



OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

FOR BEDFORDSHIRE

MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW MEETING

21st December 2023

Business Review Meeting	Actions
<p>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.</p> <p><i>Some papers not provided due to annual leave/absence from the office.</i></p>	
<p>Head of Governance and Transparency</p> <p>Police and Crime Panel</p> <p>The Police and Crime Panel took place on the 5 December 2023, thank you to everyone that provided information for the panel. The panel were very impressed with the information within the documents.</p> <p>The Focus for February 2024 is Finance and the precept however information will still need to be provided for the PCC update and Criminal Justice specific paper.</p> <p>Joint Audit Committee (JAC)</p> <p>JAC is due to take place on the 22 December 2023, KB has reviewed the Strategic Risk Register (SRR).</p> <p>KB met with WH and SD to discuss departmental (OPCC) risk register, more tactical than strategic, the managers will take this forward and present to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) in the new year.</p> <p>Any low-level or high-level risks that the team wish to bring to the Governance Teams attention, please get in contact via email or call, as KB continually reviews the SRR.</p> <p>Freedom of Information (FOI)/Data Protection Requests</p> <p>FOIs continue to come in and be managed by BC and AB.</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.

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.

Independent Custody Visitors (ICV) / Dog Welfare Scheme

- ICV panel meeting held on 14th December 2023 – presentation received on Changing Lives in Custody programme. The CLIC project by Reactiv8 has been running in Kempston for a pilot since the Summer. It assists detainees aged between 18-25 (with wriggle room either side) in realising life goals, challenging their behaviours and attitudes, giving them immediate opportunities to start turning their lives around.
- New Temporary Chief Inspector for Custody attended the ICV panel and was introduced to the ICV's. He presented the data and updated all that they are now using Power BI for the custody dashboards to get up to date and real time data. This will be great for the Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel.
- Leaflet has been created for the Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel for recruitment. Leaflets and other promotional material are going to be created for ICV's and for the Stop and Search and Use of Force Scrutiny Panels.
- Holding meetings with Cambs and Herts around electronic reporting for ICV report forms. Possibility of using Microsoft Forms – project underway.

Stop and Search/Use of Force Scrutiny Panel

- The panel had their last main meeting of 2023 on the 7th of December led by the Chair Phil Dickson-Earle and received input from the Superintendent on the videos viewed and the data.
- The panel were informed 2024 will consist of 6 meetings per quarter including, 1 data panel, 2 main meetings and 3 sub panels.
- The new terms of reference document will be circulated to the panel in January 2024 and will require them to sign to continue their membership.
- We aim to have a youth panel set up by April 2024 that will consist of young people who have an interest in stop and search and use of force and young



people who have lived experiences to provide insight into the reality of a stop and search as a young person and the implications this may have thereafter.

Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel (ICDSP)

Looking into developing training videos for the volunteers, so request if anyone has or knows of training that would be useful, please let us know. Next meeting will be March 2024 but we are working with the Force to ensure that they provide data surrounding custody and report on this.

Legally Qualified Chairs (LQC)/Misconduct

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

LQC recruitment has been completed by the Eastern Region and Decision Notice drafted and set to go to Senior Leadership Team on the 20.12.2023.

Police Appeals Tribunal – date has been confirmed as the 19th January 2023.

Packs have been printed and sent out.

Notice has been sent out to all parties – this will need to be published on the 11 January 2024.

Complaints

Work is being completed in this area – Dip Sampling and liaising with the Force. Team will now have additional working group updates with Force Customer Support.

Reviews – Two new reviews have been received and are currently outstanding – however will be completed in due course. 9 Reviews have been completed since the last BRM.

Performance and Accountability Manager

Surveys

The Precept was live 19.12.23 and this will close on the 12.01.24 – please ensure all team circulate this.

Business Conference

13th Feb 24 at Rufus Centre. Invitations will be going out this week but again if the team can send to any businesses within Bedfordshire that they have contact with that would be great.



<p>APCC held Holding to Account which was informative but provided reassurance that we are in line with others in how we achieve this. Further session to take place in the future.</p> <p>Managers Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A forward plan was presented and it will be for all the team to populate going forward. This will ensure that we as an office understand our busy periods and when planning future or key events, we avoid unnecessary doubling up. 2. Risk Register – again this is being developed for operational risks within the OPCC but if you are aware or become aware of an emerging risk, please notify your managers. 	
<p>Violence & Exploitation Reduction Unit (VERU)</p> <p>Paper not provided due to annual leave.</p>	
<p>Victim Services</p> <p>Paper not provided due to annual leave.</p>	
<p>Commissioning and Income Generation</p> <p>Commissioning Officer recruitment process has taken place, two candidates appointed and now progressing through the pre-employment process. Likely start date January – February 2023 pending vetting outcome.</p> <p>The 24/25 Commissioning plan covering all Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and Community Safety Fund (CSF) funding has been finalised gone through the SLT, presented to the Commissioner, and been agreed and signed off. Competitions will be early January 2024.</p> <p>From this paper the MOJ underspend has been agreed with the MOJ and SLT and the decision paper finalised and signed off.</p> <p>Carry forward of spend for Restorative Justice projects, decision paper completed and will be discussed in SLT this week (20/12/24).</p> <p>Mini competitions for CSF commissioners fund agreed by the Commissioner, 8 projects evaluation completed, clarification meetings booked for 1st week of Jan for mobilisation in Jan.</p> <p>Cameras, Tickets and Collisions (CTC) 2 projects agreed by the Commissioner, and discussion with the road safety partnership manager for the rest of the spend.</p>	



Rape and Sexual Abuse Fund (RASAF) received last information MOJ required. Engagement with MOJ this week likely mobilisation meeting Jan 24.

VERU and Commissioning met to align commissioning processes with a view for both commissioning cycles to line up.

Prep for Q3 monitoring meetings in January with providers.

A research provider has been successfully commissioned, to deliver an independent needs assessment prior to 31st March 2023. Meeting in early Jan to set parameters and research to start.

Successful meeting with probation and joint funding agreement in progress for a fork lift training course, OPCC will be lead fund but only putting £500 in the pot whilst probation fund the rest of the project at £14000.

Plans to engage with organisations through the website by bite size tutorials to be progressed late Jan after the new competitions, delayed due to capacity in commissioning.

Project Manager – Policing and Contact and Safer Streets

Paper not provided due to annual leave.

Criminal Justice Project Manager

Bedfordshire Criminal Justice Board

The Board met on 19 December 2023:

The Theme for the December agenda was Victims and Witnesses, which looked at the following:

1. The Victims and Prisoners Bill and early indicators for the Criminal Justice System - Presentation by the Association of Police Crime Commissioners.
2. An update on the review of the Victims and Witness Board by it's new Chair.
3. The Victims Needs Assessment.
4. A focus on Restorative Justice.

The first BCJB Annual General Meeting will also take place on the 19 December 2023.

This meeting will directly follow the BCJB and will be recorded and uploaded onto the OPCC website and social media for public viewing.

The aim for this meeting, will be to formally introduce the Board and highlight some of the work being done by it's members to build public confidence in the Bedfordshire Criminal Justice system.



Details of the AGM was published on the OPCC website on 30 November. The public are asked to send questions to the Board in advance of the meeting.

CJ&V Partnership working

Luton Knife Crime Summit: Attended Knife Crime Summit hosted by Luton in response to recent serious violence. Luton consulted local children and young people and eight key themes were identified as potential areas which would benefit from an intervention. Luton CSP have been invited to present at the BCJB Reducing Reoffending and the OPCC have offered support via the BCJB partnership.

HMP Bedford: Meetings with HMP Bedford, OPCC and Probation will be taking place in the next few weeks offering multi agency support via the Reducing Reoffending Board. The prison's RR lead.

Transitions: Reducing Reoffending Subgroup service mapping now combined with commissioning and will be circulated to partners on 30 November.

Purpose of this work is to identify gaps in service provisions for children and young people and if required streamline pathways with a view to supporting the work to divert young people away from crime.

Serious Violence Duty (The Duty): The OPCC are conveners of the Serious Violence Duty, bringing partners in the Criminal Justice system together to help them prepare for the Duty coming into force in January 2024.

Workshop III took place on 29 November. The views from the CSPs was that whilst the process has been difficult in terms of timescales, it has been a positive exercise overall; promoting a refreshed way of thinking about partnership working and delivery planning.

Next steps

1. CSPs to exchange delivery plans to streamline where areas of their delivery plans crossover and share ideas.
2. Delivery plans to be tabled at the respective CSP Boards for sign off then circulated to the Serious Harm Partnership Board for ... and future governance in terms of delivery.
3. VERU to ensure that Delivery plans are used to inform the next iteration of the Strategy and the annual review.

Bedfordshire Emergency Department Navigator Pilot

The authorities responsible for the Duty agreed to introduce an A&E Navigator service in Bedfordshire. This service is already established in other parts of the country, including Milton Keynes.



The Pilot will target young people aged 12-25 who are patients at these hospitals, primarily those who present at hospital ED with issues related to violence/exploitation. They will be supported to move away from criminal exploitation, gang and county lines related activity and to positively engage with other local services. Key to the service will be forging strong relationships across the NHS trust, embedding a robust referral mechanism to ensure the right young people are being referred and upskilling hospital staff to make referrals to the service.

1. Mobilisation completed and governance process in place with Commissioning and the Project Manager.
2. Resource for research and analysis of the pilot being progressed.
3. Recruitment has started and should be completed by end December 2023.
4. Relationship building with statutory service providers including CSPs has started and will be ongoing until the pilot launch.

Aim is for the pilot to commence 1 April 2024.

Restorative Justice (RJ) Coordinator

Referrals:

No further referrals since last BRM – however focus has been on projects. December is usually a quieter month for RJ services.

Prison project:

Training dates have been confirmed – 16th January, 30th January and 6th February.

Belong (training provider) will be visiting HMP Bedford the beginning of January to look at space and resources needed. I visited the prison on 4th and 13th December and met with the Head of Reducing Violence and Segregation Unit, and the Head of Business Assurance as well as the Psychologist and staff from the Segregation Unit.

The prison is advertising the training more widely across operational and non-operational staff, sending out an all-staff email with SLT support and assuring (as much as they can) that staff will not be pulled off the training and can attend if they are on a rest day.

Schools project:

Training is now underway with 1st wave schools.

2nd wave schools have met with RJ4Schools and we discussed dates for the various training.



<p>Due to 2 schools not able to commit to the project, NB has contacted 7 schools in Luton/South Central Beds area and now awaiting responses. Aiming to get one more school and then the 6th 'place' on the project can be used as a catch all of training.</p> <p>A decision paper has been written in regards to carrying forward funding as schools haven't been able to fit in all of the training within the financial year due to CPD calendars already being set.</p> <p>Links:</p> <p>Recently delivered a short input at the Reducing Reoffending Board and Criminal Justice Board.</p> <p>Working with Bedfordshire Victim Care Services (BVCS) around the RJ offer – rewriting the information being sent to victims about RJ and ensuring that this is accessible in digital and paper formats.</p> <p>Shared leaflets and information with the team and discussed how RJ can be offered to both victims and offenders as the team do the victim updates.</p> <p>Working with the RJ practitioner in Cambs to review and revise the forms/templates we use, starting with the consent/confidentiality form and demographics data.</p>	
<p>Early Intervention Project Manager</p> <p>Paper not provided due to annual leave.</p>	
<p>Communications Officer</p> <p>Paper not provided due to annual leave.</p>	