



STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD

Tuesday 16 February 2021
1000 – 1200 hrs

Remote Access Meeting (using Zoom Technology)

AGENDA

1	10:00	Apologies and PCC Update: The Commissioner will provide a general update.	Verbal
2	10:10	Notes of the Last Meeting – 19th January 2021 The notes of the Board meeting held on 19 th January 2021 are attached to this agenda. The notes include actions in bold, with the steps taken to address those actions included in italics. The notes carry forward any outstanding actions from previous Board meetings to ensure that the Board is regularly updated on progress.	
3	10:10	Questions From Members of the Public: The Commissioner will consider questions from members of the public (other than police officers and staff) who live, work or study in the West Midlands relating to the duties and responsibilities of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Any questions have to be submitted in writing to the Commissioner at least seven working days before the meeting. Members of the public may submit one question per meeting. Members of the public are reminded that it is also possible to ask questions of West Midlands Police and Crime Panel whose role is to support and review the work of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. For further information go to the Panel's website http://westmidlandspcp.co.uk	
4	10:15	Questions from Members of the Board: This item is for Board Members to ask particular questions on matters that have arisen between Board meetings and which are not connected with the reports on this agenda. A copy of the questions will be circulated at the meeting and will be made available on the Commissioner's website at www.westmidlandspcc.gov.uk .	

		SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF CRIME	
5a	10:30	Victims: To be presented by ACC Meir.	Written Report
5b	10:50	DV Perpetrators: To be presented by ACC Meir, Megan Jones and Imogen Cheatham.	Written Report
REGULAR ITEMS			
6	11:10	Finance and Budget Update: To be presented by Mark Kenyon.	Written Report
7	11:30	Emergency Chapter – WMP: To be presented by ACC Chris Todd.	Written Report
8	11:50	Chief Constable Update: The Chief Constable will give a verbal update on operational policing matters which can be discussed in the public domain.	Verbal Update
9	11:55	SPCB Work Plan:	Written Report
10	11:59	Date of the Next Meeting: 16th March 2021	For Noting



STRATEGIC POLICING AND CRIME BOARD

**Notes of Meeting Held on Tuesday 19th January 2021
1000 – 1200 hrs**

Remote Access Meeting (using Zoom Technology)

Attendees:

David JAMIESON	:	Police and Crime Commissioner
Brendan CONNOR	:	Board Member
Alethea FULLER	:	Deputy Chief Executive
Catherine HANNON	:	Board Member
Jonathan JARDINE	:	Chief Executive
Vanessa JARDINE	:	Deputy Chief Constable
Gurinder Singh JOSAN	:	Board Member
Mark KENYON	:	Head of Finance
Sarah MARWICK	:	Board Member
Thomas MCNEIL	:	Strategic Advisor/Board Member
Mark Payne	:	Assistant Chief Constable
Waheed SALEEM	:	Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
David THOMPSON	:	Chief Constable
Chris TODD	:	Assistant Chief Constable
Matthew WARD	:	Assistant Chief Constable

Plus one note taker and six observers.

Apologies:

There were no apologies

Please Note:

1. *This meeting was recorded and the entire discussion can be found here:*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-N0YlvYVkhs>
2. *The reports referred to throughout this meeting can be viewed here:*
<https://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/archive/spcb-january-2021/>
3. *Actions arising from the discussion during the meeting are highlighted in bold text.*

001/21	Item 1: PCC Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Commissioner welcomed everyone to the meeting.• The Commissioner congratulated the Chief Constable and Brendan Connor on their mentions in the New Year's Honours List. The Commissioner also added
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	<p>congratulations to DCI Jenny Pearson and Mick Bracycotton for their awards in the Honours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commissioner has written to the Government requesting that Police officers are prioritised in the next tranche of vaccinations. • The Commissioner commended the Force for their handling of the Anti-Lockdown protest which took place in Birmingham on January 16th. • It is the Commissioner's view that elections for Local Government, Mayor and PCC should still take place as planned but that it must be done so safely.
	<p>Item 2: Notes of the Last Meeting:</p> <p>The notes of the Board meeting held on 15th December 2020 were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.</p> <p>The actions relating to the details of offences and the tracking of offenders has now all been covered and this updated report has been shared by the Force and this update has been shared with Board Members.</p>
	<p>Item 3: Questions from Members of the Public:</p> <p>There were no public questions</p>
	<p>Item 4: Questions from the Board on matters not on the agenda:</p> <p>1) Is WMP still actively seeking the foreign national offenders who are at large in the West Midlands who were formerly the subject of European Arrest Warrants? Have other countries sought the renewed extradition of these individuals? How many individuals formerly subject to EAWs are believed to be at large in the West Midlands?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(To be asked by David Jamieson)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union this has seen the end of European Arrest Warrants which was a smoother approach to extradition, though there are still arrangements in place. • On leaving the European Union on January 1st the Force was holding 51 European Arrest Warrants, this had reduced over the last 6 months due to the work done with European partners. All but 6 of these had red notices. The remaining 45 valid warrants are being worked through. • The National Extradition Unit has taken over the running of these cases which are prioritised by importance. • It is too soon to comment on the difference that the new way of working will bring but this will be assessed as time goes by. <p>2) How many speeding offences were recorded by WMP in 2020 where the offender is a foreign EU national in an EU registered vehicle? How will WMP approach, a) speeding, and b) wider traffic offences by EU nationals in EU registered vehicles now that the UK has left the EU and the mechanisms for intra-EU cross border enforcement of fines no longer apply?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(To be asked by David Jamieson)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This has never been entirely smooth due to the cost of enforcement required. • There is no separate data to detail whether a foreign EU national was speeding on a West Midlands road in an EU registered vehicle. • As the issuing of tickets is enforced by Ticket Officers on the road the extra enforcement on traffic fines becomes problematic.

	<p>3) Can the Chief Constable update on the implications for WMP arising from the reported deletion of PNC records?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(To be asked by David Jamieson)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain items are deleted from the Police National Computer in line with the Protection of Freedoms Act. • These records mainly relate to those people who were arrested by the Police but who were not charged. Certain information can be retained by Police forces following strict criteria for the protection of the public. • The Force are currently unable to address the implications of this at the moment but are attending the National Police Liaison Group to assess the situation. • The Force are also checking any elimination reports being sent through via the PNC of which there were 103 last week. • A clearer view of the national picture will be available after Wednesday 20th January.
	RESPONDING TO NATIONAL THREATS
	<p>Item 5: CT/SPR/SOC:</p> <p>The report was presented by Assistant Chief Constable Matthew Ward and the following points were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the annual review of how the Force is responding to three of its requirements under Strategic Policing Requirements. • This year's report heavily influenced by the backdrop of Covid. • The Counter Terrorism threat remains a significant and persistent threat, with a terrorist attack highly likely. • Covid has affected the number of referrals of vulnerable people at risk of extremism, so the Counter Terrorism network has responded locally and nationally by trying to get information in different ways. • Finding new ways of engaging and working with business and local communities to seek to protect public spaces, continuing to prepare the Force's response to support events like the Coventry City of Culture and Commonwealth Games. • In addition to this, the CT Network continues to evolve and develop on a national level through the CTP Next Generation Network, and locally through Project Amplify which brings together all 4 forces to make sure there is a single approach to terrorism. • As a result of Covid there have been fewer mass attended events and the teams that would cover such events have supported the Forces approach over the last 12 months and helped managed a number of protests including Black Lives Matter in the summer, the Indian Farmers protests before Christmas and ongoing Covid protests. • With regards to India-related terrorism ACC Ward said the following: "There are extremist organisations within India who seek an independent Sikh homeland – the Khalistan. Seeking an independent homeland isn't extremist but there are some groups who try to use violence to be able to do that. Some of those organisations have representatives within the UK and within the WM, because we have a very significant Sikh community, it is not surprising we've got a small minority of individuals who have shown some extremist views within the UK. So we work very closely again with both UK partners and international partners that wherever we identify those risks we take the necessary proportionate action to tackle those and there has been activity we have taken as West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit to target those who use extremist views. It is relatively limited, it is relatively small, it can have a wider community impact and we have seen where we have taken action in the past we have seen a small minority of

	<p>people protest taking place but it is important we don't deny there are small numbers of individuals who have these views and if you are planning terrorist attacks anywhere in the world outside of the UK that is an offence in the United Kingdom that we along with our partners will investigate and if there is evidence we will prosecute. Counter terrorism is not about what people believe and we don't investigate people for their beliefs, we investigate those who propagate violence that is ultimately what we are trying to do. So those who are seeking violence to enforce their beliefs that's when we get involved not because of what people believe in."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Force are continuing to look at new ways to train staff in a Covid-safe way. • The West Midlands Regional Organised Crime Unit continues to disrupt serious organised crime groups across the Force area, particularly in the last couple of months around county lines and protecting young people affected by it. • Serious and Organised Crime and Exploitation intelligence hubs which will shortly be coming online in Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry. • The ROCU played a role in supporting Operation Venetic which is the UK's largest law enforcement operation which took out a significant number of crime nominals. • Continued to maintain specialist capabilities and as a result of the spending review are now looking to grow some of these capabilities. • The Force will closely monitor the effects of EU Exit, especially around human trafficking and other organised crime. • With regards to interoperability and blue light co-ordination the Force recognise they don't have all the answers but are prepared to listen and learn from instances such as the Manchester attack. • The Force always prepare for the worst and are confident that all blue light partners are working together and are as prepared as they can be. • There will be specific tests ahead of the events to ensure all partners are fully prepared. • Due to Covid radicalisation has moved online and work is ongoing with partners to reduce this. • Connections to Victim Support organisations will be addressed as part of a review and will include partnership working with local authorities and the voluntary sector. • Right wing extremism is increasing within the area and is something that is continually monitored. Work is ongoing to combat idealistic and hate ideologies. Bespoke engagement and diversion plans are being created to help get to a position the Force are satisfied with. Mental Health provisions are also being used to help those suffering with Mental Health needs. • The Force have always kept a high number of public order trained staff to ensure they are best placed for incidents. As numbers of officers reduce it is harder to maintain but the Force are still able to support the national requirement. • The Force is as prepared as it can be for any civil emergencies which may impact on local policing. • There is a dedicated Counter Terrorism team working with Internet providers to identify and close websites that share extreme messages. • There has been a national reduction in referrals to Prevent, many previous referrals came from schools but due to many schools being closed for periods over the past 12 months this has seen referral numbers drop. Work is taking place to find an approach to take professional advice to communities to ensure that should someone have concerns about a family member they have the knowledge of how to refer them.
	EMERGENCY POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

Item 6: Performance Update

The report was presented by Deputy Chief Constable Vanessa Jardine and the following points were discussed:

- Caution was urged around the circulated paper as usually performance is based on year on year comparisons and the uniqueness of the last year makes this difficult.
- People being confined to their homes took away opportunities to commit crimes.
- There was a 48% decline in crimes in Birmingham City Centre. As there was no night time economy this took away opportunities for offences.
- There was an increase in violence without injury and harassment which is associated with the increase in reporting of Domestic Abuse cases. 1 in 5 crimes reported is related to Domestic Abuse.
- Though the Force has seen an increase in the reporting of crimes against Domestic Abuse there has not been the corresponding number of incidents.
- Numbers of reported Domestic Abuse has remained broadly the same which means that the number of victims remained the same though there were spikes in August and December.
- There has been a significant increase in crime reports which is related to ensuring that crime data integrity has improved and reporting more crimes against a single incident.
- The Force were previously recording approximately 0.3 crimes for every incident reported, this is now between 0.8 and 1. It is very important for victims that we accurately record the crimes committed against them.
- The Force will be bringing a report to a future Board Meeting around the preparations and work around upcoming HMIC inspections.
- With the significant decrease in road traffic there has been a decrease in those killed or seriously injured on the regions roads but we must remain mindful that this is due to the decrease in traffic.
- The rise in vulnerable adult abuse is similar to the rationale around Domestic Abuse. We mustn't take away the fact that people being confined to homes has had an impact and a feature of why we are seeing incidents increased.
- There is concern around Child Abuse reports when schools are closed, this is an area the Force continue to monitor. It was expected that there would be a rise in reporting when schools reopened but this did not happen. Work will continue with partners to ensure the safety of young people.
- Anticipated reports of Domestic Abuse and Child Abuse after the first lockdown did not happen but there are plans in place for when restrictions are lifted at the end of this current lockdown.
- There has been a big focus on ensuring reporting on use of force is accurate. The Force is confident that, moving forward, they can use this data in an informed way.
- The OPCC has doubled its investment since 2016 to help fight victims of Domestic Abuse and Domestic Violence and over £4million is being invested in services and will continue to be a significant priority for the office.
- Hate Crime has increased by 40% since 2019 and to support victims of hate crime the OPCC are expanding support services for victims of Hate Crime and investing £200,000 to ensure that victims are sufficiently supported.

Item 7: Emergency Chapter – By Exception

The report was presented by Assistant Chief Constable Chris Todd and the following points were discussed:

- The Force has stepped up its redeployment resolve cell to be more agile as extraction levels have increased.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of enforcement, as we are now in national lockdown there should be no protest under current restrictions and no need for gatherings. • There has been positive feedback from recent all out days and the Force are grateful to the majority of the public who continue to abide by the rules. • Travel corridors have been suspended and as such travellers need to isolate for 10 days. The Force have not yet received details of any new quarantine checks but do expect an uplift in numbers. There have been no issues with travel quarantine checks conducted to date. • Work on vaccination sites is dynamic, the Force have been heavily engaged with strategic co-ordination groups to support • There are no issues in the PPE supply chain, availability remains good • Abstraction levels has risen, so there is now a combined sickness vs isolation abstraction rate of just over 10% of the workforce. • There are no significant financial changes though adjustments to airport policing are expected due to the significant reduction of footfall due to travel restrictions. • The first of the Fines challenges through the court process is now proceeding and processes will follow accordingly. • Fixed Penalty Notice's not paid within the 28 day notice period there is a robust system in place where a case will be prepared for prosecution. • The Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner thanked the members of the public for following the rules. • The Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner also thanked officers for their efforts during this time. This is the first time they have been required to enforce Public Health regulations and sometimes they can get things wrong but the majority of the time they are doing the right thing and ensuring the public are following the rules.
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EMERGING ITEMS	
	<p>Item 8: Commonwealth Games</p> <p>The report was presented by Assistant Chief Constable Matthew Ward and the following points were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Unity is the West Midlands Police response to the Commonwealth Games. The planning team has adapted well to the challenges Covid has bought about. • A diverse team has been recruited focussed on carrying out a safe and secure Games in 2022 but also leaving a lasting legacy for West Midlands Police and the wider community which fully reflects the region. • Part of the legacy is around increasing volunteering within the region and so the planning team are exploring all opportunities to attract volunteers to support the security of the operation. • Other aims for the legacy of the games is to increase trust and confidence between the Force and the communities it serves. • Security of the project is a key part of the policing responsibility. Though the private contract security will be delivered by the Committee it has been done in liaison with the Force. • Briefings have been delivered to key stakeholders, meetings have taken place with national partners to ensure there are sufficient resources available around accommodation and transport. • The project is understandably under considerable scrutiny from the Home Office, Commonwealth Games committee and the Department of Media, Culture and Sport.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Process of recruiting Officers to the Queen's baton relay escort team is now underway. This will be the first presentation of West Midlands Police to the rest of the country. • ACC Ward has every confidence that the Games will go ahead and they will be a safe and secure event.
	<p>Item 9: Confidence & Satisfaction</p> <p>The report was presented by Assistant Chief Constable Mark Payne and the following points were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This work will give the Force the ability understand how happy people are with the service from first to last. • The work being done is to measure, map and understand where the Force are doing well and where they need to improve which follows on from previous survey work and the position this has led to. • The data collected gives the first chance to help understand the level of citizen satisfaction and confidence in the service the Force provides. • This new way of interaction is a contrast to the previous survey which was sent some time after the initial contact. • The new innovation will give the ability to break down the data to a portfolio or team level and offer the ability to see where performance may not be as high. • Alongside the data submitted, members of the public can submit written feedback which can allow the Force to understand better the survey responses received. • The Force are doing all that they can to prioritise cases of Domestic Abuse to ensure that victims do not lose confidence in the Criminal Justice System or West Midlands Police. • The data that comes out of this work will be shared with line managers to ensure they are kept up to date of staff performance.
	<p>Item 10: Chief Constable Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chief Constable commented on the Court result relating to 4 young men being found guilty for the murder of schoolboy Keelan Wilson in Wolverhampton on 2018. 2 years investigation had gone into the case and the Chief Constable commended the work of the team in their determination around the issues of youth violence and bringing such cases to court. The Chief Constable added that he hoped the verdict may bring some comfort to the victim's family.
	<p>Item 11: SPCB Workplan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 2 meetings remaining in the term. This will depend on whether the local elections take place as intended. • The next meeting will focus on the work around supporting victims of crime
	<p>Item 12: Date of Next Meeting: 16th February 2021</p> <p>The Commissioner thanked the Chief Constable, the Force and Board Members for their detailed reports and discussion.</p> <p>The Public Session of the meeting concluded at 12:08.</p>

