



OFFICE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

FOR BEDFORDSHIRE

MONTHLY BUSINESS REVIEW MEETING

27th August 2024

The BRM meeting did not go ahead due to operational reasons, however monthly papers have been documented in the below text. This has been reviewed by the Head of Governance and Transparency and agreed to be published. The Chief Executive fed back to the team via the weekly team meeting on priorities and updates. ***Some papers not provided due to annual leave/absence from the office.***

Business Review Meeting	Actions
<p>Head of Governance and Transparency</p> <p><u>Police and Crime Plan</u></p> <p>Consultation concluded on the 23.08.2024, KB is currently pulling together the feedback and ensuring elements are within the plan and will discuss with CEO and PCC.</p> <p><u>Police and Crime Panel</u></p> <p>Next Panel meeting is on the 17 September 2024. Deadline for papers is: 04 September 2024.</p> <p>Papers being presented are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC Update paper • Police and Crime Plan draft • To receive the Commissioner’s intentions, aims and priorities for future grant commissioning • Mid-year review of Commissioner’s budget and delivery against targets <p><u>HMICFRS</u></p> <p>PEEL Inspection due to be completed in September.</p> <p>Response which has been drafted by the OPCC and submitted in response to inspections are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State of Policing 	



- Vetting and anti-corruption part 2 How effective is the National Crime Agency at dealing with corruption.

Joint Audit Committee (JAC)

- Any low-level or high-level risks that the team wish to bring to the Governance Teams attention, please get in contact via email or call, as KB continually reviews the SRR.
- Next JAC meeting will take place 20th September 2024.

Performance and Governance

Performance and Governance Board due to be held on 29 August 2024. There has been a change of Terms of Reference. KB to explain change.

No concerns at this time.

Freedom of Information (FOI)/Data Protection Requests

FOIs continue to come in and be managed by BC.

0 outstanding, 3 received and closed within August 2024.

Independent Custody Visitors (ICV) / Dog Welfare Scheme

- Following discussion with Inspector, BC has reached out to our vetted volunteers from the Animal Welfare Scheme and Custody Visitors following the intranet article to request their assistance in helping train the airport dogs. We've already received a high level of interest from the volunteers to support the police with this, which is very positive.
- We have designed a new rota system via Microsoft Forms to assist ICV's in signing up for visits. This will be a trial run for the next quarter.
- We have tested the iPads in both Kempston and Luton custody suite's and they worked efficiently with the WiFi. BC to make a couple of amendments to the forms following some feedback from the ICV's who completed the trial runs. We plan to deliver 1:1 training if required as well as training at the Panel meeting at the end of September with a hope to roll out the iPads in October in both suites.
- 3 new ICV's who will be completing their training on 6th and 13th September.

Stop and Search/Use of Force Scrutiny Panel



- Main meeting for Stop and Search was held on the 15 August 2024. Next Use of Force main meeting is on the 29 August 2024.
- Use of Force training has been arranged and invites have been sent out to volunteers.
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- We have also taken on the S163 scrutiny panel, with the training to be held on the 19 September 2024.
- Visits to the Bedford and Luton university campus have been arranged for the 18th & 19th September 2024. We will be having a stand at the university freshers event to promote our panels.

Independent Custody Detention Scrutiny Panel (ICDSP)

- Recruitment is ongoing with several interviews scheduled. We've received a high level of interest following promotion on social media inc Next Door and Beds Connected.
- Would like to increase the diversity of our Panel ahead of the review of the pilot.
- Due to attend Freshers Fayre's in September to promote the ICDSP to university students, as well as a Youth Conference in October.
- Next quarterly meeting is scheduled for 16 September 2024.

Legally Qualified Chairs (LQC)/Misconduct

On 7th May legislation changed surrounding LQC and Independent Members so new process is in place to ensure we are complying with this.

Currently in the process of appointing 2 IPM's (following recent change in legislation) for a Misconduct Hearing scheduled at the end of September 2024.

Pension Forfeiture

Awaiting update on three cases from the Force. Once received packs will be made and brought to the PCC for a determination if pension forfeiture should be completed.



Police Appeals Tribunal

Four finalised and one due to complete in October 2024

Complaints

Work is being completed in this area – Dip Sampling and liaising with the Force. Team will now have additional working group updates with force CS.

Reviews – 2 completed – none outstanding

There is no time frame for a review to be completed however the aim is to complete as soon as practicable.

The team are currently working on the Quarterly Transparency Report, that is published - <https://www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk/opcc-transparency-reports/>

Website Compliance – Specified Information Order

SD and BC are working on the retention policy and clearing files – this is still ongoing. Moving forward we will be looking at SharePoint and how we get the office moved over and using this system.

OPCC Policies and Procedures

Review taken place end of August 2024.

Audit

VERU Audit – follow up – all recommendations completed.

Violence & Exploitation Reduction Unit (VERU)

Update to be provided at next meeting.

Commissioning

The Commissioning Team is resourced, with the Commissioning and Income Generation Lead due to return to the team until 11th October 2024.

The Commissioning Team have completed quarter 1 monitoring meetings. Meetings have taken place in person where suitable for newly commissioned services to build a rapport. New monitoring return templates were used to inform system thinking and wider discussions on themes. Outcomes and outputs are being gathered into a Governance and Transparency presentation to share activity in the quarter.

Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioners Office completed a Peer Review. Actions taken from the peer Review are being formulated into a Commissioning Plan for



<p>implementation. A Commissioning team day has been placed in the diary of 9th September to determine the process to implement these actions.</p> <p>Commissioning, Governance and Transparency meeting to take place for Q2 on 26th November 2024.</p> <p>A research provider continues to progress the independent needs assessment which continues into 2024/2025. The interim report is due at the end of August 2024.</p> <p>The Commissioning team presented to the Police and Crime Commissioner on commissioning activities and their alignment to current, short-term, and long-term goals within the Police and Crime Plan for Bedfordshire Police.</p> <p>Commissioning activities are underway regarding two tender opportunities. During the process of developing the specification for the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) service, a decision was made to collaborate with Essex Police and Crime Commissioners Office, preparing a joint specification. The IDVA specification was released to bid respondents on 5th August 2024.</p> <p>The Commissioning team are exploring opportunities for income generation in terms of accessing funds, self-generated funds from commissioned services, collaboration and approaching organisations regarding social value expectations.</p>	
<p>Project Manager – Policing and Contact and Safer Streets</p> <p>Update to be provided at next meeting.</p>	
<p>Restorative Justice (RJ) Coordinator</p> <p>Referrals:</p> <p>9 new referrals since last BRM. 7 of which were from the HMP The Mount event (3 were referred straight to Herts RJ service as there is no link to Beds)</p> <p>3 cases actively working on, 2 on hold.</p> <p>Prison project:</p> <p>Discussions are continuing around the Train the Trainer course – who will be attending this and when this will be held. Reminder sent as a date still needs to be arranged.</p> <p>Schools project:</p>	



Planning for September – going into one school for a PD day in the new academic year. Putting together a plan for each school – targets based on discussions and school-identified needs.

Training:

Agreement from PCC has been obtained to look into Beds OPCC becoming a registered training provider with the Restorative Justice Council – this will be with the office as a whole rather than just the two RJ Co-ordinators, as it allows for resilience, more activity and utilising the skills of the office as a whole.

20th-22nd August, 7 members of the Education & Diversion team completed a bespoke 3-day restorative training course, with another 2 completing day 1 only, and a Project Manager from the office also attended the course. Feedback from the course will be used to support the application to the RJC, as well as being used to promote further training within the police, schools and partner agencies.

Links:

A series of comms around RJ and training are being put together, including plans around comms in RJ week and the NPCC guidance which is being launched that week.

The event at a Herts prison (HMP The Mount) was well received and had positive feedback from those who attended, and led to 7 referrals being received. We are linking in with the programme course leader in order to attend the last session and pick up any referrals from those wishing to take part in RJ with the victims of their offences.

Criminal Justice and Victims Project Manager

Bedfordshire Criminal Justice Board

The Board met on Jul-24: The Theme was 'A Whole Systems Approach'. Key presentations looked at;

- HMP Bedford, reported on an improvement plan for the prison and highlighted an 'Assertive Outreach Programme', commissioned by the OPCC, aimed at providing wrap around support including mental health, for individuals identified as the most violent or self harming in the prison.
- Timeliness of cases from arrest to court.



- A request for feedback on draft Police and Crime Plan and a commitment to a whole system approach to ownership and delivering on the objectives laid out in the plan.

Key actions:

- Work with the Prison service relating to;
 - Individuals exiting the prisons into the community and the support around – actioning with commissioning lead/s
 - Progressing a cross county Housing Protocol
- Review Reducing Reoffending Board
 - Look at what the outputs are, their value and how they feed into the CJB
 - Priorities
 - Membership
- Business Plan in line with the new Police and Crime Plan
- Partnership feedback on the new Police and Crime Plan

Next Board on 15 October: Agenda will include;

- Draft 2023/24 Annual Report
- Report on potential impact and local response to the Government early release from prisons scheme by Bedfordshire Police
- Highlight report from HMCTS on court delays and concerns in the system

NB. The Board currently does not have a data lead, the Board Manager will be looking at producing the data reports in future on trial.

CJ&V Partnership working

HMP Bedford: Beds OPCC will coordinate the work to improve outcomes for prison leavers to reduce potential for reoffending. The aim will be to achieve this through an existing workstream.

Serious Violence Duty (The Duty):

Currently sourcing a research organisation to review/refresh the VERU/SVD strategy.

Bedfordshire Emergency Department Navigator Pilot



- This service went live on 1 April; Some staffing concerns due to sickness however, conversion rates from referral to uptake of service is slightly above target – no major concerns to report at this time.

Communications Officer

Press release schedule update

- PCC praises Professional Standards Department
- PCC and his deputy show support at anti-violence event in Luton
- Reassurance for residents following violent disorder in cities across the country
- Police praise community for support following peaceful evening across the county
- Beds PCC vows to fight racism and hate
- Bedfordshire PCC champions Home Secretary's Youth Crime Plan
- Beds PCC backs police call for weapons surrender
- PCC attends Luton Peace Vigil as Knife Angel departs
- Letter from Chief Constable and PCC
- An Update on 24 Hours in Police Custody
- Police and Crime Panel back PCC's policing plan
- Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner announces new Chief Executive of his Office

Upcoming events

- Meet and Challenge the PCC – 16th Oct - Leighton Buzzard
- Meet and Challenge the PCC – 20th Nov – Luton
- Rural Crime event – 6th Nov - Thurleigh

Socials

- Joint statement from PCC and Leader of Luton Council on unrest
- PCC and DPCC attended anti-violence event in Luton
- PCC statement on unrest thanking Beds Police
- PCC visiting mosques to reassure community following unrest



- PCC visit to Beds Fire and Rescue Service
- PCC attending Independence Day of Pakistan and Independence Day of India
- PCC joined Beds Police Cohesion team for prayers and community engagement
- PCC attending Bedford British Pakistani Welfare Association
- Children's Commissioners report – PCC statement
- Youth Crime Plan – PCC statement
- Have your say – Police and Crime Plan consultation
- Zombie knife ban – PCC statement
- Monthly column – Bedford Independent
- Beds Police must up it's game on protecting women and children says PCC
- Knife Angel departing from Luton

See comms schedule for full details.

Website

Work underway and brief being worked on for new website