



Creating a safer  
**Cambridgeshire**

**To:** Business Coordination Board

**From:** Chief Constable

**Date:** 10 May 2018

**A report on Stalking and Harassment.**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To update the Business Coordination Board (the “Board”) on progress in Cambridgeshire to address recommendations arising from a national report by Criminal Justice Inspectorates into stalking and harassment.

**2. Recommendations**

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

**3. Background**

3.1 In July 2017 HMIC and HMCPSI published a report titled ‘Living in Fear – the Police and CPS Response to Harassment and Stalking’.

3.2 The report contained a number of recommendations for police forces in addition to recommendations for the College of Policing and the Crown Prosecution Service.

3.3 There is a delay in the publishing of the Stalking and Harassment Authorised Professional Practice guidance which means forces are now required to have interim measures in place that comply with the HMIC Living in Fear recommendations.

3.4 A strategic gap analysis was produced in October 2017, highlighting areas where Cambridgeshire Police may not currently meet the requirements of the report.

- 3.5 A Stalking & Harassment strategic action plan was developed in November 2017 to deliver against the recommendations of the 2017 HMIC and HMCPSP Living in Fear, in line with the National Vulnerability Action Plan and in support of the Police and Crime Plan.
- 3.6 The strategic lead for Stalking and Harassment remains the Detective Superintendent, Head of Public Protection (Martin Brunning). The Chief Officer lead is the Assistant Chief Constable.

#### **4. Progress**

- 4.1 The force has developed a Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment toolkit for all frontline officers highlighting investigative options and safeguarding both within the police force and from local and national partner organisations which is being delivered in training events throughout April and May 2018.
- 4.2 Guidance has been published in March 2018 to advise officers of the changes in stalking legislation and reporting protocols to ensure stalking offences are recorded separately instead of being 'hidden' within other crime types.
- 4.3 The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) secured funding for a dedicated Stalking & Harassment dedicated victim care officer to work within the victim and witness hub. Cambridgeshire will be one of only a few forces nationally to have a dedicated post and this was recognised at the recent National Stalking Conference, hosted by The Suzy Lamplugh Trust.
- 4.4 The OPCC and Cambridgeshire Constabulary are hosting a Stalking & Harassment awareness event for officers, staff and partner organisations on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018. The Suzy Lamplugh Trust will be presenting the event.
- 4.5 The force supported the recent National Stalking Awareness week (Monday 16<sup>th</sup>-Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018) with a series of articles and social media posts raising awareness of Stalking & Harassment and a full media strategy for 2018/19 is being developed with the Corporate Communications department.
- 4.6 Following recent changes a new Stalking & Harassment local CPS representative has been identified to work closely with the force to improve referral and prosecution rates for Stalking & Harassment cases.
- 4.7 The force is working towards fully implementing all elements of the Stalking & Harassment Strategic Action Plan by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018.

#### **5. Recommendation**

The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

<b>Source Documents</b>	Stalking and Harassment Strategic Action Plan  National Vulnerability Action Plan  2017 HMIC and HMCPSI 'Living in Fear – the Police and CPS Response to Harassment & Stalking'
<b>Contact Officer(s)</b>	T/Detective Inspector 1351 Iain Moor – Cambridgeshire Constabulary Stalking & Harassment Lead.