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COMISIYNYDD
 HEDDLU A THROSEDDU
 DYFED-POWYS
 POLICE AND CRIME
 COMMISSIONER

Meeting: Police Accountability
Board
Venue: Police Headquarters
Date: 20th March 2015
Time: 10:00- 11:15



Members:	Mr Tim Burton, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC) Chief Constable Simon Prince (CC) Assistant Chief Constable Simon Powell (ACC) Ms Samantha Gainard, Director of Legal and Compliance (SG) Mr Edwin Harries, Director of Finance (DoF) Mr Adrian Williams, Director of Resources (DoR)
Also Present:	Superintendent Huw Meredith (HM) PS Christina Fraser, Staff Officer to the Chief Constable (CF) Dr Helen Morgan-Howard, Temporary Chief of Staff, OPCC (HM-H) Mrs Sharon Richards, Performance Manager, OPCC (SR) Mrs Kerrie Phillips, Policy Advisor, OPCC (KP) Mr Chris James, Crime and Intelligence Analyst (CJ) Miss Angharad Lewis, Office Manager, OPCC (AL) Miss Karys Thomas, Research Officer, OPCC (KT)
Apologies:	Mr Christopher Salmon, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Deputy Chief Constable, Carl Langley (DCC) Jayne Woods, Chief Finance Officer (CFO) Mrs Carys Morgans, Chief of Staff (CM)

ACTION SUMMARY		
Action N ^o	Action Summary	Progress:
PAB 189	Force to provide SR with the results of work undertaken to identify themes with calls received.	In Progress – Chief Supt. Pam Kelly providing a presentation for the OPCC on the 27th March 15
PAB 190	PK to provide the OPCC with an indication as to when the demand profile system will be	Completed

	available for the OPCC's perusal by the end of February.	
PAB 191	Force to clarify which crimes were at their lowest recorded level in 3 years (Reference in February COG minutes)	Completed
PAB 192	Force to provide SR with results of Audit into Crime Recording due in March 2015.	Ongoing
PAB 193	Force to identify whether or not there has been research into the success of their approach to reduce drink driving.	Completed
PAB 194	Force to analyse the detection rate of Stop and Search incidents in light of the significant reduction in the number of Stop and Searches, and report to the OPCC on the same.	Completed
PAB 195	Force to provide the OPCC with details of the backlogs in relation to computer crime and the progress made with the same.	Completed
PAB 196	Force to confirm the proportion of police decision files created by the digital portal in the context of the overall number of case files.	Completed
PAB 197	OPCC to make available the final results of the Public Service Bureau survey as soon as they are available.	Ongoing
PAB 198	Monitoring of Sickness Absence to be considered at a future Policing Board.	Ongoing
PAB 199	Force to confirm the referrals to Occupational Health and the number of staff on Performance Plans around sickness absence, and conduct and PDR related.	Ongoing
PAB 200	SG to confirm whether the reduction in the number of civil claims against the Force is resulting in a reduction in the value awarded.	Ongoing
PAB 201	PCC and CC to meet to discuss Police Aviation and Air Support.	Completed

Minutes of the Accountability Meeting held on 23rd February 2015 and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last Police Accountability Board were agreed as a true account of the meeting except a slight amendment to page 5 as requested by the CC. The DPCC raised a query surrounding the update provided for PAB 195 which identified that 106 of the 172 cases in the computer crime backlog related to Child Abuse which was a grave concern. The ACC confirmed that cases are being outsourced to deal with the unprecedented demand, a further 4 members of staff will also be assigned to the unit to meet future demand.

Presentation by Superintendent Huw Meredith on Roads Policing in Dyfed-Powys

HM provided the Board with an overview of Road Policing in Dyfed-Powys and the activity taken to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads. A map identifying the location of collisions during 2014 where a party had been killed or seriously injured was presented to the Board. It was noted that there were no significant patterns identified surrounding the location of these collisions. Whilst a reduction in Road Traffic Collisions had been experienced between 2011 and 2014, there had been a noted increase between 2013 and 2014. No identifiable patterns had been identified.

HM informed the Board of preventative action being introduced to target the 5 fatal issues: excessive speed, drink and drugs, dangerous/careless driving or riding, no seatbelt and mobile phone use. The importance of partnership working was noted by HM. It was clarified that local authorities are required to bid for road safety grants from the Welsh Government in order to improve routes. HM noted that there was a reduction in the number of officers working in road safety across all 4 counties within Dyfed-Powys.

An update was provided in relation to Operation Darwen which focuses on road safety. It was noted that 5 new motorcycles had been purchased for the 2015 operations. The first Darwen operation was due to take place on the 29th March and it was noted that 8 GoSafe operators would be out within the Force area on that day, predominantly throughout Ceredigion and Powys. HM confirmed that a further 10 key dates had been identified throughout the summer, in addition to ad hoc operations.

The top traffic related arrests for 2011-2014 were discussed by the Board with 'driving a motor vehicle when alcohol level above limit' being identified as by far the highest reason. HM informed the Board of the methods being utilised to target drink driving including the targeted campaigns over Christmas and the summer. It is also an issue which is focused on throughout the year by the roads policing department.

It was noted that 1,039 out of 1,574 fixed penalty notices issued during the All Wales Seatbelt Campaign carried out in March 2014 were made by Dyfed-Powys

Police. In the same vein, 447 of the 914 fixed penalty notices issued during the All Wales Mobile Phone campaign in October 2014 were carried out by Dyfed-Powys Police.

Following HM's presentation, DPCC queried as to whether the Force were investigating the impact of reduced gritting and street lighting on roads policing. HM noted that over 90% of road traffic accidents was caused as a result of driver error. An explanation was provided as to the process of informing local authorities of issues identified with highways. The CC noted that it was difficult to tell what the impact of Council cuts would have on roads policing until sufficient time has passed to allow an assessment of the shift in causation factors.

SR queried how causation factors were distinguished. HM confirmed that immediately after a collision the investigating officer would note all of the causation factors therefore resulting in the possibility of one accident being represented numerous times within the graph of causation factors.

The DPCC noted the lack of commissioning surrounding roads policing and confirmed that the survey carried out by the Commissioner had identified that the income generated from Driver Re-training courses should be invested into commissioning activity surrounding roads policing.

The CC noted that whilst there has been a lack of commissioning surrounding roads policing, there had been no lack of activity surrounding the matter. The CC commended HM's leadership surrounding the fatal accident in Brecon, the activity of his team and the professional approach taken to investigating the incident.

Force Accountability Report on Priority 1

An update was provided on Integrated Offender Management. The ACC confirmed that there were 278 offenders within the scheme with a predicted fall of 588 crimes which would result in a decrease in demand on the Force. It was noted that the scheme was currently in the early stages of development. SR raised a query over the criteria for being submitted to the scheme – the ACC confirmed that there needed to be a high level of offending.

A further update was provided in relation to Serious and Organised Crime profiles which were currently being produced by DCI Miles. The ACC confirmed that he would present the same to the OPCC once completed.

Discussions moved on to the progress being made with Track my Crime. It was noted that a Welsh version had now been made available and it was estimated that it would take around 6 weeks for the IT to be developed within the Force. An implementation timetable was expected by the end of the month.

The ACC provided an indication of the upcoming HMIC inspections including an inspection surrounding firearms licensing, honour based violence and vulnerability in prosecution case files. The DPCC raised concerns surrounding the issues identified by the HMIC Child Exploitation report in relation to Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) delays. The ACC confirmed that Detective Inspectors had been seconded to the CPS to assist with ongoing work and work through cases more efficiently. The Head of Crime also meets with the CPS on a monthly basis and the ACC on a quarterly basis on an All Wales level.

The DPCC raised a further concern surrounding the attitude of officers towards children at risk, with HMIC identifying a file where a vulnerable child had been referred to as 'attention seeking'. The ACC confirmed that as part of Operation Celtic, processes and culture were being investigated in order to address the issues and provide training around Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Staff levels had also been increased to meet demand.

The DPCC's final concern surrounding the report was an incident whereby a vulnerable 17 year old was restrained in Police custody. The ACC confirmed that this matter was raised at the Strategic Custody User group and as a result, custody sergeants had now received appropriate training and advice.

SR noted that delays in progressing with some investigations had been identified and questioned the level of cases taking more than 3 months to resolve. The ACC confirmed that sexual abuse cases were extremely sensitive and complex cases which would sometimes take more than 3 months to resolve. The Board was reassured that Detective Inspectors scrutinise all sexual offence cases to ensure that they are being progressed in a timely manner.

Discussions moved on to the changes in the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR) to include CSE cases. Changes had been made operationally to account for the change including increasing PVP by 21 detectives; assigning a lead CSE investigator to each county and agreeing the funding of de-brief officers for missing persons with the OPCC. In order to continue to improve procedures, the Force had also asked the College of Policing to come into the Force in July to carry out a PEEL assessment.

SR queried what the Force was doing on the ground to raise awareness. The ACC confirmed that a number of publications had been created and CSE now forms part of the training programmes for new recruits. The issues were also being discussed at briefings with Sergeants and Inspectors in an attempt to change the culture around CSE.

Discussions ensued as to the scale of CSE within Dyfed-Powys and the need to tailor the service provided to the needs of our Force area.

The DPCC queried whether the Force was prepared for the upcoming Firearms Licensing inspection. SG noted that the overall theme of the inspection was 'learning lessons' and was intended to look at best practice and the standardisation of process across all Force areas. The key themes of the inspection were to be governance, risk, training and information sharing. It was noted that the Force were now looking at the bigger picture when issuing firearms licences and that rather than it simply being a HQ based issue, all officers are now responsible for firearms issues. The DPCC noted a recent bulletin which provided that investigations would be made into incidents of domestic turmoil where a firearms licence has been applied for or is present.

With regards to honour based violence, it was noted that Dyfed-Powys Police currently has a relatively small number of cases.

The SPR was discussed by the Board. The DPCC queried whether the Force was confident that there were plans in place to address the red received in civil contingencies and the three reds in cyber- the ACC confirmed that relevant action plans were in place.

Discussions moved on to the Adult Community Resolutions with it being confirmed that 55 had been issued within the first 2 months which accounted for around 5% of all detections. This was within the expected rate. The ACC noted that a review would take place at the end of March to evaluate how the scheme was working. The ACC confirmed that 5 of them so far related to Actual Bodily Harm, nationally, the sanction was not used for this purpose.

The DPCC noted that he and the PCC wholeheartedly supported the approach being taken by the Force in relation to Adult Community Resolutions, especially in comparison with the approach being taken by other force areas.

It was queried whether the number of cautions issued would decrease as a result of adult community resolutions being issued. The ACC confirmed that there was clearly a link and the level of cautions is likely to decrease as the scheme progresses.

OPCC Accountability Report on Priority 1

An update was provided to the Board in relation to the official launch of the Gwalia ASB service. The DPCC confirmed that all unitary authorities had been invited to the presentation to allow for questions to be directed to them. The DPCC was interested to hear feedback from the Force as the scheme progressed. CF noted that the only concern raised by the Force was that the communication between the Neighbourhoods Department and Gwalia needs to be stronger going forward.

Action: DPCC to feedback to Gwalia concerns raised by CF surrounding the need to strengthen communication between Gwalia and Neighbourhoods.

Updates were then provided in relation to services commissioned to combat substance misuse and alcohol liaison. It was confirmed that all service users would be provided with the same level of service, regardless of their entry point to the service.

Action: Force to provide feedback on the Alcohol Liaison pilot at the 6 month mark.

The DPCC confirmed that the Youth Offending contract would be revisited again after the contract with Hafan Cymru was discontinued.

The DPCC moved on to provide an update in relation to Victim Support; thanking the Force for their continued cooperation and support. He noted that other Forces had experienced an increase of 16%-120% more victims seeking support; Dyfed Powys had factored in a 200% increase.

In relation to the Commissioner's fund, the DPCC noted that it was still an effective use of money which will hopefully have an effect on preventing crime. Moving forward, it was necessary to consider how the fund can remain functional regardless of what happens to the post of Police and Crime Commissioner.

Action: DPCC and PCC to discuss the future of the Commissioner's fund with the CC.

OPCC Monitoring Performance Report

SR introduced the OPCC performance report to the Board. It was noted that there had been an increase in obscene publication offences in the 10-15 age group. Discussions ensued surrounding the circumstances of such cases. It was confirmed that out of the 38 cases in 2014, only 2 related to incidents of children sending images to adults. In these instances, packs were sent to the force areas where it was believed the adult was resident.

The DPCC queried who would alert the police in relation to these offences; CF confirmed that it was a mix of school and parents' involvement. It was clarified that children are not criminalised as a result of these offences and no action is taken against them.

SR queried the number of cases where the age of the offender was not recorded. The ACC confirmed that this was as a result of the information not being provided to them (for example, where the identity of the person who sent the image was unknown).

Discussions ensued in relation to information provided on Violence against the Person. SR noted that 1 in 5 cases were not being progressed as a result of evidential difficulties. The ACC confirmed that there was a developing trend of offences taking place in private settings. This resulted in less evidence being

available to assist prosecution which consequently resulted in a failure of the evidential test.

Discussions moved on to the implementation of the new drug driving legislation. The ACC confirmed that a new drug test kits had only just been made available. It was noted that the tests were quite expensive to purchase and did not identify all drug types at present. The ACC confirmed that the Force was in the process of purchasing 200 kits. The DPCC, as the Chair of the All Wales Roads Policing Strategic Group, has tasked North and South Wales Police Forces to evaluate its use and report back to their meeting in July. It was intended that an All Wales targeted approach would be applied. It was noted that 113 persons had been arrested for drug driving in the past 3 years and this figure was likely to increase over time with the implementation of the new legislation.

SR questioned the reasons for the significant variances in incident to crime ratios across territorial areas. Concerns were raised surrounding the figures made available to the OPCC in relation to incidents per high risk victims of domestic abuse. It was agreed that the ACC and SR would compare figures to ensure that the correct data was being supplied. The ACC did however note that the MARRAC procedures were in place to identify repeat victimisation and serial offenders.

Action: ACC and SR to check incidents to crime ratio figures to ensure working off the same figures.

SR queried what work the Force was undertaking to locate the missing Registered Sex Offender (RSO) from Dyfed-Powys. The ACC confirmed that the RSO in question had returned to country of origin. The relevant authorities had been alerted and updated in relation to the position. Should the individual return to the UK then he would be arrested for his failure to notify the Police of his foreign travels. SR questioned whether the geographical area of Dyfed-Powys posed a risk of offenders travelling without informing the Police of his/her travel. The ACC confirmed that no risk had been identified and that the Force was complying with national timescales.

SR clarified that some questions from the public had been incorporated within the report, one of them being whether or not a victim is made aware of the outcome

of a crime. The ACC confirmed that the victim is kept updated, even where no crime has been recorded. This is double checked by the Crime Recording Bureau where they ensure that the victim has been made aware of the outcome. The ACC confirmed that the Crime User Group had recently been tasked to look at whether the processes in place were working well. The number of no-crimes recorded in 2012-2013 was confirmed at 509, the number the following year was 516 and this year, to date, was 430. It was anticipated that a higher no crime level would be experienced going forward as a result of crime now being recorded at source.

Concerns were raised surrounding the decline in the number of immediate response calls attended within 20 minutes since January 2014. The ACC confirmed that the decrease was being addressed by additional recruitment. It was hoped that the work ongoing in relation to Demand Analysis would also help provide an understanding of resource needs and ensure that staff are located appropriately.

SR questioned why Dyfed-Powys' figures were not presented to a recent FOI request made by the media in relation to the number of instances where a police car had been used to transport patients to hospital where an ambulance was unavailable. The ACC confirmed that data for October 2014- January 2015 had been provided to ITV; however a further request for figures for the previous year were not provided as the short timescale provided could not be complied with. The CC confirmed that the position was being constantly monitored. The ACC confirmed that the number of incidents were 16 in November, 18 in December and 16 in January. CF confirmed that the numbers were regularly shared with the DPCC. No particular area was identifiable as a source of the issue; rather the problem was across the whole Force area.

Discussions moved on to whether individuals had been sanctioned for failing to comply with Home Office Crime Recording Standards. The ACC confirmed that there would be a focus on changing culture and development within the Force rather than sanctioning members of staff. Work was ongoing to help develop staff and the awareness around the crime recording standards. The CC noted that the HMIC inspection into Crime Data Integrity did not identify lack of integrity within the organisation and therefore, no individual action would be taken against members of staff.

Update reports

a. Report by Dusty Kennedy, Youth Justice Board

The report, previously presented at the All-Wales Policing Group, was noted by the Board. The DPCC noted that it provided an encouraging picture with a lot of work taking place between Youth Offending and Prevention Service (YOPS) and Officers to ensure that as many young people as possible were diverted from the Criminal Justice System.

It was confirmed that only one youth from Dyfed-Powys was currently in custody. The CC noted that the increase in recorded crime was actually resulting in fewer young people committing a new offence which was a very positive sign. The CC however also noted the need to monitor the position with caution given that custody could play an important role in preventing re-offending.

b. Questions from the Chief Officer Group Minutes

No questions were asked of the COG minutes.

c. Further questions

The DPCC requested clarification as to whether any images had been uploaded to the National Recognition database. CF confirmed that a reply had previously been given at Policing Board confirming that images had been uploaded however it was unlikely that they would have been used as a result of their poor quality. CF would confirm whether any images of innocent people had been uploaded.

Action: CF to confirm whether any images of innocent people have been uploaded to the National Recognition database.

ACTION SUMMARY		
Action N°	Action Summary	To be progressed by:
PAB 202	DPCC to feedback to Gwalia concerns raised by CF surrounding the need to strengthen communication between Gwalia and Neighbourhood Development.	DPCC
PAB 203	Force to provide feedback on the Alcohol Liaison pilot at the 6 month mark.	Force
PAB 204	DPCC and PCC to discuss the future of the Commissioner's fund with the CC.	DPCC
PAB 205	ACC and SR to check incidents to crime ratio	ACC

	figures to ensure working off the same figures.	
PAB 206	CF to confirm whether any images of innocent people have been uploaded to the National Recognition database.	CF