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**Meeting: Policing Board**

**Venue: Teams Meeting**

**Date: 9th May 2022**

**Time: 10:00 – 11:58**

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| **Members:** | Dafydd Llywelyn, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)  Deputy Chief Constable Claire Parmenter (DCC)  Carys Morgans, Chief of Staff, OPCC (CoS) |
| **Also Present:** | ACC Andy Valentine, South Wales Police (AV) *Item 5 (a) only*  Chief Inspector Chris Neve, Staff Officer, DPP (CN)  Ellen Jones, Student Intern, OPCC (EJ) |
| **Apologies:** | Chief Constable Dr Richard Lewis (CC)  Beverly Peatling, Chief Finance Officer, OPCC (CFO) |

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| **Action No.** | **Action Summary** | **Update** |
| PB 109 | Completion of the governance structure to be brought to a meeting of the Policing Board in three months’ time | Complete – on agenda |
| PB 119 | To progress estates future decisions for South Ceredigion forward operating base and future strategy for Pembrokeshire estates | Scheduled for discussion at Policing Board meeting of 6/6 |
| PB 125 | OPCC to engage with recent stop and search data to understand the effect on race disproportionality | Discharged |
| PB 127 | PCC and CC to sign the acceptance of the bronze award in the defence employer recognition scheme | In Progress - CN and EJ to arrange a date for signing |
| PB 131 | Andy Valentine to be invited to the next meeting of the Policing Board to provide a verbal update on all-Wales collaborations | Complete |
| PB 132 | OPCC to be provided with date for publication of the recent HMICFRS re-inspection report | Complete –  Hot debrief expected on 10th June. Claire Bryant to attend on behalf of the PCC |
| PB 133 | Register of decisions from Chief Officer Group to be provided to the PCC | Complete |
| PB 134 | OPCC Executive Team to discuss the reporting requirements for Force project benefits oversight | In progress - Action taken forward to meeting of Executive Team on 19/05 |

1. **Update on actions from previous meetings**

The minutes from the last meeting held on the 28th of April 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

The PCC thanked the DCC for attending in the Chief Constable’s absence.

***PB 125 - OPCC to engage with recent stop and search data to understand the effect on race disproportionality.*** The PCC discharged this action, informing the DCC that the structure of the OPCC would enable bring additional resources to undertake such analysis and scrutiny. The PCC stated that he was aware of the Force’s regular review of stop and search data and race disproportionality. He also noted the links with the work being undertaken by Welsh Government and the Criminal Justice in Wales Board in relation to anti-racism. The DCC thanked the PCC and stated that any external scrutiny from OPCC was welcomed and beneficial. The CoS explained that the matter continued to feature on the Commissioner’s Quality Assurance Panel schedule. She also assured that it would be considered within the plans to reinvigorate the Commissioner’s Youth Engagement Forum. The PCC stated that the Forces focus on stop and search would also feed into this data.

The DPP informed the PCC that the Anti-Racism Wales Plan was expected to become an area of greater focus as the National Police Chief Council were due to launch their National Race Inclusion plan on the 24th of May 2022. The DCC suggested that a future Policing Board (PB) should focus on this topic in order to assess how the PCC could support the delivery of the plan on both a Welsh and National level. The PCC agreed and suggested that it feature as a routine topic of OPCC scrutiny. He also stated that he would discuss the topic further with the Minister for Social Justice Jane Hutt MS.

**Action: Future PB Meeting to focus on the Anti-Racism Wales Plan and the NPCC National Race Inclusion plan**

**Action: Routine scrutiny of stop and search disproportionality to be added to OPCC forward work plan**

**Action: PCC to discuss Anti-Racism Wales Plan with Jane Hutt MS**

***PB 134 – Force project benefits oversight.*** The PCC provided clarity regarding the action, explaining the desire to ensure the outputs from the Force’s Benefits Realisation Officer’s work could be reviewed by the PCC.

1. **Standing Items** 
   1. Deputy Chief Constable’s update

The DCC provided a summary of her the current activity, referring to the report circulated with the agenda. The DCC was leading on the community engagement strand of the National Race Inclusion plan referenced earlier in the meeting. It was anticipated that there would be some concerns raised in terms of the limited consultation that was undertaken to inform the Plan due to the timescales involved. The DCC was however reassured by the appointment of the Independent Scrutiny and Oversight Board. Work was ongoing to ensure Welsh representation on the Board.

The DCC was developing a national performance framework for Neighbourhood Policing, with the aim of quantifying the impact of investment into the area. The PCC stated that he had a keen interest in ensuring OPCC scrutiny over Neighbourhood Policing as it was a continued priority of the Commissioner.

A new Crime Data Integrity (CDI) and Victims Board had been established in DPP in order to continue to drive the improvements being seen in relation to CDI. The PCC questioned the developments relating to CDI since the Force Performance meeting he had attended at the end of March. The DCC stated that some benefits had been seen but more work was required to reinforce the impact of CDI on the victim experience. She reassured the PCC that she had strong oversight of the matter, including weekly audits.

The PCC asked as to whether any operational matters had recently occurred that needed to be brought to his attention. The DCC highlighted that the volume of incidents was already starting to rise, reinforcing the need to ensure that the Force’s resourcing was in place before the summer.

* 1. Decisions made by the Chief Constable

The PCC stated that it would be beneficial for the PCC to be sighted on the decisions on a regular basis through the OPCC’s governance structure.

* 1. Police and Crime Commissioner’s update

The PCC provided a verbal update on his recent commitments and activity, including work relating to a scoping exercise regarding the National Police Air Service provision for Wales. The PCC was working with PCC Alun Michael to lobby the Home Office regarding the Welsh funding allocation from the UK drug strategy.

The PCC provided a further update relating to the OPCC restructure, with Gruff Ifan successfully appointed as the Head of Engagement and Communications. Two more interviews were scheduled to be held later in the week. The PCC highlighted that there had been a recent change in members of the Police and Crime Panel following the local elections.

The CoS stated that the OPCC’s focus was on the office restructure and the OPCC’s delivery plan, emphasising the importance of linking with the Force’s delivery plan. The DCC informed that the draft Force delivery plan was due to be discussed at the Chief Officer Group (COG) later that day and would be shared with the OPCC following sign-off the following week. The PCC reinforced the importance of his oversight of the delivery plan to gain assurance of the Force’s progress against the Police and Crime Plan.

**Action: OPCC to receive the Force Delivery Plan Draft following sign off at COG**

1. **Focus: Governance structure**

The DCC provided a presentation, highlighting key changes to the Force’s governance structure. The DCC informed that the Force had undergone a peer review from Cheshire Constabulary as they had significantly improved their CDI performance through implementing a new governance structure. The PCC sought clarity in regard to some of the portfolios and areas of responsibility for additional projects. The DCC stated that the Force structure was now aligned to the Force’s priorities and that any future projects wouldbe appropriately located. She informed that once the structure was implemented its impact would be analysed. The CoS informed that work was required to define the OPCC’s interaction with the new Force governance structure. Suggesting it be discussed at the next OPCC Executive Team meeting.

**Action: Force Governance structure to discussed at next OPCC Executive Team meeting**

1. **Matters for Discussion / Action** 
   1. All-Wales Collaboration (ACC Andy Valentine)

Assistant Chief Constable for South Wales Police Andy Valentine provided a presentation highlighting the key national and local updates for counter terrorism, serious and organised crime and police collaboration. Following the PCC’s query, AV explained how the local CONTEST boards fed into national Prevent and Protect and Prepare boards. The DCC welcomed AV’s support for further forensics service collaboration. She also stated that the work to map the four Welsh forces’ Force Management Statements and Police and Crime Plans was helpful to provide future direction. A discussion ensued regarding how new collaborations were considered for progression. The PCC thanked AV for his time and suggested that the each force’s expected outcomes for collaboration activity be discussed at the next Policing in Wales Stocktake meeting.

**Action: All Wales Collaboration to be discussed at the next Policing in Wales Stocktake meeting**

1. **Any Other Business**
   1. Vetting

The PCC sought assurance relating to the vetting unit, as he had been made aware of significant delays. Many volunteers from the OPCC were awaiting their vetting to be processed. CN informed the PCC that a new member of staff would be in place at the beginning of June which would assist in addressing the backlog. The vetting of key personnel such as detention and escort officers and new police officer recruits were being prioritised. CN highlighted that the cause of many delays was due to information not being submitted by the individuals in a timely manner. The unit was currently working on 30 police officer new recruits due to commence training in June, 82 contractors, driver retraining trainers and Samaritans and 55 healthcare staff contractors, Independent Custody Visitors and Goleudy volunteers. The CoS informed that the re-vetting of OPCC volunteers was of concern and suggested the Force considers whether a risk-based approach could be undertaken to ensure OPCC activity could continue. The DCC suggested that she consider the access requirements of the roles in question and discuss further with the CoS following the meeting. The PCC suggested feedback be shared with the Head of Professional Standards to request that the OPCC be informed of the wait times when submitting vetting applications. The Head of Professional Standardshad offered to meet with the PCC if required. The PCC politely declined at this stage as he had received the necessary assurances, however suggested he may follow up on the offer in the should the matter continue to be of concern.

**Action: CoS and DCC to discuss re-vetting of OPCC volunteers**

* 1. Go Safe

The PCC wished to raise this topic due to the CFO’s recent meetings regarding the funding arrangements for Go Safe. He questioned the governance of the Go Safe partnership and sought to understand the financial pressures. The DCC confirmed that details would be provided to the PCC.

**Action: Information regarding Go Safe’s governance and financial pressures to be provided to PCC**

* 1. Police and Crime Panel

The PCC suggested that the Force and OPCC hold an induction day for the new Police and Crime Panel members at Headquartersto aid members’ awareness and understanding. The DCC was supportive of the suggestion.

**Action: OPCC arrange Police and Crime Panel Member visit to HQ**

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| **Action No.** | **Action Summary** | **To be progressed by** |
| PB 135 | Future PB Meeting to focus on the Anti-Racism Wales Plan and the NPCC National Race Inclusion plan | OPCC |
| PB 136 | Routine scrutiny of stop and search disproportionality to be added to OPCC forward work plan | OPCC |
| PB 137 | PCC to discuss the Anti-Racism plan with Jane Hutt MS | PCC |
| PB 138 | OPCC to receive the Force Delivery Plan Draft following sign off at COG | CN |
| PB 139 | Force Governance structure to discussed at next OPCC Executive Team meeting | OPCC |
| PB 140 | All Wales Collaboration to be discussed at the next Policing in Wales Stocktake meeting | CoS |
| PB 141 | CoS and DCC to discuss re-vetting of OPCC volunteers | CoS |
| PB 142 | Information regarding Go Safe’s governance and financial pressures to be provided to PCC | CN |
| PB 143 | OPCC arrange Police and Crime Panel Members visit to HQ | OPCC |