



STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD

**Notes of meeting held on Tuesday, 5 December 2017
Main Conference room (G2), Lloyd House**

Present:

- David Jamieson - Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ashley Bertie - Senior Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
- Dr Lynnette Kelly - Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner
- David Thompson - Chief Constable
- Louisa Rolfe - Deputy Chief Constable
- Chris Johnson - Assistant Chief Constable
- Mark Payne - Chief Superintendent
- Dr Sarah Marwick - Board Member
- Ernie Hendricks - Board Member
- Brendan Connor - Board Member
- Gurinder Singh Josan - Board Member
- Waheed Saleem - Board Member
- Cllr Liam Preece - Board Member
- Jonathan Jardine - Chief Executive
- Mark Kenyon - Chief Finance Officer
- Alethea Fuller - Police & Commissioning Manager
- Ali Layne-Smith - Director of People and Organisation Development
- Neil Chamberlain - Acting Director of Commercial Services

8 observers

A note taker and a webcaster

128/17	The Commissioner opened the meeting, reminding attendees that it was being webcast.	128/17
129/17	Item 1 – Conflicts of Interest There were no conflicts of interest declared.	129/17
130/17	Item 2 – Apologies Dr Cath Hannon was unable to attend the meeting because she had been tasked to attend an event on behalf the Commissioner. The Commissioner reported that it was the 10 th anniversary of Brendan Connor’s involvement with the Police Authority and Police and Crime Commissioner’s office. He commented that Brendan has been, and continues to be, an enormous asset. The Chief Constable echoed that sentiment and added his congratulations.	130/17

131/17	<p>Item 3 – Notes of last meeting There were no matters arising and the minutes were agreed.</p>	131/17
132/17	<p>Item 4 – Acceptance of Petitions There were no petitions received.</p>	132/17
133/17	<p>Item 5 – Public Questions There were no questions from members of the public.</p>	133/17
134/17	<p>Item 6 – Questions from the Board on matters not on the agenda Brendan Connor asked the first question:</p> <p><i>Q1. “Will the Chief Constable make a statement on the levels of resourcing for response teams across WMP? What progress has been made in releasing uniformed front-line officers from a) hospital watches and b) scenes of crime guarding?”</i></p> <p>The Chief Constable responded making the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of officers being deployed to the Response dept, there is currently a vacancy rate of 2.2%, which is the lowest in any of the large departments. • In terms of demand, there were high levels for service in the summer but this has now decreased. Over the next few years the number of officers will drop by c.200 and so the aim has to be to improve productivity. This will be done through digital and mobile programmes and prioritising their work to enable them to be more digitally focussed. The next 12 months should see a better productivity level of Response staff. • Helpfully, in ‘scenes’ there has been fewer serious incidents in the last few months and so the need for scene guarding has reduced. The Force has agreed with the PCC, that a short pilot will be undertaken using a private contractor to deliver elements of scene guarding. This should start on 1 February 2018. • At the same time there is also an enhanced risk assessment of scenes to reduce the amount of staffing required. • A new medical contract has been in place since September which is having a positive impact on constant watching in custody (level 4) and hospital watches. The last 3 months has shown the number of people being transported to hospital has reduced by 100 against a comparable period in the summer. • The final element to this response is around the change in bail arrangements. Assessments are being made of some prisoners being ‘watched’ by police officers, as to whether they can be released ‘under investigation’. <p>Brendan Connor thanked the Chief Constable for his response and commented that he was particularly interested in the hospital watch reduction, adding that it would be helpful if some data could be provided evidencing the resulting reduction in demand on Response officers.</p> <p>Gurinder Singh Josan asked the second question:</p>	134/17

Q2. “Can the Chief Constable detail-

- a) the number of cases of 'honour based' violence, forced marriage and FGM reported to West Midlands Police over the last three years; and**
- b) the number of such cases referred to the CPS following investigation over the last three years?”**

The Chief Constable responded with the following statistics, confirming that this a high priority area of policing:

- ‘Honour based’ violence referrals = 774 with 400 of those recorded as crimes.
- Forced marriage referrals = 287 with 95% recorded as crimes.
- FGM issues referred = 382 with 12 being recorded as crimes

He added that a great deal of the work done by the Force is around multi-agency safeguarding. A high proportion of reports are suspicious concerns or information recorded as non-crime incidents because they require effective multi-agency assessment and investigation. Although of concern, many are not actually evidence of crime and that is particularly the case with FGM referral reports. These are rightly examined by multi-agency groups to ensure that either a risk is prevented or further examination is carried out. The Chief Constable said that it was difficult to track numbers of cases referred to the CPS because of the way the system works but more information could be provided if required.

To date there has been no prosecutions in the UK regarding FGM and that reflects some of the challenges faced by the police in evidencing the offence or evidencing the location of where the offence may have taken place. In 2016 WMP brought charges against a father who threatened to send his daughter abroad for FGM and forced marriage but that case was discontinued as a result of the victim withdrawing.

On average, there is currently one case of Forced Marriage reported per week. The Chief Constable confirmed that WMP would always prosecute where there is an offence or evidence that can be taken forward.

However, a lot of the work undertaken is around prevention of forced marriage. Since March 2014 the Force has issued 17 Forced Marriage Protection Orders.

Gurinder Singh Josan commented on the disparity between numbers reported and those recorded as crimes. He felt it would be useful if the numbers referred to the CPS could be provided and he would like to follow this up with the Chief Constable further.

The Chief Constable advised that providing that data would be a labour-intensive piece of work and so he would arrange for a shorter period (than the original request for 3 years). He then re-iterated the importance of the safeguarding work being done and stated that WMP will not shy away from prosecution but in many instances early intervention prevents the offence.

Question 3 was asked by Ernie Hendricks:

Q3. “Will the Chief Constable make a statement regarding what

measures have been put in place for victims who are deaf/hard of hearing– in particular with reference to front desks; and what record is kept of the type of disability a victim has when it comes to the recording of hate crime?”

The Chief Constable confirmed the current provision is that anyone who is deaf or hard of hearing can use the text relay service if they sign up to it. This enables communication with 101 and 999. However, feedback has been that the system is of ‘variable quality’. In addition, 8 of 10 of the public contact offices have a connected hearing loop – but again, this is of variable quality. As a direct result of this question, this matter has been looked into and, finding that provision is not of the expected standard, has now become a priority for action.

Mr Thompson went on to address the second part of the question stating that in relation to hate crime, there is no specific area for thematic recording although a record of whether issues are disability related can be made in the free text areas. He added that as part of the THRIVE assessment the Force will look at whether someone is being victimised because of disability. He confirmed that this is an area ripe for improvement, particularly around the customer journey in the New Ways of Contact programme. The Chief Constable said this has been a helpful question.

Brendan Connor asked the first part of Question 4:

4a. “How many requests for NPAS assistance have been made by WMP in the last six months? How many actual service responses were received by WMP? What assessment has WMP made of the use of RPVs (aka drones) in providing a comprehensive local service? Would such a service fall under the control of NPAS?”

He added that this question was formed prior to last week’s statement by HMICFRS on the performance of the National Police Air Service (NPAS). The purpose was to elicit service performance data from the Chief Constable regarding NPAS. However, he felt that it may be more appropriate to re-phrase the question to ask if the Chief Constable had read the Inspectorate’s report on NPAS and if so, did he endorse the findings of the failure in concept and the failure in performance that has been extensively characterised in that report?

Ernie Hendricks asked the second part of Question 4:

***4b. “Can the Chief Constable comment on the new UK Drone Laws 2017 with reference to the following ambition:
“The government will also explore further measures such as increasing penalties, creating new offences and reviewing the powers available to law enforcement agencies to enforce relevant law’; and
Could he inform us as to whether WMP are already using drones or have any plans to do so in the future?”***

In response to Q4a, the Chief Constable commented that the officers who are involved in NPAS are dedicated, enthusiastic and keen to do a good job. He had not read the report in its entirety but would be doing so. Meanwhile, he was aware of the headlines which highlighted a number of concerns. However, whilst HMICFRS suggest a 'start again' approach, Mr Thompson's view was that a fairly fundamental review was required. In respect of data requested he confirmed that between May and October, WMP made 1,764 requests for service, of which 614 were actioned (35%) – a poorer service than that which was in place prior to the operation of NPAS. He felt there were problems around the charging mechanism which had resulted in WMP being subjected to disproportionate charges. The Chief Constable of West Yorkshire is the national service lead in this area and is expected to bring forward some proposals in the near future.

On the issue of drones, Mr Thompson confirmed that in the near term they will not be used to replace some of the services required from the support unit; although their potential is recognised, as is their threat. Supt Nick Rowe is leading for WMP in this area of work. They have been used successfully for policing some football matches and consideration has been given to using them in certain covert arenas. He went on to say that there are different types of drones coming onto the market which may allow for some reconnaissance activity and there may be some tasks where their usage would be more cost effective than using the helicopter. Threats posed by drones have been well documented (ie taking drugs into prisons) and as a result WMP has its digital forensics team working on drone evidential recovery. This work is ongoing.

Brendan Connor observed that the previous Chief Constable and PCC, wrote to the then Home Secretary, Theresa May, when NPAS was first envisaged, making all of the criticisms that have come to pass.

Gurinder Singh Josan asked Question 5:

Q5. "Can the Chief Constable share data of the numbers of children and young people detained by West Midlands Police over the last three years and any information held regarding their ethnicity and the type of crime in relation to which they are held?"

The Chief Constable said for brevity he would provide highlights from the table of data but full details could be supplied. The highlights included:

- Over last 3 years there has been a steady reduction in children and young people being detained.
- In 2015, 9174 were detained compared to 7761 in 2017 (so far)
- In terms of ethnicity, the figure that stands out as looking disproportionately high related to African-Caribbean people. They make up c.25% of those detained and this is a higher level than within the population as a group.
- Other groups are close or approximate to their levels within the population

Gurinder Singh Josan thanked the Chief Constable for the information but added that it would be helpful to have the full information for sharing. He commented that the disparity in terms of African Caribbean people

	<p>within the West Mids seemed marked and asked what attempts have been made to address that.</p> <p>The Chief Constable advised that work being done in this respect is similar to that around Stop and Search.</p> <p>Jonathan Jardine commented that this is part of the joint work being undertaken between the PCC's office and the Elected Mayor on the devolution of criminal justice. He said that information is being shared on the number of children detained in police cells where there should be local authority provision of secure or non-secure accommodation. As part of that devolution discussion it is hoped that this area will be addressed.</p> <p>Gurinder Singh Josan commented that it was reassuring to see that numbers were going down. Mr Josan proceeded to ask Question 6:</p> <p>Q6. "Can the Chief Constable detail the numbers of Freedom of Information requests received by West Midlands Police over the last three years, how they were dealt with and the cost of the dealing with the requests? Can the Chief Constable also detail what attempts are being made to minimise the number of Fol request through the open provision of data and information?"</p> <p>The Chief Constable responded with the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers of FOIs steadily increasing – up 24% since 2015 • Force response is good: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - half responses provide some or all of requested data; - a quarter are refused on grounds of costs, but have been offered alternatives that would fall within cost limit. - 10% of requests refused on the basis that the data was exempt - 4% of cases – data not held. - 93% of cases are dealt with within 20 working days <p>On the issue of publication schemes potentially stemming the flow of FOIs, this has not proved to be the case. A high proportion of FOI demand comes from journalists and sometimes the data which is published by the Force can lead to requests for additional information. Overall the Chief Constable confirmed he is happy that the Force is publishing enough data for transparency purposes.</p>	
135/17	<p>The PCC thanked everyone for the succinct questions and answers. He went on to say that there were 4 substantial reports to follow and so in order to accommodate discussion, it should be assumed that everyone has read those reports in advance of the meeting. He asked those presenting the reports to pick out headlines only.</p> <p>Mr Jamieson introduced Ali Layne-Smith who was presenting item 7.</p> <p>Item 7 – "Building a Modern Workforce"</p> <p>The headlines were presented as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Success of the recent promotion process. A wide range of candidates were attracted from diverse backgrounds. Some have been promoted and some into the talent pool. They will receive 	135/17

support over the next year. There are a number of other processes to run – PC to Sgt and Supt to Chief Supt.

- **People Transformation work agenda.** This sits within a structure of the People Deal, Leadership Promise, Mission, Ambition Plan and the Police and Crime Plan. Still a lot to do as stated in the report summary but Ali Layne-Smith said that good progress is being made in all areas.

She went on to say that there is a lot of information in the report and so monthly meetings have been arranged with APCC Kelly so that information can be shared on a regular basis.

The Commissioner asked how many people from the BME community had been recruited as police officers in the last 2 years as he could not extrapolate that information from the report. Discussion followed with a view to clarification of data.

The Chief Constable commented that more data could probably be provided outside the meeting, but in the interim, he summarised that in terms of the latest recruitment about 28% of those who applied were BME. Looking back over a number of years, the earlier cohorts were running at about 13% with the later cohorts about 23%. He added that the position on this cohort has improved. However, the application rate was approximately 33% and the attrition rate is still an area which needs to be looked at. The Chief Constable said that he thought the data could be presented in a better way.

A discussion on the rapid decline in numbers of Special Constables followed. Ali Layne-Smith confirmed that 2018/19 will see a focus on recruitment and retention for Specials.

Dr Kelly asked what was the actual number of people in Force Contact. Ali Layne-Smith did not have that detail available but confirmed that from a percentage point of view Force Contact was over the establishment number for the first time in 7 years.

Dr Kelly commented that other organisations manage to capture far more detail on their forms than WMP in respect of ethnicity, and suggested that this might be something to look at outside of the meeting. She went on to point out that of the 14 people assessed in the recruitment of Chief Supts, only 2 were female and neither got through the process. She asked if this new process was completely fair and without intended bias. Ali Layne-Smith gave assurances that the process is fair. She added that a huge amount of consultation had gone into it involving the Fairness in Policing Team.

Dr Sarah Marwick referred to the female head count table in the report and specifically the dramatic decline in the proportion of female Specials. In 2012 the percentage was 28% but this has dropped to just 13%. The general comment appears to be that this is due to the overall decline in numbers but Dr Marwick said she did not really understand that and asked for a more detailed explanation. In addition, she asked for an indication of what is being done to ensure that women are not being unduly affected, given the difficulties around retention of Special Constables.

Ali Layne-Smith responded, advising that she did not have the level of

detail to hand specifically about women Specials, other than the context of reducing numbers overall (as quoted). She added that it was important that the Force looks at the retention of the Specials they have and added that there is a lot of positivity from this cohort with regard to gender. Despite the decline, when compared to the percentages within police officer numbers and PCSOs, the Specials will come out more positively.

The Chief Constable said that Ali Layne-Smith's team had been working hard on recruitment of police officers, on over-recruiting to Force Contact, PCSOs, the launch and progress of the Cadet programme and within that they have had to prioritise where the Specials are. He stated that he would like to recruit Specials but there is a finite level of capacity available to the POD team and so priority is being given next year to blue line Specials. The plan is to look at 3 universities with a view to recruiting about 60 internships.

Waheed Saleem asked the Chief Constable to comment on the role of Police Staff Investigators (PSIs) and why they are replacing police officers as this could be perceived as 'policing on the cheap'. He also asked for information about direct entry recruitment.

The Dep. Chief Constable advised that critical gaps had been identified in investigative teams. This was being addressed through the detective academy but not quickly enough. Some investigative roles do not require the warranted powers of a police officer and in some areas (ie digital investigation) it was felt that a different skills set might be advantageous from external people who do not want to be police officers. Some roles will be temporary but some have been built in as part of modernising the workforce (specialist roles in PPU and small numbers in investigative teams). Overall, they remain a small proportion of the workforce.

The Chief Constable responded to the second question, advising there were 3 new forms of entry:

- The Police Now programme which seeks to attract graduates, giving them high levels of responsibilities quickly.
- Direct entry for Inspectors; and
- Direct entry for Superintendents.

WMP had supported the Inspector programme this year. Of the applicants who went through the National Assessment Centre, 2 came to interview of which one was appointable but asked for a deferral. The Chief Constable commented that the direct entry programme does not have a national positive action strand with the College of Policing and he is concerned that the aim to attract different types of candidates to the service is not working. He will be supporting this programme again but has reservations.

He also has reservations about the Superintendents direct entry programme for similar reasons. He feels that this carries some risk in that the standard of individuals needs to be at a high level and he remains unconvinced at the moment.

Gurinder Singh Josan asked about the disparity around the cut back of

	<p>police officers compared to police staff. The report shows in 2012 there were 7,945 police officers now reduced to 6,707 whereas police staff numbers have reduced from 3,486 to 3,476. He asked if the Chief Constable was comfortable with that. Secondly, he asked if data was published and therefore available around the diversity of applicants involved in direct entry, fast tracked and high potential schemes. Finally, he commented that the gender imbalance in the PC to Sgt promotion pool was stark, with only 22% assessed being female. He asked what is being done to address this.</p> <p>Ali Layne-Smith confirmed that the fast track diversity data can be provided separately. Regarding the issue of under-representation of women, she said that her team had worked closely with Women in Policing and Staff Network as well as running specific workshops and there was good provision in place to address any queries.</p> <p>The Chief Constable responded to the question about reductions in police officers and staff stating that the difference in this fiscal year reflects a build in the budget for 200 specialist police staff roles that are being converted across (ie the Investigative Assistants and Safeguarding Officers). He went on to discuss the genuine competitiveness of police officer salaries, the market and issues around pensions. He said he might want to civilianise some roles but the challenge is that the private sector can often command higher salaries than those being paid in the organisation, so there are dangers around not being market competitive. He is genuinely worried about the general fall back of police officers' salaries for the work they do. The pay settlement this year is a worry as is the inability to civilianise roles because they cost so much more than police officers in certain areas.</p> <p>Ashley Bertie asked for information on the development portal and for assurances that those who fail assessment are supported so that they might re-apply.</p> <p>Ali Layne-Smith explained that those who have expressed an interest, are directed to a dedicated portal which provides information on what the promotion role is about. They then have an option of participating in "Am I ready?" sessions or "Preparing for Competency based interview" sessions. She added there is a wealth of information available in addition to signing up for face-to-face sessions and Staff Networks (Women in Policing and BME) ran additional sessions to address specific needs. After the assessment centre, participants go to the information, talent or development pools. They all receive written feedback to inform their decision whether to go back to the portal for further development or to build a plan on how to go forward. Further support has and will be provided through webinars and the Operational Learning team will assist those with additional needs.</p> <p>The Commissioner thanked Ali Layne-Smith for her contribution today and handed over for the presentation of item 8.</p>	
136/17	<p>Item 8 – Update on the Work of the Professional Standards Dept.</p> <p>Dep. Chief Constable Rolfe introduced this report. She opened by saying that it is hoped that this will be the last PSD report which is solely reliant on published IPCC data especially because there is a lag of a quarter</p>	136/17

and the current picture has improved substantially since the publication of that available in today's report.

The headlines of this report are:

- The volume of complaints over the last 4 years are continuing to slowly decrease, which for WMP is believed to be a result of investment in intervention and prevention.
- The most common allegation in 'type of complaint', is in line with other Forces.
- The most common type of complaint is 'neglect 'or 'failure in duty', followed by 'incivility, impoliteness and intolerance'.
- Timeliness of Investigations: Local resolution is working for WMP ie 43 cases dealt with this year, compared with 11 in the same period last year. However, time taken to deal with other complaints, not through local resolution, is an area of concern as WMP taking longer than other Forces.
- Misconduct Hearings. Most cases taken through this route end in dismissal which is reassuring as it shows that the cases being put forward are appropriate for this route.
- Appeals. The report also contains the number of cases referred to the IPCC; the process for tracking appeals and the options for the PCC's office in the future.

Dr Kelly commented that whilst the appeals are coming over to the PCC's office, the Government has not yet issued any guidelines. The initial advice was that these would be provided in June 2018 but it is now strongly rumoured that this will now be January 2019. She felt that a confirmed timeline is required as soon as possible and the Government needed to get its act together. Turning directly to the report, Dr Kelly raised issues about the quality of the information provided – ie a table without headings, so that it was not clear what was being referenced. She also asked about the single point of failure outlined, caused by an officer retiring and his/her work not being covered.

The DCC responded saying that this final point was misrepresented in the report and in fact the challenge was handing over the expertise. There had been a 'blip' when reverting from 3 to 2 Chief Inspectors but the service had since recovered. CS Mark Payne added that there is a certain skills set required for the role in PSD which requires specific training and it is not easy to cover.

Brendan Connor commented that on the last occasion this area was discussed, the Board was promised a breakdown of the categories within 'other neglect or failure of duty'. He was disappointed to find that this has not been provided and would like to know why not.

CS Mark Payne offered his apologies and confirmed that he will commission that piece of work from the performance analyst he now has within the team and perhaps feedback through the regular meetings now being held with APCC Kelly. He also apologised for the missing headings on the chart as pointed out by Dr Kelly, adding that this had been cut and pasted from an IPCC report. He committed to providing the missing information in an update report. The PCC asked if he could explain the chart in question which CS Payne went on to do.

	<p>There was a 10 minute break commencing 1125hrs.</p> <p>The meeting resumed and the Commissioner handed over the Chair to APCC Ashley Bertie, who asked DCC Louise Rolfe to present item 9, which is an update on the progress of WM2020.</p>	
137/17	<p>Item 9 – West Midlands Police Change Portfolio</p> <p>DCC Rolfe commented that this is a very long report reflecting the scale and scope of the programme. Assuming everyone had read it, she offered key highlights as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approval and sign-off of 2 large transformation projects. The Connect programme, formerly known as the Operational Policing Solutions programme, and the Data Driven Insights programme. These are to provide a bedrock of delivery through 2018 together with the progression of the National Emergency Services Mobile Communications programme and the Command & Control programme. Alongside that, the Next Generation Enabling Services programme continues to roll out. • Three particular areas of focus in terms of using digital technology, improving efficiency and quality of service looking at WMP end-to-end service. She spoke briefly about new ways of contact that looks at the delivery of new improved services to the call centres and contact teams. This work will include how to make the best use of new digital technical services. The new ways of responding programme is the next piece of work which includes “smarter responding”, ensuring officers are equipped with the right technology and are not tethered to police stations. Issues being considered include the way officers are resourced and despatched to incidents, how to make best use of telematics data within vehicles and the use of body worn cameras. • DCC Rolfe advised that the key highlight to update on is the mobility competency centre, which is developing Apps. Already agreed are the Road Map app and the Stop & Search app. Due out shortly will be the Intelligence & Briefing app and new digital forms. The Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment app is already live in addition to a Scene Attendance and Language Translation solution. <p>APCC Ashley Bertie raised a question concerning the website. In response the DCC said that telephony capabilities are being looked at, including where digital reporting is most appropriate and what the public actually want and how they can sign-posted.</p> <p>APCC Kelly asked about the issue of reported uniform shortages. DCC Rolfe confirmed that she had had a very positive meeting with Trade Unions yesterday. There had been a glitch in the ordering system but a stockpile of uniforms had been discovered at Park Lane and the issue had been resolved. The Chief Constable commented that the new recruits were very excited to start and the initial situation concerning uniforms was not good enough. A review of the uniform is to be carried</p>	137/17

	<p>out with a view to sourcing some better, modern, cheaper alternatives for outer items ie coats.</p> <p>There was further discussion around communication, telephony and productivity. DCC Rolfe said that the Change Team was very realistic in that if the behaviour and culture was not right then benefits will not be realised. She added that there is a big focus on the refresh of the Change Network and there will be a great opportunity to use the survey tool, which the Chief Constable would refer to later.</p> <p>Brendan Connor referred the Board to paras 51 and 54 and highlighted his concern over the mobile communication system which he feels is the next NPAS. He stated that the risk with ESNCP will destabilise service to the public from the police, fire and ambulance service. He recommended that the Chief Constable is robust with the Home Office and uses NPAS as an example to put the brake on.</p> <p>He then turned to 'Mobility' saying that there was still no date for the PNC app or selection of a supplier. Officers really want this and Mr Connor said that he was very disappointed at the lack of progress. The DCC advised that she had been chasing progress but there were issues related to National PNC team and permission to roll out the programme. Brendan Connor responded saying that he had checked and had been told that it is not a national permission issue.</p> <p>APCC Bertie thanked the Force for this report and commended them on the progress made to date. He then handed the Chair over to ACC Lynnette Kelly who asked Jonathan Jardine to speak to item 10.</p>	
138/17	<p>Item 10 – The Future Approach to Community Safety Funding</p> <p>Mr Jardine provided a brief resume of the history of Community Safety Funding, explaining that the PCC has allocated funding over a number of years to the Community Safety Fund via individual local authorities. There has been issues of underspend and duplication and looking at Community Safety Partnerships with Local Authorities, the progress has been inconsistent. Allocations are substantially smaller now. Large procurement issues are being created which is not useful. In addition, it is hard to know what has been achieved. The 2016 Police and Crime plan sets out a review to create the West Midlands CSP. This paper set out the work towards implementing that new body.</p> <p>He went on to say that the Victims' Commission is a different model. The West Midlands CSP should have a similar approach. In high level terms, the membership is based on the Crime and Disorder Act 1988 so all local authorities are represented together with the Combined Authority and other partners. The secretariat role is to be provided by the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. He concluded by confirming the commitment is to continue with the same level of funding ie not to withdraw resources but rather to get best value for money.</p> <p>Alethea Fuller, Commissioning Manager, provided further details of the new model. She said that Nov 2016 saw the first discussions with partnerships. £3.8m recommendations for expenditure will be considered by the PCC. The 7 existing CSPs will remain but a representative from each will be included in the new body. A feedback session took place in Sept 2017 when the biggest issue was the size of Birmingham as others were concerned that Birmingham would get the biggest share. Those</p>	138/17

	<p>fears have been allayed. She confirmed that 2017/18 will be a transition year. CSPs have advised that their key demands/priorities will be domestic abuse and domestic homicide. The process has allowed the freeing up of £300k. The next stage is to look at multi-agency risk conference. The report sets out terms of reference for this new body.</p> <p>APCC Bertie asked if there were any immediate priorities for the £300k mentioned and Ms Fuller advised that information and requests were still being collated.</p> <p>Gurinder Singh Josan asked if all parties were engaged and it was confirmed that at the beginning engagement was difficult but the discussions in September were a turning point. Partners have asked for flexibility and long-term funding and nothing is being ruled out. Assurances were given that the process will be regularly reviewed to ensure transparency.</p> <p>The Commissioner thanked his officers for the work undertaken.</p>	
139/17	<p>Item 11 – SPCB Workplan 2018 This workplan has already been circulated and there were no questions relating.</p>	139/17
140/17	<p>Item 12 – Chief Constable’s Update The Chief Constable confirmed that there was nothing confidential in his update. He spoke about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firearms – There was a considerable level of concern within communities, particularly during the summer around firearms. The seriousness was recognised and was a high priority for the Force. November has seen good progress with a reduction of firearm discharges and 23 firearms have been taken off the streets outside of the firearm surrender. There has been considerable effort from the Force to make people available for response and while WMP are not yet across the issue, the level of scrutiny and work is encouraging. • 101 and 999 has improved level of service with an increased amount of crimes being recorded by 101. Still more work to do on how routine calls for service are dealt with and there is a need to improve reliability. Crime is at a seasonal high but there has been a good arrest rate in the last few weeks. • Vehicle crime – There is a need to crisp up advice on crime vehicle prevention. Steering locks are recommended and for high value vehicles, there are tracking systems available. Advice is to keep vehicle software updated and keep car keys away from doors. • Surveys – First phase on satisfaction and confidence. Police becoming a smaller service and working hard to be viewed as legitimate and fair. The Force used to carry out surveys via phone calls and market research but this is now too expensive and so are using digital WMNow. 24% of the population are accessing WMNow. It is the intention of the Force to share details of the survey in due course probably through the SPCB Group. There is an issue in that younger people are not being reached and so there may be a need for a supplementary tool. In 	140/17

	<p>general terms it transpires that the general public think WMP could do better on public priorities. Other issues to come out of the satisfaction survey include – white population are generally more trusting than BME; direct experience of interaction with staff / service forms their views and, 35% of respondents feel that crime is increasing in their areas.</p> <p>The Commissioner congratulated the Chief Constable on the work on guns and national surrender. He added that the Gangs and Violence Commission was being launched this week. On the matter of vehicle theft, Mr Jamieson said he was still strongly of the opinion that manufacturers and dealerships could be doing more as the technological solution lies with them rather than the police. He welcomed the sound advice of using a wheel steering lock as it does make things more difficult for the thief, although is quite expensive (c.£100).</p> <p>Waheed Saleem wanted to express his admiration for the Firearms Unit who carry out a dangerous frontline service. He had recently been out with the unit and commented that they should be commended.</p> <p>The Chief Constable concluded by thanking everyone for their comments and finally advised that Ross Kemp is taking part in a documentary about firearms and will be seen around the city. He felt that this will be good to raise public awareness.</p> <p>The Commissioner closed the meeting at 1235 hrs thanking all for their attendance and offering seasonal greetings with a special thought for all the officers who will not get an opportunity to enjoy Christmas as they will be policing the region.</p>	