

## **BN IAG**

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

#### **Those in attendance:**

Linda HINES (LH) – Chair  
Henry WATTIS (HW)  
Tod Hale (TH)  
Vicki Smith (VS)  
Sgt Nicky Keen (NK)  
Muhammed Sultan (MS)  
Inspector Andrew Russell (AR)  
Superintendent Richard Youds (RY)  
PC James Somers (JS)  
PC Stuart Payne (SP)

#### **1) Welcome, Introduction & Apologies**

Meeting open at 18:00 hrs by Chair and introductions completed.

#### **Apologies received:**

Steve Clayton  
Alicja Kaczmarek  
Steve Whitehorn  
Sue Bailey  
Trudy Yates

#### **2) Conflicts of interest**

LH asked group to confirm if there was any conflict of interest – no conflict identified.

3) Removed

#### **4) Stop & Search presentation**

Inspector Russell talked about the changes to the Stop & Search element of the meeting. Bob Jones, PCC, has set up a website so we can publish our minutes/agendas, videos etc. around our Stop & Search meetings so our communities know what we are discussing. The purpose is to be open & transparent about what happens around stop and search.

The IAG members will still be part of the Stop & Search.

The idea is to have 'general members of the public' attending the meeting. However, AR has looked at other LPU's minutes and they have invited key individuals of their communities to the meeting and not just given out an open invite. The group happy with this idea but LH pointed out that might need to look at different venues if we see an increase in people attending. Need to ensure there is control over who attends the meeting so invite people but if it is open up to the public, then need to ensure they 'book' to attend.

Discussion was held over who is the 'general public' and the group need to be open minded to the possibilities around who to invite. LH suggested starting with community groups that attend the tasking meetings.

The group agreed that the Stop & Search will still form part of the IAG but first part of the meeting will be stop & search and anyone who isn't part of the IAG can then leave and the IAG can start. AR suggested we keep the same Chair (Linda) and this can be looked at a later date once the meeting has been established.

AR showed the group the PCC website and looked at the different LPU's pages. Both Wolverhampton and BWC have videos on their sites – Wolverhampton Chief Inspector and BWC have several videos from their IAG members. Wolverhampton has details of their meetings (location/time/date) but it isn't an open invite to the public as the minutes clearly show the people are invited to attend.

Dudley LPU minutes show they looked at 10 random Stop & Search forms to look over why the person was stop and any concerns/discussion noted down in minutes. AR asked the group if they would like to do this in future meetings and the group agreed it would be good practice.

A Terms of Reference was also discussed as some LPU's have this published on their website. Group agreed a Terms of Reference should be drafted for Birmingham North and discuss at next meeting.

**Action: Inspector Russell to draft Terms of Reference – circulate before next meeting so can sign in June**

**Action: Vicki & Inspector Russell to draft up 'new' agenda to merge both agendas**

In June will discuss who to & how to invite people to August meeting. So the August meeting will 'open' up the Stop & Search element of the meeting. The IAG meeting will remain the same.

HW works with young people so he could possibly invite them to the meeting but they have not had a positive experience with the police, so will need to be discussed further.

**Action: Inspector Russell to email group the link to the PCC website**

### **Data**

AR went over the data for January – March 2014. Trinity and Kingstanding have 29 stops with Erdington and Stockland Green being the highest. Trinity ward have seen an increase but this could be down to bus operations in the area to tackle bus robberies, plus there have been ASB reported outside McDonalds, Sutton.

Age range has been added to the presentation. Group said it was interesting to see the highest age range is 16 – 24 years old. There has been an increase in arrests which shows the stop & searches have been effective and well-targeted.

The group would like to see the Census data on the next presentation so can compare the stops to the Census data.

**Action: Inspector Russell to ensure Census data is included in Stop & Search presentation**

### **Stop & Search forms**

As discussed above, the group agreed to look at three stop & search forms. There were a number of questions around the meaning of the codes/letters/numbers on the forms, so AR agreed to print out the guidance notes for next meeting.

Group looked at the reasons on the forms. TH raised concerns over his form saying 'stopped as vehicle smells of cannabis'. Concerns also rose over hand writing which AR noted this issue is being addressed but is difficult as officers are doing this forms whilst on foot patrol with only their pocket note books to lean on. This issue will be addressed when officers start doing the forms via their radio. RY said this is being piloted on other LPUs so should hopefully be rolled out soon.

**Action: Inspector Russell to print out guidance notes with meaning of number/letters etc**

**Action: Inspector Russell to do presentation around what should be on form and why**

AR went through other elements of the proposed new agenda for Stop & Search

- *Force & national development in stop & search*: looking at external training, have approached the school panel and most schools are happy for training to take place

- *Forthcoming tactical use of stop & search*: this means pre-planned operations which will use stop & search and also the possibility of these operations causing community issues/tensions.

- *Community impact through the local use of stop & search*: in relation to community tensions using search & search – both individual and groups

### **5) Minutes from last meeting**

Minutes were reviewed and agreed to be an accurate reflection of the meeting.

### **6) AOB**

**Next meeting is 12<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm, Sutton Coldfield police station**

**Future meetings:**

12<sup>th</sup> June  
14<sup>th</sup> August  
16<sup>th</sup> October  
18<sup>th</sup> December

**All at Sutton Coldfield Police Station**