Director of Operations – OPCC (WH)
	Pauline Stewart – EAP OPCC   Minute Taker – (PS)

Agenda Item		Action
<b>ITEM 1</b>  <b>Welcome</b>  Minutes of meeting held and for agreement and matters arising	AV opened the meeting.  <b>Apologies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katie Beaumont</li> <li>• ACC Sharn Basra</li> </ul> <b>Minutes circulated and agreed.</b>  <b>No matters arising.</b>	
<b>ITEM 2</b>  <b>OPCC Questions or items to raise</b>	<b>2.1 Actions from previous meetings</b>  AV referred to the outstanding actions.  The action log was discussed and updated. Please refer to Action Log document.	
	<b>2.2 Information Document</b>  AV introduced the report covering the Information Document for publication. Key areas pulled out of the report and discussed were as follows:  <b>Special constabulary concerns – conduct issues or moving to Regulars?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AV Small reduction in numbers i.e. The Force have lost another 2 Special Constables from 81 – 79. Are there any concerns?</li> <li>• PW No concerns regarding the Special Constabulary, however there will be increased activity with regards to neighbourhood Specials and Specials in general during 2023/24 to fill 2 intakes.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b>Specified Information Order</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PW Referred to the (SIO Report). One PPT slide needs changing. The information will be ready for the OPCC to publish on the website.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>ITEM 3</b></p> <p><b>Performance Focus</b></p>	<p><b>3.1 Crime performance figures with restricted detail</b></p> <p><b>Local (Bedfordshire) Dashboard (Monthly)</b></p> <p>DV introduced the report covering a summary of the performance for the Force over the last quarter as well as the longer trend analysis. The key issues that were pulled out of the report and discussed were as follows:</p> <p>DV stated it is natural for crime to fluctuate. Overall, crime has decreased over a period of 7 months.</p> <p><b>Domestic Abuse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WH Improving picture re sexual offences and domestic abuse. Are we encouraging people to report incidents?</li> <li>• DV Improved confidence means more reporting. We are interested in detections. We are in conversation with CC Sarah Crew and DCC Maggie Blyth (Pathfinder Soteria), Dee Perkins and Zara Brown.</li> </ul> <p><i><b>DV proposed a follow up report on performance to be presented at the August meeting.</b></i></p> <p><i><b>DV proposed putting this on the agenda for appropriate reporting.</b></i></p> <p><b>Child Neglect</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AV Child neglect, the percentages are not helpful and need context. AV asked why the solve rate is low.</li> <li>• DV Child abuse investigations can take between 12 – 24 months for criminal justice resolution. Bedfordshire has a really good turnaround rate. A rolling average of 14 cases per month. There are lots of agencies involved to bring each case to a conclusion.</li> </ul> <p><b>Burglary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AV Burglary - numbers going down dramatically, do we need to see a longer period of time to measure the data?</li> <li>• DV Burglary detections have improved. We are in the top half of the table and people of Bedfordshire should be pleased. We are solving crimes and doubling our efforts to make sure they go down.</li> </ul> <p><b>Gun Crime</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AV Gun crime – small numbers March 22 / March 23.</li> <li>• DV The longer view. The Force have put effort in to Operations which have led to significant sentences across the County. Proactive work continues taking out guns and working with the intelligence of those involved. Not all gun incidents are related to Serious Crime. No room for complacency but we are doing well.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Action DV   Force Exec Action PS</i></p>

<p><b>ITEM 3</b></p> <p><b>Performance Focus</b></p>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Crime</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AV Neighbourhood Crime – Solved rates low.</li> <li>• DV No correlation between numbers. Neighbourhood crimes sit with patrol function. Performance and tasking neighbourhood issues are a priority, i.e.; ASB, car crime.</li> <li>• WH Pushback from Central Beds suggesting they are not listened to. Most referrals come from the VERU. There are a growing number of referrals mostly in the South.</li> <li>• DV Different reporting due to geographical areas and level of concerns communicated by the community, i.e.; living in an affluent area is less but tolerance is higher. All communities to feel safe and go about their day-to-day business safely.</li> <li>• AV Provided a possible scenario, re crimes that may be deemed serious in Central Beds (but not in Luton) and therefore would expect a higher turnout in Central Beds re ASB.</li> <li>• WH Central Beds report more ASBs.</li> <li>• DV Data sets on attendance should be the same. It is an upward trajectory. Correlation not causation of Officer attending.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>PW The take away as a Force. How do we provide information for the Commissioner to explain to the Public?</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WH A conversation re ASB would be useful with a joined up and clear picture of the Force. Are we fit for purpose? Are there audit trails, common standard across the county? Prepared for funding.</li> <li>• PW Control Strategy Dashboard. Green – solved rate has gone up and recorded crime has gone down. Positive outlook on Control Strategy Priorities.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Action Force Exec</i></p>
	<p><b>3.2 ASB Report</b></p> <p><b>Anti-Social Behaviour Spotlight</b></p> <p>DV introduced the report and provided an overview of the Force’s current position - see below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV Good news stories and proactive work. The report (Author CI Jim Goldsmith) Anti-Social Behaviour highlights 3 good examples (case studies) of the work that is being done across Bedfordshire as well as detailing the first steps of a review to ensure we are in a good place for a HMIC Inspection.</li> </ul> <p><b>Case studies:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Roman Road – Luton</i></li> <li><i>Flitwick Skate Park</i></li> <li><i>ASB Speeding around numerous villages in North Bedfordshire</i></li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV Attended a Mayoral gathering with Councillors and there is work to be done in Bedford.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>ITEM 3</b></p> <p><b>Performance Focus</b></p>	<p>Monthly meetings have been agreed with all of the Inspectors and a RAID has been created which will be updated once the detailed baselining has been completed.</p> <p>A planned internal Inspection should be up and running for the start of June.</p> <p><b>Summary</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Crime &amp; Outcomes Rankings: 12th crime per 1,000 (previously 13th improving picture) and 30th for solved crime rate (previously 32nd).</li> <li>b. Homicide - We are marked as being higher than others in 3 areas on the Homicide, only comparing the latest 6 months with the same period last year we are not considered an outlier.</li> <li>c. Luton recorded the highest solved crime rate with 12.4%, Bedford recorded 10.9% whilst Central was only 6.6%.</li> <li>d. 642 DA offences, third consecutive month noting an increase, albeit levels are still below the mean and have been since October.</li> <li>e. Solved crime 9.2%, up on this time last year and on par with 22/23 monthly average. 47 Rapes in April, dropping below the mean and below average. Solved rate 6.4%, an increase on previous two months and higher than 22/23 average.</li> <li>f. Changes to HO counting rules 1st April - Burglary is now being split into Residential Burglary of a Home &amp; Residential Burglary of Unconnected Building.</li> <li>g. Personal Robbery has decreased with 35 offences, below the mean after four months of increases. Solve rate 5.7%, above the 22/23 average.</li> <li>h. 123 ToMV during April, dropping back down to the mean after a particularly high March and on par with 22/23 average, albeit slightly higher than this time last year. Solved rate 0.8%, 12mth trend overall is declining.</li> </ol>	
	<p><b>3.3 Activity Report – Community Policing</b></p> <p>RG introduced the report Community Policing. One of the key issues pulled out of the report and discussed were as follows:</p> <p><b>Bedford Town Centre</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV Drugs in Bedford Town Centre is a priority and the Force are dealing with this via various operations. A Joint Action Group was set up with partners due to ongoing issues, both drug and ASB related.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACC Sharn Basra</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DV Thanks were given to ACC Sharn Basra for his commitment and support for the Delivery Board and Performance Management Board meetings.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>ITEM 4</b></p> <p><b>Risk</b></p>	<p><b>4.1 Risk (Change in risk OPCC and Force)</b></p> <p>PW Nothing significant – cover off agenda item 5.</p> <hr/> <p><b>4.2 Casey Review update</b></p> <p>PW introduced the report and provided an update on the Baroness Casey Review as follows:</p> <p><b>Casey Review Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PW Following the work with Baroness Casey, the Force conducted a survey in 2022 following on from the cultural work the Force started in 2020. The Force will undertake another survey managed by Better for Beds. There is a mechanism in place to keep on top of this work.</li> <li>• PW Consistency in message across the Force. The Exec attend Senior Leadership days and continue to engage with the workforce to improve the culture within Bedfordshire Police. There is more to do, with a focus on the Race element. In place are a series of initiatives: Better for Beds, MVAWG, Bluebell, Cultural Awareness Groups. All performance activity moving forward will also be viewed through a disparity lens.</li> <li>• PW The Force has identified at Chief Officer / Chief Superintendent level and equivalent a 'Pillar Lead' for each of the four pillars from the Plan. Each of these pillar leads has an identified member from the Diversity Support Group to support the delivery of the Plan. This relates to the race action plan below.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>4.3 Race Action Plan</b></p> <p>PW introduced the report and provided an overview of the work the Force is undertaking in relation to the Police Race Action Plan. Updates as follows:</p> <p><b>Race Action Plan Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PW Focus on initial contact to ensure that we have effective engagement with our Black communities. There is not the same level of connection with the Black community as with the Asian community. An Engagement Action Plan was agreed at FEB which is to 'Improve Policing for Black People in Bedfordshire'.</li> <li>• PW Scrutiny boards are provided to build public confidence. Each Pillar Lead reports into the Force Executive on a monthly basis.</li> <li>• DV Substantive update workshops following responses from Women's Groups etc., Officers trained in British Sign Language (BSL) across the organisation.</li> <li>• DV to ensure that working groups provide quarterly updates as agreed, however business as usual is important.</li> <li>• AV OPCC to build into the plan and behaviours to be improved and asked if a further discussion could be had on this outside of the meeting.</li> </ul>	
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<b>ITEM 4</b>  <b>Risk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AV Gave thanks to the Force for working on the Baroness Casey Review and the commitment being shown around improving culture in general and the delivery against the race action plan.</li> </ul>	
<b>ITEM 5</b>  <b>Collaboration</b>	<p><b>5.1 Collaboration updates – JPS/ERSOU/BCH Functions (i.e., PSD/HR etc)</b></p> <p>AV referred to Collaboration updates – to be discussed at the July meeting.</p> <p><b>Professional Standards Department (PSD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AV BCH Deep Dive Reviews – suggested that PSD should be a part of it and encourages PSD takes place earlier. AV spoke with ACO Cat Hemmings in light of high-profile cases.</li> <li>DV This intervention is important and supported the proposal. Under scrutiny Vetting, there is a plan to get beyond the risks around vetting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Joint Protective Services (JPS) Update – Quarterly</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Eastern Region Serious Organised Crime (ERSOU) update – Quarterly.</i></li> <li>➤ <i>BCH Functions Update (PSD/HR/etc) – Quarterly</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>(Above to be presented at the <u>July 2023</u> Meeting)</p>	<p><i>Quarterly – to be discussed at the July meeting</i></p>
	<p><b>5.2 Strategic Policing Requirement Report – Any updates/exceptions to be discussed verbally at July meeting.</b></p>	<p><i>Discuss at July 2023 Meeting</i></p>
<b>ITEM 6</b>  <b>Complaints</b>	<p><b>6.1: Chief Constable Complaints</b></p> <p>No complaints.</p>	
	<p><b>6.2: Reviews</b></p> <p>As in the report.</p>	
<b>ITEM 7</b>  <b>Quarterly Reporting</b>	<p><b>7.1 Outturn Report</b></p> <p>PW Introduced the report which presents the final outturn position for the 2022/23 revenue budget and capital programme, updates as follows:</p> <p><b>Efficiency – Budget</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The revenue outturn position was an under-spend of £0.961M of which £0.204M relates to the OPCC and £0.757M is an under-spend for the Force. This is after the OPCC utilising £0.189M from reserves to support one off road safety initiatives during the year from the reserve set aside for that purpose.</li> <li>It is proposed that the OPCC be allowed to use £0.179M from earmarked reserves that they did not access in 2022/23 to help finance ongoing initiatives from the Community Safety Fund.</li> <li>It is also proposed that underspend is placed into reserves, £0.700M into earmarked reserves to fund the expected increase in the</li> </ul>	

<p><b>ITEM 7</b></p> <p><b>Quarterly Reporting</b></p>	<p>September 2023 pay award, meaning we can fund up to a 3.5% award without relying on support from the Home Office.</p> <p>The Board agreed the following recommendations (Reference Outturn Report):</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <i>The board are asked to note the revenue outturn at paragraph 9.4 and the capital outturn at 10.2.</i></li> <li>b. <i>The board are asked to approve the proposed use of the 2022/23 revenue underspend shown at paragraph 9.7.</i></li> <li>c. <i>The board are asked to approve the method proposed for financing capital expenditure in 2022/23 at Table Seven at paragraph 10.17.</i></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>7.2 Estates Update</b></p> <p>PW introduced the report and provided an overview and what the plan is. As follows:</p> <p><b>Estates Overview</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A strategy agreed by the PCC to bring in line with all areas of activity and discussed with Senior Leader and all content with work proposed.</li> <li>• Greystones signed off by both parties. An open sale is the best. Best bid basis – tie bidders into contractor sale.</li> <li>• WH confirmed that ongoing discussions were being held with the lessees at Houghton Regis and this Board will be updated when finalised.</li> <li>• PW explained that in relation to the PCC's Estates Strategy and with his drive to maximise shared estate delivery the Force and the OPCC were part of a very productive Pan Bedfordshire Estates workshop.</li> <li>• PW explained that the new accommodation had been identified at the Airport for both the airport unit and the wider Armed Policing Unit to enable them to move out of their existing poor level of accommodation. The new accommodation should be ready for occupancy by the end of the calendar year.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>ITEM 8</b></p> <p><b>Delivery Plan</b></p>	<p><b>8.1 Delivery Plan Update</b></p> <p>WH provided an overview of the Delivery Plan against the Force priorities. Key areas are as follows:</p> <p><b>Self Service Terminal Beds OPCC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WH Self Service Terminal Bedfordshire OPCC App being proposed to take the place of the framework for the National Model. Presentation to SOH Team and HO on 19 May received a positive response. Ongoing dialogue to support ambition to roll out. ICT keeping content.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>ITEM 8</b></p> <p><b>Delivery Plan</b></p>	<p><b>Perpetrator Bid</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perpetrator Bid – £3.2M over 2 years. Joint award with OPCC Herts, progress ongoing with Zara Brown and Dee Perkins. Cara Gavin, (Early Intervention / Reducing Reoffending PM) will pick this up.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>ITEM 9</b></p> <p><b>Key Deliverables</b></p>	<p><b>9.1 Key Deliverables</b></p> <p>AV opened up a discussion about the Police and Crime Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AV Are we on track to deliver over the period time with the PCP?</li> <li>PW The Annual Report has covered these areas and are all positive.</li> <li>PW Transparency and open communication. Difficult to put measurables against this – discuss at the SLT. No red on the Dashboard and whilst there is amber there is no risk for any failure.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>ITEM 10</b></p> <p><b>AOB</b></p>	<p><b>10.1 Community Policing Model Establishment update</b></p> <p>PW Covered in 10.3.</p> <hr/> <p><b>10.2 IMU Report – Tri – Force Monitoring Report</b></p> <p>PW introduced the Information Management updates covering March and April 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PW Increase in Freedom of Information (FOI) requests, particularly police conduct on the back of the Casey Report. PSD linked into review.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>10.3 Spotlight Report – Priority One</b></p> <p>DV introduced Priority 1 Spotlight report.</p> <p><b>Investment in community-based and community-led policing for urban and rural areas.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DV referred to case studies within the report. There are plans to widen the Dallow Cares Project out into the rest of the county, specifically Central Bedfordshire.</li> <li>DV Section 6 (page 9) of the report sets out the number of Officers across Pan Bedfordshire team.</li> <li>Innovation and good work showcased around the County.</li> </ul> <p>AV Thanked colleagues present and closed the meeting.</p>	<p><i>Force Control Room update Add to June Meeting)</i></p>

**End**

**Next Meeting:** Thursday 22 June 2023