



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

**MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW MEETING**

August 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 Operations fed back to the team via the weekly team meeting on priorities and updates.**

<b>Business Review Meeting</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<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><u>Police and Crime Panel</u></p> <p>The last panel was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023.</p> <p>The next panel will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023, so requests are being worked through.</p> <p><u>Joint Audit Committee (JAC)</u></p> <p>JAC due to take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – KB has reviewed the Strategic Risk Register.</p> <p><u>Freedom of Information/Data Protection Requests</u></p> <p>FOIs continue to come in and be managed by BC and AB.</p> <p>Please be mindful on timeframes if you receive a request for information as to respond to an FOI, is a statutory duty and cannot be late.</p> <p><u>Independent Custody Visitors (ICV) / Dogs Scheme</u></p> <p>ICV Panel Meeting due to take place 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023.</p>	

As the team are aware, we are now aiming for the highest level for the ICV Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) which is Platinum. This is a brilliant achievement to aim for and KB is confident that we will get there. The DPCC attended a visit with ICVs last week.

Well done BC for all your work towards the QAF.

Visits have been going well, with at least one visit to each Custody Suite each week. There have been limited issues reported, the Chief Inspector and Inspector of Custody are keeping KB and BC up to date.

#### Stop and Search/ Use of Force Scrutiny Panel

AB and SD are working on:

- Amending Terms of Reference (ToR)
- Videos for public confidence
- Feedback mechanisms with the Force and public
- Recruitment
- Review of grading criteria
- Rules of engagement etc.

#### Legally Qualified Chairs (LQC)/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.

LQC Consultation – KB will let the OPCC know any changes.

The allocation of LQCs and Independent Members (IMs) continues and decisions are completed for each allocation, as the LQC allocation is one of statutory duties.

#### Complaints

Work is being completed in this area – Dip sampling and liaising with the Force.

Reviews – Four are currently outstanding – however will be completed in due course. There is no time frame for a review to be completed however the aim is to complete as soon as practicable.



A lot have been completed in the last month -

<https://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/complaints-handling/>

The team are currently working on the Quarterly Transparency Report published on the OPCC website - <https://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/opcc-transparency-reports/>

### 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. We have prepared all paperwork to be sent out in anticipation for the final Home Office sign off.

Developing the VERU Village concept based on the African concept of ‘it takes a village to raise a child’ – the VERU are developing a network of ‘huts’ that will contain professional who will volunteer their support for young people. This project is due to launch in October.

### **Communications:**

Working on making a specific Anti Knife crime campaign, linking into the Beds Comms team for maximum exposure. These social media content has been very well received based on the data that allows us to monitor the number of times the pages have been viewed or gone into further.

### **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.

We are reviewing a Serious Violence framework with our partners to provide a clear trend picture for all to utilise.

**Education and Research Lead:**

University of Beds have been commissioned to evaluate the impact of the VERU on our core aims and commissioned services for last year. This exciting development will bring in one of the most respected teams in the country that covers social care and youth justice. Our dedicated SPOC in the VERU will be the link for the material the University will be calling for as well providing the VERU a Quality assurance aspect to our work.

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

This in-house intervention team is unique to Beds VERU whereas other Violent Reduction Units (VRU's) outsource this aspect of their work.

The YIS team hold caseloads for high-risk children which are monitored on our Case Management system called OASIS.

**Commissioning**

We are working with the OPCC to introduce an A&E navigator programme that will support under 25's when they attend A&E with injuries sustained from serious violence.

**The Custody Intervention programme – CLIC (Changing Lives in Custody) –**

Programme has commenced and so far some positive results have been achieved including housing a habitual offender and providing training and exams to allow an offender to work on building sites are just two examples of what can be achieved.

The second part of the Custody programme is to make the in-cell monitors 'live'. We have some technical issues to overcome to allow the screens to be networked into the system but we are still confident we will overcome these soon. Working with ICT, Custody and Comms to develop content and system compatibility.

**Head of Victim Services and Commissioning**

Update provided under *Project Manager – Policing and Contact and Safer Streets.*

**Commissioning**



The Commissioning Officer Role continues to be advertised; the role has been amended to a Commissioning Compliance Officer to increase interest.

A consultant is being brought in part time to assist with the management of the Commissioning Officer role and future commissioning plans.

- **Updates:**

- 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.
- Commissioning activities:
- Sexual Violence Network meeting established – next meeting to take place in October.
  - Commissioned Provider Network meeting established – next meeting to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023, Director of Operations to chair with support of the Commissioning Officer.
  - POs have been raised for the year.

## **Project Manager – Policing and Contact and Safer Streets**

### **Safer Streets:**

Safer Streets 4 is winding up now and the last initiatives are being completed, we are gearing up for a busy fresher's fair period where we will be supporting 12 different events during September.

### **Public Access Terminal:**

A fifth terminal has been installed in the main reception area of Cranfield University and we are still working with partners to install a further 3 terminals.

### **Bedfordshire Victim Care Services:**

### **Performance**

We are working of making performance visible and looking at implementing a performance dashboard by the end of September 2023.



<p><b>Projects</b></p> <p>The BVCS project is ongoing and the new Vision and Mission statement is now live.</p>	
<p><b>Restorative Justice (RJ) Coordinator</b></p> <p><b><u>RJ Prison Project</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project was presented to the SLT to raise awareness of the project.</li> <li>• Meetings are in place with the training provider to come up with dates of delivery. HMP Bedford are advertising the training to gain some interest.</li> <li>• HMP Bedford are recruiting a non-operational staff member where half their role will be dedicated to Restorative Approaches.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>RJ in School Project</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the schools from the 1<sup>st</sup> Wave has dropped out but the school from the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave has stepped in.</li> <li>• Dates are currently being arranged with the behavioural leads to schedule in the training dates.</li> <li>• The grant agreement between the OPCC and training provider has been signed.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Training and Awareness</u></b></p> <p>Training has been delivered to probation officers who are based in court. Training has also been booked in for the Family Liaison Officers.</p> <p><b><u>Staffing</u></b></p> <p>AP's last working day is the 27<sup>th</sup> of September and has annual leave booked in between.</p> <p>AP's cover for leave is due to start in October 2023 and a handover has been created for a smooth transition.</p>	
<p><b>Communications</b></p> <p><b>Press release schedule update (this week)</b> Roads Safety Summit – website only</p> <p>Next week: ICV volunteers event</p>	



### **Newsletter**

- Bedfordshire PCC reacts to police pay award.
- Deputy PCC joins independent custody visit.
- Commissioner launches 'You said, we did' campaign.
- Recruitment
- Safer Streets Household Booklet
- Safer Streets Residents Competition
- Spotlight on Stop and Search and Use of Force Scrutiny Panel

### **Upcoming events**

- Annual Parish Conference – online 11<sup>th</sup> September Schools Debate - November/December
- Rural Crime Annual event – November

### **Socials**

- Slapton Parish Council
- You said, we did.
- Opening of Flitwick football pitch
- Force Recruitment Day
- Commissioning Officer roles
- Public Access Terminals
- Embrace
- Recruitment – Legally Qualified Chairs
- Restorative Justice
- Sexual Violence Network meeting/Commissioned Provider Network
- Bedfordshire Criminal Justice Board
- Safer Streets Educational Initiatives
- RJ in schools project
- DPCC joins independent custody visit.
- Beds PCC reacts to Police Pay Award
- BVCS update

### **AOB**

No AOB discussed.