



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

MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW MEETING

30th May 2023

The BRM meeting did not go ahead due to operational reasons, however monthly papers have been documented in the below text. This has been reviewed by the Head of Governance and Transparency and agreed to be published. The Chief Executive and Director of OPCC Operations fed back to the team via the weekly team meeting on priorities and updates.

Business Review Meeting	Actions
<p>Actions Update</p> <p>All actions were reviewed and have been updated on the log.</p>	
<p>Head of Governance and Transparency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Police and Crime Panel</u> <p>The panel is due to take place on the 6th June 2023 – this will be the first panel with the new members and the PCC will be presenting his annual report.</p> <p>If you ever wish to attend panel – please let KB know as it will open your eyes up to why we request so much information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Joint Audit Committee (JAC)</u> <p>JAC due to take place in June – the Strategic Risk Register has been reviewed and signed off by the Chief Finance Officer (CFO).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>FOI/DP requests</u> <p>FOIs continue to come in and be managed by the Transparency Team.</p> <p>When an FOI has been received it is not for the Transparency Team to search your area folders for this information, it is for your department to provide the information and then the transparency team will review whether any of the information is deemed restricted.</p>	



Please be mindful on timeframes if you receive a request for information as to respond to an FOI, it is a statutory duty and cannot be late. Responses must be sent to the requestor within 20 working days.

- Independent Custody Visitors / Dogs Scheme

The forms that ICVs use have now been updated and are live within the custody suites. 2 ICVs are currently undergoing vetting.

BC and a couple of ICVs supported the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) with filming for Volunteers Week. This is a great way to showcase our scheme and how fantastic the new custody suite is. Volunteers Week is upcoming and lots of posts have been prepared to promote the scheme.

The ICVA National Conference was in May and BC attended with 5 other ICVs. It was a great day with lots learnt.

There is a lot of work to be completed for ICVs including the Quality Assurance Framework and a review of the scheme. ICV Annual Report has been submitted to Police and Crime Panel and will be published after the meeting.

Stop and Search/ Use of Force

In 2023 so far we have had the following:

1. Chair recruitment is complete - We shortlisted two applicants. Phil-Dickson Earle was appointed as the new chair of the Bedfordshire Scrutiny Panel on the 17th May 2023.
2. Normal and youth recruitment went live on 17th April and is ongoing – this was pushed out on socials, BedsAlert and via Community Voluntary Service (CVS).
3. The scrutiny panel chair, vice chair and OPCC are looking at ways to diversify the panel and target the younger demographic (18-21).
4. Next Stop and Search main meeting is on 07/09/2023 / Next Use of Force main meeting is on 20/07/2023.
5. Scrutiny Panel bulletin is currently under review (aim to release on 15/06/2023 with the new scrutiny panel chair press release).
6. PCC bulletin is complete and sent to KB for sign off.
7. Training has been set for the following dates: Stop and Search - 19/06/2023, Use of Force - 12/07/2023.

- LQCs/Misconduct



The OPCC is currently having ongoing conversations about the LQC function and recruitment – the region has been meeting to talk through process etc – this will be going live end of this year.

- Complaints

Dip sampling is being completed on a monthly basis for the Professional Standards Department (PSD) complaints, Customer Support complaints as well as liaising with the Force.

Reviews - One outstanding

- Decisions

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.

- Website Compliance – Specified Information Order

BC has recently completed an audit of the website. There are a lot of actions – BC has emailed for updates. Audits are completed on a monthly basis.

All team to review their areas on the website as soon as possible and contact KB and BC for any changes or amendments required.

Violence & Exploitation Reduction Unit (VERU) Manager

Community & Engagement:

Community lead has been busy visiting our commissioned services preparing them for the coming commissioned year.

KickOff@3 – a football tournament for both boys and girls. Working with Kick Off founder Michael WALLACE, MBE, a serving Met Police officer, with the ethos of breaking down barriers between youth and police.

The tournament was run by Luton Town FC Community Development team - fresh on the heels of the club reaching the Premiership, and we were fortunate that the LTFC Chairman also made it to the event.

The tournament was open to Under 12 and Under 15 teams, including girls teams.



The winners now go to finals in St.Albans and London in the next few weeks.

The Deputy PCC and ACC Basra were in attendance and presented the trophies to the age range winners.

Community Police teams and other partners are to be involved in a 'support' area whilst the tournament is happening.

Communications:

The VERU in View and social media continue to have 'hits' and the messages have been well received.

VERU website is close to being finished and the supplier has been busy developing the content being supplied by the VERU leads.

Working on making a specific Anti Knife crime campaign, linking into the Beds Comms team for maximum exposure.

Data Analysis and Research:

VERU Data lead working hard on expanding DIGVERB – multi agency data sharing partnership and the impact of the Serious Violence Duty (SVD) is having – positively – in increasing data between relevant partners.

Education and Research Lead:

We have establish an esteemed evaluator in Dr Fiona Factor and the Uni of Beds to evaluate the VERU Commissioned services. This will ensure we are compliant in the Home Office Grant Agreement.

YIS (Youth Intervention Specialists) Work:

As previously reported, the YIS team are actively trying to recruit into the team. The team vacancies have impacted on our ability to maintain higher levels of referrals.

Referral meetings and events attended:

- Multi-agency child exploitation meeting MACE
- Contextual Safeguarding (CBC South)
- MAGPan
- Serious Youth Violence Panel
- CSE and Missing SPOC meeting
- Boson Silver

Further to this, the YIS team hold caseloads for high-risk children and are now monitoring their work on a new Case Management system called OASIS. Looking to



<p>develop closer links to the Police Education and Diversion team regarding RJ (alongside AP in OPCC).</p>	
<p>Head of Victim Services and Commissioning</p> <p>PE provided an update on Bedfordshire Victim Care Services (BVCS).</p> <p>Performance – Qualitative and quantitative</p> <p>Referrals into BVCS from the Force were 547. There were 26 agency referrals and 54 self-referrals.</p> <p>New elements to log (issues or success)</p> <p>The Team has a vacancy for a supervisor and 1.5 Victim Care Coordinators (VCCs) and we will look to recruiting to these vacancies soon.</p> <p>Communication plans to share</p> <p>The supervisor is proactively using social media to advertise the services BVCS has to offer victims in a hope to increase self-referrals.</p>	
<p>Commissioning and Income Generation Lead</p> <p>The Commissioning Team presented to the OPCC on 22nd May 2023, a further date has been suggested for 13th June 2023 to outline services funded in 23/24.</p> <p>Commissioning Officer Role interviews are to take place on 25/05/2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commissioned services and projects have been confirmed for 2023/2024 ○ The 23/24 Commissioning plan has been devised; the team have been updated around key areas of responsibility. Project Managers are to support Commissioning Officers in project activities. ○ Sums.org has been introduced to enable Data and Reports to become easier accessible for the commission team. Training on the system is ongoing. Capabilities are being reviewed in terms of Commissioning competitions also. ○ OPCC website reviewed and updated for Commissioned Services for 23/24. Infographics are to be developed in coming weeks. - Performance and monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Q4 data monitoring meeting are coming to an end, invoicing will conclude for 22/23 subsequently. ○ The MoJ End of Year Return has been submitted. 	



- End of year Financial Audit completed.
- Commissioning, Governance and Transparency meeting booked for 8th June 2023.
- Commissioning activities:
 - Grant agreements issued for the 2023/2024 commissioned services. Signed copies are being returned for signature by the PCC.
 - Mobilisation and Continuation of service meeting commenced and are ongoing.
 - On site appointments scheduled for the coming months with providers.
 - Multi Crime, therapeutics support provision agreed with organisation.
 - Sexual Exploitation funding opportunity considerations are ongoing.
 - Sexual Violence Network meeting established.
 - Commissioned Provider Network meeting established.
- Income generation:
 - Home Office DA Perpetrator project outcome successful, a project team has been developed to mobilise the project with Hertfordshire OPCC.

Project Manager – Policing and Contact and Safer Streets

Safer Streets:

We have just started the second part of the Safer Streets project and looking ahead for possible underspends based on discussion we have had in the first half of the project and looking at alternative innovations.

Home Office return has been sent off for Q4.

School's Competition has been extended until the end of Sept 2023 due to no entries being received to date, the Home Office have agreed to this and we continue to promote this at every opportunity.

Spiking awareness train the trainer course due to take place at the beginning of June 2023 for 10 people from the force and local authorities.

We continue to look for every opportunity to attend events and promote the project.

Public Access Terminal:

A meeting was held with the Home Office to demonstrate the Public Access Terminals and the development of the App as they are looking for a national solution. The feedback was positive about this development.



PE is working with the Force to work on the App version of the Public Access Terminal which we hope to launch in the late summer.

Criminal Justice Project Manager

Bedfordshire Criminal Justice Board

BCJB planning meeting scheduled for 24 May 23 to include;

- Reviewing priorities and the Terms of Reference (ToR)
- Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) representative agreed to attend as guest speakers

OPCC Priority 6 - Transparency

The Board agreed to hold an annual public meeting; proposed dates to be circulated for agreement at the May planning meeting.

BCJB Meeting Schedule

- 24/05/2023 Planning meeting – Guest Speaker (APCC) confirmed
- 20/06/2023 Q1
- 19/09/2023 Q2
- 19/12/2023 Q3
- 19/03/2024 Q4
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Performance and Programme Management Group (PPMG Chaired by CPS) – Beds/Herts

The next PPMG is scheduled for 7 June.

Scorecard: Analyst commenced on 1 April 2023; OPCC/CSP information sharing agreement signed off and the CPS have started to send through JOIM data. Beds will report on 22/23 Q4 at the coming PPMG meeting, looking at themes for discussion.

Victim Attrition: Herts produced a paper looking at reasons for victim attrition, this paper has been forwarded to Bedfordshire Police for a response, to be fed back to the June meeting.

Reducing Reoffending Board (RRB Chaired by Probation)

The next RRB meeting scheduled for 6 March 2023. Agenda to include a review of 23/24 – 24/25 priorities and ToR.

Transition Subgroup: Mapping services for the 18-25 year cohort is ongoing. Partners to feedback comments ahead of the next meeting.



Young Adult Support Worker (YASW): The Job Description and Guidance for the role was reviewed by the RRB members and feedback communicated to Probation. The OPCC is currently supporting the recruitment for this role.

Service provisions for Prison Leavers: OPCC and Probation are exploring commissioning ideas for prison leavers, which may include opportunities for joint funding.

Victims & Witness Engagement Board (VWEB Chaired by Force)

No updates from the previous BRM.

Victims Needs Assessment 2021 (VNA)

The VNA created 28 recommendations for organisations and services in Bedfordshire. A paper outlining how recommendations have been progressed was submitted to Senior Management Team (SMT) for scrutiny. 5 items primarily relating to processes is ongoing and will be progress in 2023.

Serious Violence Duty (SVD - The Duty)

The Pan Beds Serious Harm Board (SHB) has been identified as the partnership which will be responsible for holding partners to account for delivery of the Duty and agreeing spend. The SHB partnership met on 18 April 2023 and agreed to progress the SVD as follows;

- The local area will be defined as the Force area as opposed to local authority
- OPCC and Force to revise the Serious Harm Board ToR for agreement
- An operational workstream consisting of specified and relevant authorities named in the Duty.
- The Violence Exploitation Reduction Unit (VERU) Data group to be the official data group for the Duty
- The VERU SNA and responding paper to be used as the starting point for the SVD SNA and Strategy, both of which must be published by 31 January 2024.
- The Force (with the support of the OPCC) to provide examples of how Serious Violence should be defined in Bedfordshire.
- SHB Partnership to provide suggestions for 23/24 and 24/25 Home Office (HO) funding allocations for agreement.

OPCC SVD presentations are currently being undertaken across the local (Force) area, commencing with the three local area Community Safety Partnerships (see attached presentation for information).



Police and Race Action Plan (PRAP)

No further updates, work on how to support the Force in achieving the vision and outcomes of the PRAP through the Board, will be included on the planning meeting agenda.

LCJB Conference held on 19 April 2023. Particular areas of interest for the BCJB related to best practice areas;

1. How to best use the MoJ Dashboard in view of the fact that the data is currently always 6 months behind – this will be discussed with the BCJB analyst for consideration (see conference slides below Pg 3-23).
2. Wales - Supporting Victims who meet the criteria for Special Measures in the courts – this will be carried forward by the OPCC for further exploration with the HMCTS (see conference slides below Pg 37-46).

Restorative Justice (RJ) Coordinator

Referrals

We have had 4 referrals in May. We currently have 7 active cases.

HMPPS - Re:hub

No change, we are still waiting on a response from Re:hub to organise an approval panel meeting.

RJ Prison Project

Project has picked back up and the Governor at HMP Bedford is on board with embedding Restorative Approaches (RA) into the prison along with the Senior Leadership Team.

Some of the working group attended an event at HMP Peterborough and gained further knowledge and insight into RA in prisons.

The working group have a meeting with the Restorative Justice Council to get their input and to see how we can align the proposal to their framework to start the accreditation process.

RJ in School Project



The Trust have said that the schools they are going to put forward won't be ready until September as there are staffing changes. This has set the project back, however, there is another working group meeting to discuss what the next steps would be.

Training and Awareness

This month training was delivered to the Cadets, Witness Care and to those who deal with looked after children. Training sessions went well and gained some positive feedback.

Attended the YouTurn event where Restorative Justice had a stall to promote the service and a talk was given to attendees.

Police Restorative Justice Lead

A meeting has been scheduled on the 1st of June to discuss the role.

Early Intervention Project Manager

DA Perpetrator Programme

- Following the success of our joint bid with Herts OPCC, we are now working hard to get the project operational as soon as possible. This will take the form of a Hub, where referrals from a wide range of agencies can refer DA perpetrators. The Hub will then assess and triage each referral, making an assessment of which intervention would benefit them the most. These services will range from mental health support, drug and alcohol services to specific DA offending programmes.
- This week we held workshops with our key stakeholders, to ensure their input and buy in is received at this stage. This included meeting with Victim Services and Police. Workshops with Probation, and other agencies will follow.
- We are now working through the procurement process, to involve the services who will deliver the intervention.
- We are working on drafting up the referral pathway and referral forms for each service

RJ for Schools

- An organisation who can facilitate the RJ training in schools has been identified and meetings have taken place with their Director.
- The Director of School Improvement for the Chiltern Learning Trust is currently identifying 3 schools who will agree to participate in this first wave of the Pilot. Once the training has been rolled out in the 3 schools (one in each LA area) we will look to review, with the aim of completing wave 2 with a different selection of schools, from a different trust.
- First wave of pilot to start in September 2023.



Safer Streets – Educational Initiatives

- Luton All Women’s Centre have now reached over 3000 pupils on behalf of Safer Streets. They have been completing assemblies, workshops etc within schools, educating pupils on Public Sexual Harassment and how to be an active bystander. The feedback we have received has been incredible.
- We continue to work on keeping the Educational Toolkit up to date, with the aim of having materials that are more relatable for our SEND pupils. Every school in Bedfordshire has access to this resource.
- Our Schools Competition end date has been extended until the end of September 2023.
- We will be present at freshers fares again this year, providing personal safety information and equipment to the students.

HAF collaboration

- We are exploring the possibility of teaming up with the HAF programmes in each LA area, so that LAWC can visit their provisions and engage with their young people about VAWG matters.

Events/Executive Assistant Updates

Pauline has been working on this year’s Bedfordshire Faith Networking Event on Tuesday 20 June, 2023 being held Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 1AH. Festus Akinbusoye, the Commissioner for Bedfordshire will be hosting the event.

The aim of the event is to bring different faith groups and others together to network and discuss issues within the community. The theme of the conference is: **Reducing Re-offending – The Revolving Door (With a strong link to work within the community and how faith groups and voluntary groups support ex-offenders).**