

Email thread of WMPCC CEX informing PCC of notebook incident. 26th June 2020

From: David J XXXXXXXXXXXX
Sent: 28 June 2020 12:34
To: Jonathan Jardine XXXXXXXXXXXX David Jamieson XXXXXXXXXXXX
Cc: XXXXXXXXXXXX
Subject: RE: WMP data loss

Thanks. Follow up on Monday with CC.D

From: Jonathan Jardine
Sent: 26 June 2020 17:04
To: David Jamieson; XXXXXXXXXXXX
Cc: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Subject: WMP data loss

David

On 15 June 2020 the Chief briefed us on the theft of a Force paper notebook (a “blue book”) held by XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX. This loss is likely to come into the public domain soon.

The Officer left the book in an unmarked police car during a foot chase. The vehicle was left insecure and when the Officers returned the book was missing. Laptops and phones in the car were untouched.

Exactly what was written in the book is uncertain, but it contained intelligence information with XX.

The Force established a Gold Group led by XXXXXXXXXXXX.

The Force reviewed the intelligence briefings and logs accessed by the Officer and compiled a list of XX.

The Force initiated an investigation to locate and retrieve the notebook but this has been unsuccessful.

XXX.

XXXXXXXXXX reports that there has been little new activity in the last two weeks, and there have been no crimes of which WMP is aware associated with the loss of the notebook. The Force’s current assessment is that the notebook is likely to have been destroyed.

The loss has been reported to the IOPC and Information Commissioner’s Office. The loss raises wider questions about the continued use of paper notebooks for sensitive information, and highlights the importance of the MiraBook roll out.

Today, XXXXXXXXXXXX and XXXXXXXXXXXX raised with us that individuals with whom they are working as part of their work with the VRU are receiving the notification visits and letters. They expressed understandable concern and will be following up.

I have spoken with XXXXXXXXXXXX who provided the fuller briefing in this email. I let XXXXXXXXXXXX know that wider public knowledge concerning the data loss is likely soon, and I understand that the Force is offering to liaise with XXXXXXXXXXXX and XXXXXXXXXXXX directly.

XXXXXXXXXX – I suggest you liaise with Force Comms on a shared reactive position

I recommend that we follow up with the Chief Constable on Monday.

Thanks

Jonathan

Jonathan Jardine
Chief Executive
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner
XXXXXXXXXX
0121 626 6060

Agenda for Chiefs Meeting 29th June 2020

[Skype correspondence between WMPCC CEX & WMPCC Head of Business Services]

From: Richard Costello XXXXXXXXXXXX **Sent:** 29 June 2020 14:15
To: Polly Reed XXXXXXXXXXXX Waheed Saleem XXXXXXXXXXXX Richard Costello
XXXXXXXXXX Alethea Fuller XXXXXXXXXXXX David Jamieson XXXXXXXXXXXX Guest
XXXXXXXXXX Guest XXXXXXXXXXXX; Jonathan Jardine XXXXXXXXXXXX
Subject: Pre-Meet call for Chief Meeting

Jonathan Jardine 11:22:

AOB:

- Lost notebook update

WMP Statement – 8th October 2020

XXXXXXXXXX said: “On 29 May a notebook containing rough notes on operational policing matters was taken from one of our unmarked cars in Birmingham.

“Officers from our gangs team were involved in a footchase in the Ladywood area, and the notebook was stolen during this time.

“An investigation was immediately launched to determine any threat and risk posed to members of our community.

“A debrief was carried out with the officers involved so we could quickly determine what was contained within the notebook.

“Once this review was carried out we undertook a comprehensive intelligence assessment to understand if any of this information would pose a risk to any individuals.

“The notebook contained details of people assessed as being involved in, or vulnerable to gang related activities.

“We conducted a series of visits and sent formal letters to the people whose details were thought to be contained within the notebook, notifying them of the theft and offering support.

“The data loss was investigated by our professional standards department and we referred it to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) and the Independent Office for Police

Conduct (IOPC) The ICO investigation is ongoing.

"The officer involved was given management advice and we've been working to address our policies regarding how we use, store and destroy sensitive information.

"We do not believe that the loss of this information has directly put anyone at risk and we've been in contact with those who've had any concerns.

"At present we do not know where the notebook is, the investigation into the theft ongoing, and we continue to monitor any potential risks within our communities and put the appropriate safeguarding in place.

"We are very sorry that this information found its way into the public domain. We manage highly sensitive information every day, which is vital in our fight against violent crime.

"We immediately put the relevant safeguarding in place and were open and transparent with the people who were involved. We did not feel it was appropriate to share this information any wider at the time, as that may have the situation worse, or potentially put people at further risk.

"We will welcome the findings of the ICO report once completed and will take any recommendations on board."

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Extract from Notes from fortnightly Black Faith Leaders meeting

Next meeting 27th Oct

XXXXXXXXXX is chairing (XXXXXXXXXX not there).

XXXXXXXXXX from WMP present (XXXXXXXXXX & XXXXXXXXXXXX not present on this occasion) & XXXXXXXXXXXX also present.

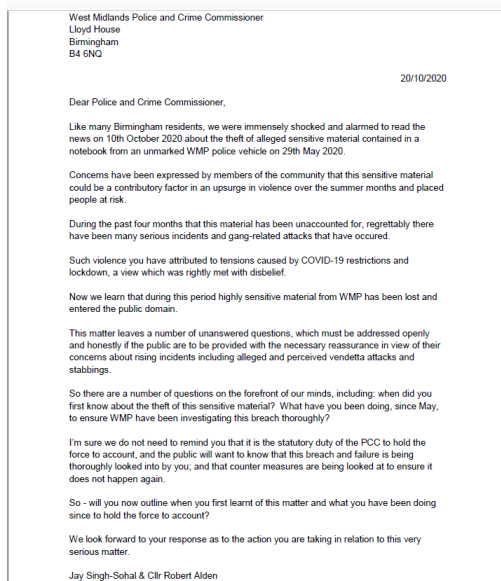
- XXXXXXXXXXXX mentions the missing notebook, asked for an update (mentioned he had calls from families claiming that they feared for safety and that his ‘own research suggests’ that violence has increased since that happened)

Extract from notes of SMT Meeting 21st October 2020

Agenda for this morning’s SMT is as follows:

- 1) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 2) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 3) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 4) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 5) Stolen notebook (attached) JJ
- 6) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 7) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 8) XXXXXXXXXXXX
- 9) XXXXXXXXXXXX

Screenshot from the attachment:



Copied Text from the attachment:

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner
Lloyd House
Birmingham
B4 6NQ

20/10/2020

Dear Police and Crime Commissioner,

Like many Birmingham residents, we were immensely shocked and alarmed to read the news on 10th October 2020 about the theft of alleged sensitive material contained in a notebook from an unmarked WMP police vehicle on 29th May 2020.

Concerns have been expressed by members of the community that this sensitive material could be a contributory factor in an upsurge in violence over the summer months and placed people at risk.

During the past four months that this material has been unaccounted for, regrettably there have been many serious incidents and gang-related attacks that have occurred.

Such violence you have attributed to tensions caused by COVID-19 restrictions and lockdown, a view which was rightly met with disbelief. Now we learn that during this period highly sensitive material from WMP has been lost and entered the public domain.

This matter leaves a number of unanswered questions, which must be addressed openly and honestly if the public are to be provided with the necessary reassurance in view of their concerns about rising incidents including alleged and perceived vendetta attacks and stabbings.

So there are a number of questions on the forefront of our minds, including: when did you first know about the theft of this sensitive material? What have you been doing, since May, to ensure WMP have been investigating this breach thoroughly?

I'm sure we do not need to remind you that it is the statutory duty of the PCC to hold the force to account, and the public will want to know that this breach and failure is being thoroughly looked into by you; and that counter measures are being looked at to ensure it does not happen again.

So - will you now outline when you first learnt of this matter and what you have been doing since to hold the force to account? We look forward to your response as to the action you are taking in relation to this very serious matter.

Jay Singh-Sohal & Cllr Robert Alden