



STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD

**Notes of meeting held on Tuesday, 16th May 2017
Main Conference room (G2), Lloyd House**

Present:

- David Jamieson - Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ashley Bertie - Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner (APCC)
- Louisa Rolfe - Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)
- Marcus Beale - Assistant Chief Constable (ACC)
- Alex Murray - Assistant Chief Constable (ACC)
- Sarah Boycott - Assistant Chief Constable (ACC)

- Ernie Hendricks - Board Member
- Cllr Liam Preece - Board Member
- Dr Sarah Marwick - Board Member
- Waheed Saleem - Board Member

- Jonathan Jardine - Chief Executive
- Mark Kenyon - Chief Finance Officer
- Alethea Fuller - Policy and Commissioning Manager
- Andrea Gabbitas - Business Services Manager
- Janice Mathias - Independent Custody Visitor (ICV)
- Beverley Wootton - Independent Custody Visitor (ICV)

5 observers

1 note taker and 1 webcast controller.

059/17	<p>The Commissioner welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>The Commissioner introduced Sarah Boycott and congratulated her on her new role as Assistant Chief Constable, in which she will hold the portfolio for local policing and intervention and prevention.</p> <p>The Deputy Chief Constable provided an update on the effect the cyber-attack on the NHS and other public sector organisations. The Commissioner urged Government Ministers to take this issue seriously as cyber security is a key challenge to modern day policing. The Commissioner also stated that crime is changing rather than falling, for example in this instance one incident of crime affected thousands of people. The Commissioner urged the Government to look at cuts to policing to ensure Forces have adequate funding and resources to deal with new and changing crimes.</p> <p>An update was also provided on the Second World War bomb which was discovered near the A38 Aston Expressway in Birmingham. The various agencies of the local resilience forum were co-ordinating the</p>	059/17
---------------	--	---------------

	response to minimise the local impact. The Commissioner stated this incident highlights the need for agencies such as the police, Highways England and local authorities to work together closely, particularly regarding the resilience of the road network. This falls under the remit of the West Midlands Combined Authority and the new Metro Mayor.	
060/17	Item 1 – Conflicts of Interest There were no conflicts of interest declared.	060/17
061/17	Item 2 – Apologies Apologies were received from the Chief Constable David Thompson, Councillor Judy Foster, Dr Cath Hannon, Brendon Connor and Gurindiner Singh Josan.	061/17
062/17	Item 3 – Notes of last meeting The board agreed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 April 2017 as an accurate record.	062/17
063/17	Item 4 – Acceptance of Petitions There were no petitions received.	063/17
064/17	Item 5 – Public Questions There were no questions from members of the public.	064/17
065/17	Item 6 – Questions from the Board on matters not on the agenda 1. Will the Deputy Chief Constable set out the how the Force is dealing with use of social media by criminal gangs to glorify their crimes? <i>(Asked by Waheed Saleem)</i> Assistant Chief Constable Alex Murray confirmed that the Force act upon any information of this type of offence. This was discussed at the last meeting of the Gangs and Violence Commission. Intelligence is vital in such cases and communities are urged to report such material to the police so they can trace those involve. They will then be arrested or diversionary tactics put in place, as appropriate. Where such material does not break the law but breaches the terms of reference they refer them to the host sites. However it was noted despite the many referrals from the Force to host sites much of the material is not removed from the site. The Commissioner called on these companies to do more to ensure this content is removed. The Force communications team continues to work on new and innovate ways to reach people who engage with these social media videos.	065/17

2. Can the Deputy Chief Constable set out how the Force is dealing with violent crime and what further measures does she intend to put in place to reassure the Community?

(Asked by Waheed Saleem)

It is important to note that the terms violence covers a wide range of offences, from domestic violence to violence associated with the night time economy.

The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed violent crime is a priority for the Force and substantial work continues to prevent and intervene in violent crime alongside enforcement activities. This includes ensuring there are adequate resources in areas where violent crime is most likely to happen and working with licensed premises and other agencies.

The causes of violence, domestic violence and violence against women and girls in particular, are being explored and dedicated teams are working with partner organisations to tackle this.

The Violence Prevention Alliance, which the PCCs office was at the forefront of developing, delivers prevention strategies such as mentoring in violence programmes in 6 schools.

Geographically located teams investigate violent crime 24/7 and they work closely with the Prevent teams. A successful example of this is the gang prevention orders placed on members of the Glentworth Block Family, placing restrictions on members of the criminal families.

The Force are also using Data Driven Insight to identify people on the edges of organised crime groups and to engage with them to try and stop their journey into criminality. Early results show this has a good reduction in crimes committed by these individuals, in comparison to those who did not receive this intervention.

There is also a lot of work continuing to reassure the community through communication strategies, Independent Advisory Groups (IAGs) and WM Now which provides updates to its subscribers.

APCC Ashley Bertie confirmed a West Midlands Police Cadet Scheme is being established. The scheme will give young people the opportunity to develop skills and confidence and take place in community activities.

3. What is the approach of WMP to the enforcement of 20 MPH zones?

(Asked by Dr Sarah Marwick)

The Deputy Chief Constable confirmed local authorities have a statutory obligation in the area of road safety and intervention, however the Force does work closely with them to agree a co-ordinated approach.

These zones are enforceable and the Force will work with local authorities on enforcement however their advice would be to work on prevention and education in the first instance. This is particularly the case given the recent changes to the penalties for speeding.

	<p>There are several effective Force schemes such as Speedwatch. A good example is the results of a speed gun initiative used near schools in which the pupils provide drivers with advice. These schemes target areas where communities have raised concerns and collision hotspots.</p> <p>Assistant Chief Constable Murray also raised the success of a trial change to the notice of intended prosecution to include a photo of a lamppost surrounded by flowers and a caption “no-one means to kill, they were just driving too fast.”</p> <p>This saw a 41% reduction in the number of cases going to court and a 20% reduction in re-offending rates, compared to the standard form.</p> <p>The Commissioner also confirmed the World Health Organisation confirmed the single biggest killer of teenagers is road incidents and therefore this is an issue that will continue to be raised.</p>	
066/17	<p>Item 7 – Independent Custody Visitors scheme</p> <p>Andrea Gabbitas presented this report, supported by Sarah Matta and Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) Janice Mathias and Beverley Wootton. The following points were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ICV scheme is a statutory requirement placed on Police and Crime Commissioner’s. • The scheme provides an independent check on the welfare of detainees and is a key reassurance to the public. Any issues noted will be raised with the officers and custody suite involved and feedback provided. • The Commissioner’s office has also formally established an Appropriate Adult scheme. There is currently no statutory obligation on local authorities to provide appropriate adults for vulnerable adults and the scheme aims to fill this gap. • A number of ICVs, with additional training and vetting, also check on the welfare of detainees held under the Terrorism Act. These visits differ from the standard unannounced visits and they are pre-planned for every day a detainee is in custody. • Janice Mathias and Beverley Wootton also described their positive experiences and perceptions as ICVs. <p>Following questions from the Board the following matters were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of volunteers is good and broadly reflects the population of the West Midlands. Suggestions are however welcome to attract applications from all sections of the community. • ICVs are reimbursed for their travel expenses. Appropriate adults also have a sustenance allowance in recognition of the fact such visits can last for several hours. • The Force was reviewing its healthcare contract provisions and the possibility of mandatory drug testing to ensure prevention and intervention opportunities are not missed. • Custody staff are aware of the role of ICVs but custody can be a challenging environment and during busy times there can be a delay in accessing the custody suite. 	066/17

	Action: The Force will return to board to discuss whether drug testing could be extended to psychoactive substances such as spice and mamba.	
067/17	<p>Item 8 – Restorative Justice</p> <p>Alethea Fuller presented the report to the Board and highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report is a follow up to a report presented in October 2016. The Commissioner has a statutory obligation to ensure restorative justice services are available. These obligations were transferred from the Ministry of Justice in April 2013 and are commissioned under the Victim’s Fund. • When access to Restorative Justice was reviewed it was found to be inconsistent. • There is work to do to raise aware of restorative justice services, possibly through an awareness campaign. • The intention was to have a new model in place by April 2018, following meetings of a multi-agency steering group. The annex to the report sets out the research the framework will be based on. <p>The Board noted the report and discussed the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lack of referral mechanisms is a key issue. Once there is an established system there will be greater confidence that referrals are being made to an appropriate and quality service. • The National Police Chiefs Council and particularly DCC Sarah Glenn is working with the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Ministry of Justice on alternatives to convictions. • 	067/17
068/17	<p>Item 9 – Strategic Policing and Crime Board Workplan</p> <p>The Board was asked to note the contents of the Workplan.</p> <p>There will be two board meetings in July following the general election on 8 June 2017.</p> <p>An invitation will also be extended to the new West Midlands Metro Mayor, Andy Street, to attend the meeting on 19 July where an update on the work of the WMCA and Mayor will be discussed.</p>	068/17
069/17	<p>Item 10 – Chief Constable Update</p> <p>The Deputy Chief Constable launched her ambition plan on the day of the meeting. This sets out how the Force will deliver the Police and Crime Plan.</p>	069/17
070/17	The public meeting was concluded at 11:37 and was followed by a private meeting in which operational matters were discussed.	070/17