



**STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD**

**Notes of meeting held on Tuesday, 18 June 2019  
Main Conference room (G2), Lloyd House**

**Present:**

Ashley BERTIE : Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner  
 Brendan CONNER : Board Member  
 Dr Cath HANNON : Board Member  
 Davinder JAGPAL : WMP – AD Finance  
 David JAMIESON : Police and Crime Commissioner  
 Jonathan JARDINE : OPCC - Chief Executive  
 Gurinder SINGH JOSAN : Board Member  
 Mark KENYON : OPCC - Chief Finance Officer  
 Harvi KHATKAR : WMP - Superintendent  
 Gareth MASON : WMP - Chief Inspector  
 Tom McNEIL : Board Member  
 Jayne MEIR : WMP – Assistant Chief Constable  
 Nick ROWE : WMP - Superintendent  
 Anne SHAW : West Midlands Combined Authority  
 Mark SILVESTER : WMP - Design Out Crime Team Manager  
 Sue SOUTHERN : WMP - Assistant Chief Constable  
 David THOMPSON : WMP – Chief Constable  
 Dave TWYFORD : WMP - Superintendent

+ 3 members of the public, 3 observers, 2 note takers and webcaster

**Please note:**

1. *The meeting was recorded, and a webcast of the entire discussion can be viewed here: [LINK TO WEBCAST](#)*
2. *Actions arising from the discussion during the meeting are highlighted in bold text*

<b>077/19</b>	The Commissioner opened the meeting, reminding attendees that it was being webcast.
<b>078/19</b>	<b>Item 1 – Conflicts of Interest</b> There were none offered.
<b>079/19</b>	<b>Item 2 – Apologies</b> Apologies were received from DCC Louisa Rolfe, ACC Chris Johnson, APCC Waheed Saleem, Ernie Hendricks and Dr Sarah Marwick - Board Members and ACC Sarah Boycott.
<b>080/19</b>	<b>Item 3 – Notes of last meeting – 21 May 2019</b> Brendan Connor had attended this meeting but was not recorded in the list of attendees. This oversight was noted and minutes amended accordingly.
<b>081/19</b>	<b>Item 4 – PCC Update</b> The Commissioner gave an update on three issues:  i) Letter received today from policing minister, Rt Hon Nick Hurd, concerning the money made available to tackle serious violence. £100m originally identified, of which £35m remains. West Midlands has been given an indicative figure of £3.37m and has until 8 July 2019 to complete application.

	<p>The Commissioner will continue to lobby the Home Office for continuation of this funding for at least 2 to 4 years, otherwise the value, while pleasing in the short term, will be limited. The money will be used providing young people with real alternatives and life chances so that they are not caught up in the cycle of violence. To achieve this the OPCC and WMP will be working with Public Health England, local authorities and local communities and the Commissioner wanted to put on record his thanks to them all for their contributions to date and for the future. He also thanked councillors and MPs who had been campaigning locally and nationally on behalf of the West Midlands.</p> <p>ii) Exclusions: The Dept of Education commissioned the Timpson Review into this issue and that report was published in May. The OPCC has drafted a brief summary and will be circulating this to board members within the next 24 hours and then to other PCCs, local authorities and other interested parties. It will also be on the Commissioner's website.</p> <p>iii) Congratulations to Ashley Bertie and Waheed Saleem on their appointments as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner and Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner respectively.</p>
082/19	<p><b>Item 5 - Acceptance of Petitions</b></p> <p>There was one petition, however petitioners had not arrived at this point in proceedings and so the meeting was moved on to be returned to when appropriate. Petitioners arrived during item 7. The Commissioner welcomed the 3 members of the public and re-started the meeting [at 1010 hrs]. Dave Wyatt introduced the petition on behalf of Jenny Cooper.</p> <p>Jenny Cooper had contacted the Black Country Stand Up to Racism organisation just under a year ago with concerns about the police response to her complaints. Whilst the petition submitted had 25 names, he stated that it has approximately 600 names and that a national newspaper is interested in what has been happening. The Commissioner invited the Chief Constable to respond. The Chief Constable thanked the petitioners for the petition and went on to comment that there had been a number of complaints over the years in relation to this matter. If there are any new issues relating to police conduct, these will be investigated by PSD.</p> <p>The Commissioner thanked Mr Thompson for his response and assured the petitioners that any accusation of racism is taken very seriously. Mr Jamieson advised that there would be a formal note of the response. If they then had any further complaints, they should take them through the appropriate channels with the police, but they could return to him if they were dissatisfied.</p>
083/19	<p><b>Item 6 - Public Questions</b></p> <p>There were no questions from the public.</p>
084/19	<p><b>Item 7 - Questions from the Board on matters not on the agenda</b></p> <p><b>Q1- Asked by David Jamieson,:</b>  <b><i>“Could the Chief Constable outline what steps are being taken to ensure that there is a national mechanism in place to identify whether victims of modern slavery are homeless as well?”</i></b></p> <p>The Chief Constable responded: Currently the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is used by the Force to manage and notify cases of modern slavery. There is nothing within that mechanism which identifies whether victims are homeless or not. In many cases the Force has to find accommodation for homeless and domestic violence victims. In the interim the Force is managing thinks that homelessness should be included in the NRM.</p>

The Commissioner thanked the Chief Constable for his intervention work and expressed his concern that many people who are homeless are very vulnerable and can become victims of modern slavery.

*At this point the petitioners arrived and the Board returned to item 5 on the agenda. The meeting resumed with item 7 at 1017 hrs.*

**Q2 - Asked by Gurinder Singh Josan:**

**“How many applications for warrants for access and searches have been made to the courts in each of the last 3 years? Of those, how many have been granted and how many refused? And will the Chief Constable make a statement on the support from the courts of police investigatory efforts?”**

The Chief Constable responded: It is not possible to answer this question as data on search warrants is not held by the Force and is not easily accessible from the Magistrates Court. With regard to the matter of support, the courts provide a range of support, but, the courts are also under pressure.

Gurinder Josan expressed concern that the data was not held and asked if there were any plans to collate data in the future. The Chief Constable said there were no plans in this respect and that the courts possibly did not hold accurate data. **Action: The Chief Executive stated that he would take this matter away as an action for the OPCC’s lead analyst to pick up.**

**Q3 – Asked by Gurinder Singh Josan**

**“How many dome hawk cameras, drones and other CCTV observational equipment are there available to neighbourhood officers in each of the local policing areas? What impact have budget cuts had on their deployment?”**

The Chief Constable responded: 213 dome hawks distributed unevenly across the local authorities in the region, many not owned by the police but rather by Community Safety Teams, although police do have access. There are some areas of the Force where camera assistance is not available, largely because equipment has become obsolete. There are 6 drones available for neighbourhood units and 9 slightly smaller drones initially ring-fenced for the firearms unit, although can be used spontaneously; funded through POCA. Evaluation work is due but early days. Some good examples of reducing air support and operationally, where they have deterred criminal activity and gathered evidence. The Chief Constable offered to provide a detailed breakdown of dome hawk distribution to Mr Josan outside of the meeting.

**Q4 – Asked by Gurinder Singh Josan:**

**“How does the Chief Constable propose to continue meaningful community engagement with Sikhs and the Sikh community, particularly on recruitment and retention to the Force?”** He added that the background to this question was that, unfortunately and very disappointingly, police officers undertaking this type of engagement had recently had to vacate premises.

The Chief Constable responded: The West Mids has the largest Sikh community in the country and WMP have a good working relationship with them, and there is also a strong and vibrant Sikh Police Association. There has been a recent Langar event held at Lloyd House and Inclusion Week was held last week where the Sikh community had prominent involvement. Other examples of engagement include working closing with the Sikh helpline and organisations such as Langar Aid. However, a recent investigation carried out by the Counter Terrorism Unit concerning India related terrorism has resulted in some tension and distrust of the police by some members of the Sikh

	<p>community with protests at police presence, for example at Gurdwaras and the Vaisakhi event in Birmingham. Although, recruitment exercises have not been adversely affected. Mr Thompson stated that the decision to investigate the terrorism matter was made by WMP and was not influenced by India’s government or any others. Any protests which are peaceful and lawful are welcome.</p> <p><b>Q5 – Asked by the Commissioner: Can the Chief Constable outline how much WMP has spent in relation to the pub bombing inquest?”</b></p> <p>The Chief Constable responded with the following figures which exclude VAT:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Cost of Counsel and conducting inquest:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">193,847.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Judicial review:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">16,312.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Licences to access data systems:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5,880.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Production order against BBC:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">907.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Total: <u>216,946.92</u></td> </tr> </table> <p>These figures represent direct costs relating to the Chief Constable as an Interested Party. The costs to the Force for assisting the Coroner in conducting the Inquest are not included. There will be costs to investigate any criminal matters resulting from the Inquest but otherwise these are the final figures.</p> <p>The Commissioner thanked the Chief Constable stating that this is public money, there is public interest and details should be in the public domain.</p>		£	• Cost of Counsel and conducting inquest:	193,847.00	• Judicial review:	16,312.92	• Licences to access data systems:	5,880.00	• Production order against BBC:	907.00		Total: <u>216,946.92</u>
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<b>EMERGING ITEMS</b>													
085/19	<p><b>DPCC Ashley Bertie chaired this item</b>  <b>Item 8 – Commonwealth Games 2022</b> <a href="#">[LINK TO REPORT]</a>  <i>Presented by Nigel Johnston, Programme Manager and Supt. Nick Rowe</i></p> <p>The City of Culture in 2021 and the Commonwealth Games in 2022 are both great opportunities for legacy in the region. This will be one of the largest multi-cultural events globally. The Chief Constable spoke about the security strategy and the benefits outlined in the paper. Much work has already been undertaken especially around growing the planning team. There should be approximately 90 in place by the time the games arrive.</p> <p>The following discussion took place:</p> <p>Q: When will plans for volunteers be announced?  A: Recruitment plan already in place for Specials; 330 by April and optimistic for 600/650 by 2022. Scoping out roles for volunteers both on the security side and on the police side. An Engagement Inspector is to be appointed in the autumn and part of that role will be to look for opportunities to engage with volunteers. The work is being led by ACC Boycott.</p> <p>Q: What role is there for WMP as a referral route into other volunteer schemes?  A: Once Engagement Team is in place, there will a signposting plan for volunteering.</p> <p>Q: Can more information be provided on the baton relay?  A: No plans yet in place. A QBR lead has been appointed and WMP will provide an advisory service; no police officers will be sent abroad.</p> <p>Q: The Birmingham Commonwealth Games Bill was introduced in the House of Lords recently and includes provision for criminal offences relating to ticket touts. What plans are there regarding enforcement if that type of offence is committed? pertaining to this area?  A: Meetings held with Transport for West Mids, Dept of Transport and the Home Office</p>												

	<p>around the Bills coming into play and some work has been undertaken looking at previous games. Police Scotland only had 4 incidents involving ticket touts. WMP are confident they will manage this issue with police presence outside each venue.</p> <p>Q: The report talks of the ‘threat environment’. On the matter of security, it can be argued that the tendency is towards the <i>ratchet effect</i> whereby the security level is raised higher and higher with cost implications, what mechanisms are in place to ensure a proportionate response?</p> <p>A: There is an overall ambient risk attached to having multi-sport events over 10 days. Threat assessment risk will require the Force to go through national processes. There will be a tiered proportionate approach which will not blight the friendliness of the games. Different measures will be adopted for different venues.</p> <p>Q: Is there an estimate of costs not covered by national funding?</p> <p>A: The assumption currently in the planning is that operations are fully funded.</p> <p>Q: The Force is now significantly smaller than in 2014. What does that mean in terms of risk and what is being done to mitigate?</p> <p>A: Will be enormous pressure but the good news is that it is budgeted for. There will be a need for aid from the military and volunteers otherwise the Force would not be able to cope with normal business.</p> <p>Q: Games no doubt having massive impact, some positive, some negative. Perry Barr residents were angry that their allotments would have to be tarmacked. Has this issue been resolved?</p> <p>A: Yes, the allotments will remain as they are.</p>
086/19	<p><b>Item 9 – Violent Crimes</b> <a href="#">[LINK TO REPORT]</a>  Presented by ACC Sue Southern</p> <p>ACC Southern provided a brief on the key points and then took questions.</p> <p>Q: What progress has been made in recording children excluded from education who are involved in crime, particularly in the 16+ age group?</p> <p>A: This is one of the key intelligence gaps for the Force..</p> <p>Q: Regarding Community Engagement prior to S60 (paras 36-38), what engagement has been carried out with those outside of the ‘police family’?</p> <p>A: The key focus was on Birmingham and it is accepted that the reach of IAGs is not as broad as the Force would seek, but there has been liaison with all neighbourhood teams who have and continue to liaise with community contacts.</p> <p>Q: Para 42 reveals funding is short term. Would there be other activities you would be doing if money was ongoing?</p> <p>A: The Force has tried to take a balanced approach. Violence prevention is long term and not met by short-term money, although this is welcomed. Some of the money will go to overtime and some on recruitment of investigators over the summer.</p> <p>Q: Re missing children, what alternative provision is there for those returning children who do not wish to talk to the police or to the local authority?</p> <p>A: There is a statutory responsibility for social care as well as police to do de-briefs. In some cases, they outsource to charities and that may be the way forward</p> <p>Q: Last October the PCC and the Force received a tasking letter from the NCA concerning County Lines. What actions has the Force taken in response to the letter and has the NCA indicated whether or not it is satisfied that the Force is compliant with that instruction?</p> <p>A: There were 2 distinct taskings for WMP. A national tasking for all Forces around completion of a tracker. That task is an ongoing requirement. The other tasking was specific and is an ongoing operation</p> <p>Q: Has the NCA indicated it is satisfied with the WMP response?</p> <p>A: Not formally but feedback is that WMP is consistent with other Forces. The Commissioner commented that the emphasis on young people in the report was welcome and, in the future, there is a need to look at the link between drugs and</p>

	<p>violence. He appreciated the point that this is a 'long game' which will not be solved in 12 months.</p> <p><i>There was a short break taken at 1137 hrs with the meeting resuming at 1145 hrs.</i></p>
	<p><b>POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PRIORITIES: IMPROVING CONFIDENCE IN THE POLICE</b></p>
087/19	<p><b>Item 10a – Business Crime</b> <a href="#">[LINK TO REPORT]</a> <i>Presented by Supt. Harvi Khatkar, ACC Jayne Meir and Mark Silvester, Designing out Crime Manager</i></p> <p>A questions and answers discussion followed:</p> <p>Q: Para 14 talks of outcomes of disposal rates. It would be useful to understand what those disposal rates look like. <b>Could this be provided for the Group meeting in 2 weeks' time?</b> <b>A: Supt Khatkar committed to providing that information. ACTION</b></p> <p>Q: The report mentions an increase in intelligence around Modern Day Slavery. Will this lead to more investigatory success? A: Difficult to quantify without statistics available as the Force does not yet have the right level of intel.</p> <p>Q: Has the Force taken on board the disproportionality between sizes of businesses and the fact that impact of crime is therefore different (ie smaller can be hit harder) A: Those differences are recognised, especially for sole traders, although there is still a lot of work to do.</p> <p>The Commissioner thanked Supt Khatkar for the detailed report. He emphasized the importance of small and large businesses to the West Mids and stressed it is essential that work continues. The slight decrease in business crime is welcomed but there is no room for complacency.</p>
088/19	<p><b>Item 10b – Roads Policing (Cameras, CMPG &amp; ANPR) &amp; Safer Travel</b> <a href="#">[LINK TO REPORT]</a> <a href="#">[APPENDIX]</a> <i>Presented by Chief Inspector Gareth Mason, Supt Dave Twyford and Anne Shaw, West Midlands Combined Authority</i></p> <p>A question and answer discussion followed:</p> <p>Q: Do you have a breakdown of the speeding offences? A: There are approximately 60,000 enforcements across the year. The breakdown of that figure can be provided.</p> <p>Q: Para 45 refers to ANPR and the Highways Agency. What is at risk here? A: The national ANPR service is currently being developed throughout the UK. At the start there was an agreement between policing and Highways England that any cameras on the strategic network would be replaced. That has slightly changed and the risk for the region is 54 cameras on the strategic road network. The financial situation is that there is a slight underspend from last year and some mitigation within budget so no impact on WMP.</p> <p>Q: Para 80 covers HS2. A: One of the issues the Transport police has identified is the construction could bring protests</p> <p>Q: Has WMP reviewed what further measures it or its partners could take to reduce fatalities and if so is there a plan? A: Two main areas here – (i) Fatalities involving pedestrians; and (ii) fatalities from</p>

	<p>vehicles involved in crime. For (i) it comes down to education and the key groups involved and then delivering interventions. For (ii) there is a wealth of dialogue taking place around security of vehicles and how easily they are stolen.</p> <p>The Commissioner asked for short statement about the relationship with other local police authorities ie West Mercia &amp; Warks, who are now not in the CMPG, and how that might be impacting on policing the motorway system.</p> <p>West Mercia left the collaboration 12 months ago. As a result a 2+2 model is now operated. There is a better capability with a more joined up approach. There is a good relationship with West Mercia &amp; Warks and there is a reciprocal arrangement whereby each will provide the other with support as and when needed.</p> <p>Q: In terms of partnerships, what is the perception of other emergency services, eg the Fire Service, involved in road traffic accidents?</p> <p>A: In Jan 19 the Regional Road Safety Strategy was launched with 7 local authorities. WMP support that and work closely with colleagues.</p> <p>Q: Re paras 8-10, diversity and recruitment in Roads Policing Academy. Do you have any data around success in terms of female and BAME into that dept?</p> <p>A: 95 applicants. 15% were female and 9% BAME. 22 candidates were successful. Of those, 13% were female and 6% BAME.</p> <p>Q: Do you have any comments on the service commissioned by the PCC to support families affected by road traffic fatalities?</p> <p>A: The Family Liaison Officer role is a really important, and difficult role. Without the support of the PCC the Force would not be able to deliver the level of service it does.</p> <p>Q: What is the Combined Authority's view on how the proposed bus by-laws will be enforced?</p> <p>A: The purpose of the bus by-laws is to give officers who are already dealing with anti-social behaviour the same powers they have on rail and tram. Once implemented it will be reviewed.</p>
<b>REGULAR ITEMS</b>	
<b>089/19</b>	<p><b>Item 11a – Financial Outturn 2018/19</b> <a href="#">[LINK TO REPORT]</a>  <i>Presented by Mark Kenyon</i></p> <p>This report sets out the year end position for finance year 2018/19 over Revenue and Capital expenditure. The outturn position is subject to the external audit currently underway. There are a number of variances detailed throughout.</p> <p><u>Revenue</u> in summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WMP had underspend of £588k which is 0.2% of budget.</li> <li>• After factoring in underspend by WMP2020 and the commissioning services aspect in OPCC, the total budget underspend is £3m.</li> <li>• Total use of reserves is around £18.5m.</li> <li>• Variance highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Underspend in police officer pay due to higher number of leavers than forecast</li> <li>- Overspend in police staff pay but offset to an extent by number of staff leaving towards year end</li> <li>- Underspend in premises due to a one-off rate rebate and re-evaluation</li> <li>- Increase in expenditure in areas such as forensics</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>Capital</u> in summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total programme is £34m with an underspend of £2.2m.</li> <li>• Variance highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National analytics service received an additional grant for incurred expenditure</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some budget virements between Change Programme</li> <li>- Underspend in the Mobility Programme</li> </ul> <p>Underspend from Revenue and majority of that from Capital programme will be carried forward to the new year. 31 March 2019 – Total reserve of £58m (including £12m in the General Fund which has to be maintained), and by 31 March 2020 – Forecast to be £32m.</p>
090/19	<p><b>Item 11b - Headline Performance</b> <a href="#">[LINK TO REPORT]</a>  Presented by Chief Constable David Thompson</p> <p>Highlights only were covered as followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Total Recorded Crime</u>: Estimated that this will keep rising because of recording practices.</li> <li>- <u>Burglaries</u>: Burglary dwellings are a priority. Crime recording is very accurate and shows downturn. Also targeting burglary which relate to vehicle theft.</li> <li>- <u>Robberies</u>: Concern in this area especially as violence has increased. The increase shown in the report is real, and this is a huge priority.</li> <li>- <u>Hidden Crimes</u>: Want to increase reporting. Areas of concern are around managing safeguarding demand and outcome rate.</li> <li>- <u>Rates of re-offending</u>: Hard to track performance. Investing heavily in re-offending and intervention.</li> <li>- <u>Diversion</u>: Work being done here is very promising.</li> <li>- <u>Complaints</u>: Rates are very low.</li> <li>- <u>Satisfaction and Confidence</u>: Discussed at last meeting. Will return to this later in the year.</li> <li>- <u>Public engagement</u>: Very positive</li> </ul>
091/19	<p><b>Item 11c - The Strategic Policing and Crime Board work plan</b> <a href="#">[LINK TO WORK PLAN]</a>  Presented by Jonathan Jardine, OPCC Chief Executive</p> <p>One amendment to the workplan was reported. 'Violence Reduction' report has been added to the meeting scheduled to take place on 23 July 2019.</p>
092/19	<p><b>Item 11d – Chief Constable Update</b>  Presented by Chief Constable David Thompson</p> <p>The Chief Constable stated that he only wished to talk about violence, given the recent incidents in the West Midlands and in London. He made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Violence Reduction money is hugely welcomed. The Force is committed to the Public Health based approach around violence and there is a lot of work ongoing between the Force, the OPCC and the Regional Director of Public Health with a view to maximising opportunities.</li> <li>• The expectation is that the Force will explain in the next couple of weeks how the money coming in under Operation Guardian will be used.</li> <li>• The Summer is almost here and everyone needs to gear up for that period. Last Summer there were big conversations with young people and schools and the Force was very grateful for support from schools. This year a number of schools have picked up the mainstream approach around keeping regular conversations with young people but this needs to be expanded to included parents, youth workers as well as teachers, to ensure young people are briefed on the dangers</li> </ul>



	<p>and consequences of knife crime. There was a tragic event in Coventry last week. There is a huge amount of work going on in the investigation in order to bring people to justice and there is substantial pressure on the teams working around investigating homicides.</p> <p>The Chief Constable wants people to think hard about the points made. While the police will carry on searching and targeting robbery, County Lines and drugs gangs, knife crime remains a conversation everyone should have with their children.</p> <p>In summary, there is more work to do and although there is some very good work going on in the Force, it is everyone's problem and the police need everyone's help.</p>
	<p>The Police and Crime Commissioner thanked everyone for their work and contributions and closed the public meeting at 1247 hrs</p>