



BCJB Board Meeting

3rd June 2024

Teams Meeting

Name	Organisation
John Tizard (JT)	Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner (Chair)
Dave Collins (DCS)	Luton Borough Council
Doug Charlton (DCN)	Probation Service
Jolene Jefferson (JJ)	Luton Borough Council
Lorna Carver (LC)	Central Bedfordshire Council
Nick Titchener (NT)	Lawtons Solicitors
Kerry White (KW)	HMCTS (Crown Court)
Matt Thompson (MT)	Hertfordshire Police
Kate Somarakis (KS)	HMCTS Magistrates
Susan Childerhouse (SC)	Central Bedfordshire Council
Zara Brown (ZB)	Bedfordshire Police
Pat Jennings (PJ)	Bedford Borough Council
Ian Miller (IM)	HMCTS (Crown Court)
Nicola Bayliss (NB)	Bedfordshire OPCC
Richard Vaughan (RV)	Youth Justice Board
Sarah Bott (SB)	Probation Service
John Facey (JF)	Legal Aid Agency
Toni Montgomery-Johnson	Legal Aid Agency
Layla Allen (LA)	Citizens Advice Bureau
Gemma McCormack (GM)	Bedfordshire OPCC

Item No.	Topic
1.	<p>Welcome, Introduction and Apologies:</p> <p>GM welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies from Francoise Julian who would usually support with part chairing the Board meetings.</p> <p>GM noted the change in Agenda for the meeting today and advised that this meeting would be held to allow the new Police and Crime Commissioner John Tizard to introduce himself, set out his vision going forward and for Partners to have the opportunity to meet John and explain their roles in the Criminal Justice system. We will revert back to the usually meeting structure in the Board meeting being held in July 2024.</p>

John introduced himself and advised that he has amended the Terms of Reference (attached). The ToR was sent out to the Board ahead of this meeting and all were in agreement during the meeting with the proposed changes.

LC asked in regards to the Business Plan/Action Plan and if there would be a budget implication? JT agreed that this is a good point and will be explored/discussed further at the meeting in July.

All attendees introduced themselves, spoke about their roles and highlighted any issues or key areas that they are focussing on;

Richard Vaughan – out of court disposals, diverting up from the criminal justice system.

Nick Titchener – Justice for clients as much as victims.

John Facey and Toni Montgomery- Johnson – Legal Aid, understanding what is happening in the criminal justice system that impacts providers and clients.

Doug Charlton and Sarah Bott – Keeping the Courts staffed, domestic abuse and safeguarding are some of the blocks, support those coming out of prison, National shortage of staff.

Zara Brown – How the Board can forge systemwide approaches, working together to create a better working practice. Victims and Witnesses – a good opportunity to work alongside the CPS to strengthen this. The prison system is struggling, need the right people in the right places, women in the criminal justice system, schools work – young boys behaviour towards girls.

Nicola Bayliss – Delivery training for restorative justice in schools project, the National restorative justice issue is that no one knows what it is, we need more awareness.

Dave Collins – Early intervention with young people to triage and divert them from the criminal justice system, the challenge is the number of children drawn into gang violence etc.

Ian Miller – HMCTS issues, continuing to work to get as many hearing through the system as possible.

Kate Somarakis – Magistrates Court challenges – delays before cases are received, judicial delivery groups are in place to support with listings, ensuring we have the right match for the demands.

Kerry White – Crown Courts cut down waiting times and delays, reduce the number of hearings per case to try to unblock the system.

Matthew Thompson – Administrator of Justice, court backlog risks, case listings, admin of files, the biggest challenge is the amount of cases – all partners are aware of these and are all working hard towards a resolution.



	<p>Pat Jennings – Supports children from ages 10 – 18, a lot of them have been the victims of crime.</p> <p>Layla Allen – Witness service based in every court and funded by the Ministry of Justice, offering enhanced support to victims.</p> <p>Lorna Carver – Central Bedfordshire Council, CSP’s supporting communities across the county.</p> <p>Susan Childerhouse – Community Safety Partnerships continue to work with other organisations where intelligence is shared to enable better support provided to area etc.</p> <p>Jolene Jefferson – Trying to improve criminal justice referrals, specialist CYP team, we are currently in the process of tendering a new contract for drug and alcohol delivery support and we are looking to expand this contract to 10 years and include supporting those in prisons and those being released from prison with addiction.</p> <p>Toni Montgomery-Johnson – Looking at how to best support the Criminal Justice Board, it would also be good to join any relevant sub groups.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>15th July 2024, 10am – Venue Kempston Police HQ</p> <p>Agenda;</p> <p>Programme for the coming year</p> <p>Key areas</p> <p>Task and Finish Group discussion</p>