



To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Constable

Date: 25 February 2016

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to provide an operational update to the Business Coordination Board ("the Board"). The paper covers any exceptional issues relating Cambridgeshire Constabulary's ("the Constabulary") recent performance, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) inspections, significant operations and effective and efficient policing.

2. Recommendation

2.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

3. Performance Update

3.1 Please refer to the Constabulary's quarterly performance report at Agenda Item 11 of the 25th February 2016 Board meeting.

4. HMIC Inspections Update

4.1 HMIC's report 'Regional Organised Crime Units – A Review of Capability and Effectiveness' was published on 1st December 2015. The report is the subject of a separate paper being presented to the Board meeting.

4.2 The HMIC PEEL Vulnerability inspection report for the Constabulary was published on 15th December 2015. The report is the subject of a separate paper for the attention of the February Board.

4.3 The HMIC PEEL Legitimacy and Effectiveness inspection reports for the Constabulary were published on 11th February and 15th February 2016 respectively, and will be the subject of separate papers to be presented to a future Board meeting.

4.4 The Legitimacy report rated the Constabulary as 'Good' overall, as well as 'Good' in two of the three areas inspected:

- To what extent does practice and behaviour reinforce the wellbeing of staff and an ethical culture? and
- How well does the Force understand, engage with and treat fairly the people it serves to maintain and improve its legitimacy?

4.5 In the area:

- To what extent are decisions taken on the use of stop & search and Taser fair and appropriate?

HMIC graded the Constabulary as 'Requires Improvement'.

4.6 Areas for improvement identified within the Legitimacy inspection report are already being worked on by the Constabulary, alongside work towards reaccreditation for the Best Use of Stop Search Scheme in line with HMIC timescales. This work will be the subject of a separate paper to be presented to a future Board meeting.

4.7 The Effectiveness report rated the Constabulary as 'Requires Improvement' overall, with two of the four areas inspected being graded as 'Good':

- How effective is the Force at preventing crime and anti-social behaviour, and keeping people safe? and
- How effective is the Force at tackling serious and organised crime, including its arrangements for fulfilling its national policing responsibilities?

4.8 The areas:

- How effective is the Force at investigating crime and managing offenders? and
- How effective is the Force at protecting from harm those who are vulnerable, and supporting victims?

were graded as 'Requires Improvement' by HMIC, and areas for improvement identified within the Effectiveness inspection report are being worked on by the Constabulary.

4.9 A commentary of the findings of the HMIC Leadership inspection of the Constabulary, along with a commentary on the HMIC's overall assessment of the Constabulary, will be published on the HMIC website on 25th February 2016. There will be no gradings for Leadership, or for the Constabulary's overall performance, by the HMIC in 2016.

5. Significant Investigations / Operations

5.1 Drug Driving Campaign

- 5.1.1 A month-long 'THINK!' campaign will be taking place in February and March 2016 targeting those who drive whilst under the influence of drugs and warning of the consequences of drug driving.
- 5.1.2 In March 2015 the law changed to make it easier to prosecute those exceeding set limits and roadside test kits have helped officers identify people driving under the influence of drugs. The legislation covers some prescribed drugs as well as illegal substances.
- 5.1.3 The two-month campaign will use social media, targeted radio advertising and messaging at service stations to raise awareness of the law and the consequences of drug driving. Officers from the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Road Policing Unit will also be conducting an increased number of checks throughout the month in an effort to stop drug drivers.
- 5.1.4 The campaign key messages include:
- The change in the law has made it easier to prosecute those driving under the influence of drugs.
 - Those who drug drive not only put their life at risk, but also the lives of others.
 - One of your loved ones could be an innocent victim of a drug driver. Call the confidential phone line to report a drug driver.
 - The penalties are the same as for drink driving. You will lose your licence, could face a fine and even a prison sentence.
 - Limits are set on some prescription drugs – always read the label.

6. Effective and Efficient Policing

6.1 Blue Light Pledge

- 6.1.1 On 5th January 2016 the Chief Constable signed the Blue Light Time to Change Pledge, demonstrating the Constabulary's commitment to challenging mental health issues and discrimination within the workplace.
- 6.1.2 As part of the pledge, an action plan has been put in place which outlines what the Constabulary will do to demonstrate their commitment to the cause.
- 6.1.3 Benefits of signing the Pledge include helping officers, staff and volunteers feel able to speak openly about mental health and seek support when needed. It will also help raise awareness within the Constabulary, and support officers and staff to look after themselves, their colleagues and members of the public.

6.2 Effective Joint Working with Cambridgeshire Trading Standards

6.2.1 Throughout 2015 the Constabulary has worked closely with Cambridgeshire Trading Standards, helping to protect some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, and prosecute those offenders that seek to prey on them. Examples of the good work undertaken include:

- January 2015 – a money launderer from Essex was sentenced to eight months in prison for laundering cheques on behalf of rogue builders, who had defrauded elderly victims of £14,100.
- February 2015 – A trader attempted to scam an elderly victim out of £6,000 for gardening work which was initially quoted as £2,000. Intervention from Trading Standards and Police prevented the victim losing money.
- July 2015 – Two traders were sentenced to a total of 450 hours of unpaid work and ordered to pay compensation for 12 fraud offences amounting to approximately £6,000 against elderly vulnerable victims.
- July 2015 – The names and addresses of more than 70 Cambridgeshire residents who had fallen victim to scams, along with seized cash and cheques sent by many of these victims, was forwarded to the County Council following investigations by the National Trading Standards Scams Team. Working with officers from Adult Social Care and the Constabulary, officers contacted the victims to return money and offer advice and support on how to spot scams, stop those affected from paying out any more money and prevent them from being targeted in the future.
- October 2015 – A victim was cold-called by a trader who agreed to repair a garden shed roof. The victim had already purchased some materials for the traders and was stopped by his bank from withdrawing £1,400 to pay them before they had done any work. He was subsequently given an invoice for £600 before police arrested the suspects on site and charged the trader.
- December 2015 – An elderly lady was over-charged for gardening work and paid £47,500 into a trader’s bank account. £14,400 was restrained in his bank account by Trading Standards and subsequently paid back to victim as compensation. The trader pleaded guilty to fraud and was sentenced to 16 months in prison.

7. Recommendation

7.1 The Board is invited to note the contents of the report.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Document	
Contact Officer	Chief Inspector Paul Ormerod, Corporate Development Department, Cambridgeshire Constabulary