



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

To: Business Coordination Board

From: Chief Constable

Date: 18 September 2019

Cambridgeshire Constabulary's response to the HMICFRS national thematic report "Fraud: Time to Choose – An inspection of the police response to fraud"

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to provide an update to the Business Coordination Board ("the Board") regards to the Constabulary's response to the report "Fraud: Time to Choose – An inspection of the police response to fraud" published by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) on 02 April 2019.
- 1.2. The Constabulary's response to the HMICFRS report was presented to the Business Coordination Board (BCB) on 16 May 2019. This placed a requirement on the Constabulary to provide a progress update to BCB on the following recommendations and areas for improvement no later than September 2019:
 - By 30 September 2019, chief constables should publish their force's policy for responding to and investigating allegations of fraud (in relation to both calls for service and National Fraud Intelligence Bureau disseminations for enforcement).
 - Chief constables should ensure their forces improve the identification and mapping of organised crime groups in which the principle criminality is fraud.
 - Chief constables should ensure that fraudsters are included among those considered for serious organised crime 'prevent' tactics, including by local strategic partnership boards and through integrated offender management processes.
 - Chief constables should increase their force's use of ancillary orders against fraudsters.

2. Progress Updates

- 2.1. The force fraud policy has been compiled and is now due for publication. This outlines the force position when responding to and investigating allegations of fraud in relation to both

calls for service and National Fraud Intelligence Bureau disseminations for enforcement with specific consideration to the National Fraud Policing Strategy 2019 – 2022. It should however be noted this strategy is still in draft format however no significant changes are anticipated.

- 2.2. Awareness training has been given to both Specialist Crime Team staff and CIB Intelligence officers on the identification and mapping process for OCG's. As a result Cambridgeshire has mapped its first Fraud based OCG's on the National tracker over the last 6 months. These OCG's form approx. 10% of active Crime groups currently mapped in Force. Further training/analysis is required to identify potential OCG's involved in the less complex Fraud offences that are allocated and investigated locally.
- 2.3. The Constabulary has introduced methods of identifying High Harm individuals across all crime types through analytical processes. These offenders are managed through an IOM process which is partnership based and is managed by locally based officers. Awareness training regarding IOM is being arranged for Specialist Fraud investigators in order to increase the numbers of referrals of fraudsters.
- 2.4. Officers within the Force's specialist response to Fraud (Specialist Crime Team) are aware and currently utilising orders such as Serious Crime Prevention Orders (SCPO's) cease and desist notices, account winding up orders and director disqualifications. Outside of Intelligence and Specialist Crime Department (ISCD) the knowledge of these is assessed as limited. Specialist Crime Team (SCT) staff already act as advisors for local crime investigators managing Fraud and seek to identify opportunities to increase the use of these tactics. Recommendation - training inputs to be provided to local investigators by SCT staff.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1. The Board to note the response and progress against HMICFRS recommendations and areas for improvement.