



BUSINESS CO-ORDINATION BOARD

APPROVED MINUTES

Date: 13th July 2021 **Time:** 14:00

Location: Via Microsoft Teams

Members:

Darryl Preston	Police and Crime Commissioner
Nick Dean	Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Jane Gyford	Deputy Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Jim Haylett	Chief Executive, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Jon Lee	Director of Finance & Resources, Cambridgeshire Constabulary

In Attendance:

Aly Flowers	Head of Compliance, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Claire Dicker	Business Support Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Nancy Leversha	Strategic Accountant, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Russ Waterson	Superintendent, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire Uplift Board – Agenda Item 12 only

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Vicki Evans, Assistant Chief Constable, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and; Matthew Warren, Chief Finance Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

2. Declarations of Interest

2.1 There were no declarations of interest.

3. To approve minutes of the Business Coordination Board meetings held on the 26th May 2021

3.1 The Business Coordination Board (the “Board”) approved the minutes from the meeting on the 26th May 2021 as a true record of the meeting.

4. Business Co-ordination Board Action Log

4.1 There are currently no actions on the log and therefore nothing to report on.

5. Cambridgeshire Constabulary Performance Report – Corporate Plan

5.1 The Chief Constable presented the report to the Board on Cambridgeshire Constabulary’s (the “Constabulary”) performance over the last 12 months up to May 2021, asking the Board to note the additional focus on the Constabulary’s Corporate Plan priority of ‘Reduce Harm to Communities.’

5.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner (the “Commissioner”) asked about ‘call demand’, noting that the 999 calls received in May were higher than in the same month in the last eight years and asked why this was, and what pressure had this put on response resources. The Board were reminded that at their meeting in May 2021 they had discussed public feedback on 101 secondary call waits and wanted an update to know if these had improved since that meeting.

5.3 The Chief Constable confirmed that there has been an increase in telephone calls, webchat and online communication methods. Whilst ordinarily demand does increase in the summer months, there was also the added impact of the Covid lockdown, and there is an expectation that this will increase. The Constabulary have recruited 20 new call takers who are currently undergoing training. There has been an increase in response officers to attend incidents, however there is the need for more officers to be trained in response driving courses. Officers are still attending immediate incidents within 17 minutes of the incident being received.

5.4 The Chief Constable explained that secondary call handling is still an issue and that the Constabulary have this as a focused element of priority through their Operational Performance Board.

5.5 The Commissioner noted that there has been an increase in a number of offences including Child Sexual Abuse cases. He also noted the detailed analysis being undertaken regarding this and asked if there were any indications as to why there may be an increase and what assurance can be given regarding the actions the Constabulary are taking regarding these cases. The Board were reminded of their discussions at their May meeting that the increase maybe partly as a result of young people returning to the school environment and feeling more confident to be able to disclose such issues.

5.6 The Chief Constable informed the Board that during lockdowns 1 and 2 that some offences such as Child Sexual Abuse, online crime, and hidden crimes such as domestic abuse, were unseen. During lockdowns 1 and 2 there was not a massive increase in the reporting of domestic abuse (locally and nationally), however, following lockdown 3 the severity of cases of domestic abuse did start to come through to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding hubs, and the Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Hubs (MetHub). There has also been a lot of encouragement given to report domestic abuse through social media and other external campaigns. The Chief Constable reported that since

the Vulnerability Focus Desks and the Domestic Abuse Early Intervention Desks have been implemented, frontline officers have found them of huge benefit when attending incidents and getting the information filtered through to them in a timely manner. It was also noted that there was an increase in the reporting of Child Sexual Abuse following the schools returning. The Safer Schools officers have used early intervention by going into the schools to understand what may have happened to pupils during lockdown.

- 5.7 The Commissioner asked about the Victim Care Contracts and that the compliance continues to fluctuate and sought reassurance regarding how the work is being undertaken and will it ensure that compliance be improved.
- 5.8 The Chief Constable stated that there are two areas of compliance those being the overall numbers and quality. He advised the Board that it is not just the compliance figure but the quality of the supervisory reviews that are also undertaken. There are also a number of crime elements, particularly in the high-risk victim compliance, which could have been better in terms of quality and overall compliance. These levels of compliance have now been reduced. These fluctuations are to be expected coming out of lockdown. The Protecting Vulnerable People (PVP) Team have a specific monitoring system which enables them to focus on the Key Compliance issues in relation to Performance Indicators. Victims will now receive an automated text message which they can log their satisfaction of their experience.
- 5.9 The Commissioner noted the National Data Quality Improvement Service (which is a computer assisted classification tool to identify records that should be tagged as involving a knife or sharp instrument prior to crime data being submitted to the Home Office) and that a historic review has identified 189 offences, which was a 36% increase compared to previously published figures. An explanation was sought from the Chief Constable as to what will happen to these identified offences and how this will impact on the Office of National Statistics is due to release a report at the end of July.
- 5.10 The Chief Constable replied to say that this tool will assist the Constabulary to provide them with a better intelligence picture especially when searching for specific key words in relation to knife crime, for example a particular area or person. The Constabulary were an early adopter of this tool and that the Home Office have asked for them to complete reports to in relation to these crimes. This may cause an initial increase in the Constabulary's figures in relation to knife crime.
- 5.11 The Commissioner was pleased to report that the new Community Scrutiny Panel has started for stop and search and use of force and a number of scrutiny sessions are being planned throughout the year, with an Annual General meeting in March.
- 5.12 The Board noted the report.

6. Police and Crime Plan Development

- 6.1 The Chief Executive presented the report to the Board on the development of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan (the "Plan") and specifically the public and stakeholder consultation that is ongoing.
- 6.2 There are four questions which ask about priorities, if there is anything else that they wish to raise, and questions for victims, with 650 responses received so far.
- 6.3 The Commissioner reported that he had some useful discussions over recent week with members of the public and Councillors through their briefing sessions and was

pleased that the emerging priority areas that he has identified appear to be resonating with the public, and this feedback from the public and partners will help to inform the detail of the Plan. The Commissioner emphasised that he looks forward to continuing to work with the Constabulary as the Plan develops.

6.4 The responses received from each district will be analysed separately, and the themes will then be shared with the Constabulary and stakeholders. The Plan will then run alongside the Constabulary's Corporate Plan.

6.5 The Board noted the update.

7.1 Revised Outturn Report 2020/21

7.1.1 The Director of Finance and Resources presented the report to the Board as an update following some year-end movements following the May Board meeting.

7.1.2 The report in May reported an overall underspend of £702K and this is now reported as £188k. The changes are a result of the insurance fund audit – which led to increasing the insurance reserve by £344k for the potential liability and also following a review by the Constabulary's Pension administrator there has been historic underpayments of £170k.

7.1.3 The Capital outturn has not changed. There is an updated Reserves position making changes from the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). Two new reserves have been created: Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme and Pension reserve from the Collaboration & Commissioning Reserve. The Revenue underspend has been added to the General Reserve.

7.1.3 The Board were asked to note the outturn position and approve reserve moments.

7.2 Revenue and Capital Monitoring Report 2021/22 Months 1 & 2

7.2.1 The Director of Finance and Resources presented the report to the Board.

7.2.2 The highlights of the report were presented to the Board and were asked to note the following:

- There are emerging pressures that have been identified and are currently under review
- There was a late budget notification in relation to the National Police Air Service (NPAS) with a forecast overspend of £56,000.
- There is an overspend in relation to Police Officer pay and allowances, again this is under review in relation to the uplift pressure, however, Police Officer overtime is underspent but there was an increase in costs in April.
- Pension claims are a potential cost pressure of £300-400,000 with no guarantee that there would be any funding support from the government.
- The Capital Budget has a small underspend forecast currently but this relates to the Chief Constable's delegated budget (£300k).
- Key Performance Indicators are above target.
- There is a Home Office Grant in relation to Emergency Services Network (ESN). This money was granted to the Constabulary for them to act as banker and allocate out the money to other forces on the Home Office's behalf.

7.2.3 There is a recommendation to the Board to review a proposed addition to the Capital Programme for Covert renewal equipment for £34,000. This is funded through the

Chief Constable's Delegated Budget and was covered at the Force Executive Board in early July. The Commissioner noted this and that no Decision Notice was required.

7.2.4 The Board noted the report.

8. Treasury Management Review 2020/21

8.1 The Director of Finance and Resources presented the report to the Board.

8.2 He reported on the year-end position for 2020/21 in terms of borrowing and interest. The review compares against the Treasury Management Strategy for 2021. It showed that interest rates were exceedingly low due to the Bank rates being reduced during Covid. Budgeted interest of £144,000 was not achieved, interest of £53,800 was the actual interest income. All OPCC loans are with the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) and total £17.3m as at 31st March 2021.

8.3 The Board noted the update.

9. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Report: 'The Hidden Victims: Report on Hestia's super-complaint on the police response to victims of modern slavery.'

9.1 The Deputy Chief Constable presented the report to the Board to provide an update on the Constabulary's response to the report. The work has been picked up by the Home Office, HMICFRS and the College of Policing. There were three recommendations from the Home Office, HMICFRS and the College of Policing that the Constabulary have responded to.

9.2 The report also mentions the work with the OPCC to ensure that victims can access specialist support and the value this brings. There are two Specialist Victim and Witness Care Co-ordinators based in the Victim and Witness Hub, ensuring that the victims of exploitation receive tailored support. The staff can also liaise with the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) on their behalf and support them when they leave NRM arrangements.

9.3 To note this report is for information and does not require a Section 55 response under the Police Act 1996 from the Commissioner.

9.4 The Board noted the report.

10. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services National Child Protection Inspection

10.1 The Chief Constable presented the report to the Board, the purpose of which was to provide an overview of the upcoming HMICFRS inspection of police forces.

10.2 The focus of the inspection is on the outcomes for, and experiences of, children who come into contact with the police when there are concerns about their safety or wellbeing.

10.3 HMICFRS are currently carrying out the inspection within the Constabulary, part of which has comprised of self-assessment and case audits and interviews with police officers, police staff and representatives from partner agencies.

10.4 The Board noted the report.

11. Thematic Learning from Scrutiny Panels – Rape Investigations and Child Abuse Investigations.

11.1 The Chief Constable presented the report to the Board following an action from the 26th November 2020 Board meeting. The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the thematic learning from scrutiny panels in respect of victim disengagement and discontinuance linked to Rape Investigations and Child Abuse investigations.

11.2 The Scrutiny Panel provides the open and transparent scrutiny review of rape and serious sexual offences where a decision to take no further action has been taken by police or the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS).

11.3 The Board noted the report.

12. Officer Uplift Programme & Police Education Qualification Framework

12.1 Superintendent Waterson provided the Board with an update on the progress of the Uplift Programme in respect of the Constabulary. The Uplift Programme relates to the Government's commitment to recruit an additional 20,000 police officers by March 2023. Also discussed were the preparations for the start of the Police Education Qualification Framework, the latter of which is due to start within the Constabulary October 2021.

12.2 The Board noted the update.

13. Land at Enterprise Way, Bretton, Peterborough

13.1 The Chief Constable presented the report to the Board, the purpose of which was to seek approval for the sale of the freehold interest in land at Enterprise Way, Bretton, Peterborough.

13.2 A report had also gone to the Resource Group meeting on the 12th July 2021. The Commissioner agreed for the sale to proceed, basing this on the advice of the Director of Estates within the report in respect of accepting the highest unconditional offer.

13.3 The Commissioner signed the Decision Notice CPCC 2021-012 Land at Enterprise Way, Bretton, Peterborough.

13.4 The Board noted the report.

14. AOB

14.1 There was no further business to be raised.



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Darryl Preston
Police and Crime Commissioner