



Strategic Policing and Crime Board

22 January 2019

Police and Crime Plan Priority: *Brexit & Policing*

Title: *Brexit & Policing*

Presented by: *Supt Phil Dolby*

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide information and assurance to the Strategic Policing and Crime Board (SPCB) relating to policing in the West Midlands in the event of a no-deal UK exit from the European Union in March 2019.
2. This report is for discussion at the SPCB on the 22nd January 2019. This report takes into account the previous reports presented to the SPCB on 20th November 2018, 19th June 2018 and 4th April 2018. It should also be read in conjunction with the paper circulated by the NPCC International Crime Coordination Centre to all OPCC's on 3rd December 2018, entitled 'PCC Briefing Note – Brexit Implications (Operational Scenarios)'.

THE INTERNATIONAL CRIME COORDINATION CENTRE

3. The International Crime Coordination Centre (ICCC) has now opened. The role of the ICCC will be to consider the direction of BREXIT and work with the Home Office in order to understand how UK Policing will respond to the BREXIT decision. This will include legislative changes, the re-writing of national policies and the development of new processes to replace the loss of the current legal framework that may result from a no-deal exit from the European Union.
4. At this stage it is not possible to understand what, if any, impact a BREXIT deal or no-deal will have on West Midlands Police (WMP). In the case of a no-deal UK exit from the European Exit the ICCC and the Home Office will be responsible for developing new ways of working with Europe.

5. WMP has a dedicated BREXIT Single Point of Contact (SPOC) appointed to act as a liaison between the ICCC and the West Midlands Region. This is a Police Sergeant situated within the Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU). Chief Superintendent Richard Baker continues to represent West Midlands Police as the Force Lead, responsible for the Law Enforcement and National Security Measures (LENS) elements of BREXIT. Ch. Supt. Baker attends the BREXIT Steering Group as outlined in the SPCB Paper submitted in November 2018 and reports back to ACC Cann, Force Strategic Lead for LENS.

WEST MIDLANDS POLICE PLANNING

6. WMP continues to plan for the impact of BREXIT at a strategic level under Operation Panga. ACC Johnson has strategic command of the planning and is supported by Superintendent Phil Dolby who, as the Tactical Commander, is responsible for the Resilience Team in WMP and is also working with partners in the Local Resilience Forum (LRF).
7. WMP continues to work closely with the LRF in order to prepare for the impact of BREXIT on our communities. It is currently assumed that there is a risk of demonstrations with a possible rise in disorder, disruption at ports and a reduction in the availability of goods across the UK as a result of a no-deal exit from the European Union. It should be noted that due to the current lack of certainty, it is difficult to predict and plan for the impact of BREXIT however, WMP continues to work with local and national partners to enable us to respond to the changing picture.
8. LRF led Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) and Tactical Coordinating Group (TCG) meetings will commence on 24th January 2019 and take place on a fortnightly basis. These meetings will increase to take place on a weekly basis during the month of March 2019, if still required. Supt. Dolby will chair the TCG meetings and be present at the SCG meetings. An intelligence and communications SPOC will be identified in readiness to share relevant information, through the identified LRF Coordinator during these meetings.

INTELLIGENCE & HATE CRIME

9. WMP has outlined its intelligence requirement to support the planning and preparation for BREXIT. This has been approved at a strategic level through Operation Panga. WMP Intelligence Department scans for BREXIT related intelligence on a daily basis and at this time, intelligence relating directly to BREXIT is limited, both locally and nationally.
10. WMP also monitors hate crime across the force. As a result of this monitoring, there is no increase in hate crime linked to BREXIT.
11. WMP Intelligence Department continues to share and receive intelligence at a national level. WMP is also working with other Intelligence Departments at a regional level in order to ensure a consistent approach in intelligence reporting.

FUTURE PLANNING

12. The next BREXIT Steering Group is scheduled for 30th January 2019 and Ch. Supt. Baker will represent West Midlands Police at this meeting.
13. Op Panga will continue to meet on a monthly basis in order to coordinate WMP resources at a strategic level.
14. Supt. Dolby will continue to work closely with the LRF to prepare for contingency planning and the impact of BREXIT, pending the outcome of Government during the week commencing 7th January 2019.

NEXT STEPS

15. The Board is asked to note this report.

Author(s): Chris Johnson

Job Title: ACC Operations