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| Members: | Mr Christopher Salmon, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Chief Constable Simon Prince (CC) Mr Tim Burton, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC) Assistant Chief Constable Simon Powell (ACC) Ms Samantha Gainard, Director of Legal and Compliance (SG) Mr Edwin Harries, Director of Finance (DoF) Mrs Jayne Woods, Chief Finance Officer (CFO) |
| Also Present: | Detective Superintendent Andy John (AJ) – for items 1 to 3b Detective Chief Inspector Steve Cockwell (SC) - for items 1 to 3b PS Christina Fraser, Staff Officer to the Chief Constable (CF) Dr Helen Morgan-Howard, Chief of Staff, OPCC (HM-H) Mrs Sharon Richards, Performance Manager, OPCC (SR) Miss Anna James, Support Officer, OPCC (AJ) Mrs Siân Jenkins, Office Manager, OPCC (SJ) |
| Apologies: | Deputy Chief Constable, Carl Langley (DCC) Mr Adrian Williams, Director of Resources (DoR) Mrs Alison Perry, Director of Commissioning (AP) |

| ACTION SUMMARY | | |
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| Action N ^o | Action Summary | Progress: |
| PAB 207 | Supt. Curtis and Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams to identify key priorities are for each locality and timescales. | In progress |
| PAB 208 | Force to provide a breakdown of costs of mobile police stations, including ongoing running costs. | Completed |
| PAB 209 | Force to provide six month review of the mobile police stations identifying how they are deployed and any improvements needed. | Ongoing |
| PAB 210 | Force to provide an update on CISCO at the May PAB | Ongoing |
| PAB 211 | Force to provide an update on MASH at the May PAB | Completed |
| PAB 212 | Force to share Terms of Reference for research | Completed |

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| | commissioned to explore trends in sexual offending data in more detail. | |
| PAB 213 | SR to discuss Terms of Reference with Supt. Aled Davies | Completed |
| PAB 214 | Force to provide numbers of obscene publication offences reported from parents and/or schools so that these may be analysed for trends. | Completed |
| PAB 215 | SR to increase sample size around domestic abuse data to check for patterns over period of time. | In progress |
| PAB 216 | Force to share the Operation Celtic recommendations after discussion at COG. | Completed |

Minutes of the Accountability Meeting held on 13th April 2015 and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last Police Accountability Board were agreed as a true account of the meeting with some slight amendments being made to the content.

Force Accountability Report on Priority 2

Detective Superintendent Andy John and Detective Chief Inspector Steve Cockwell presented an overview of the Force Accountability Report on Priority 2 – Protecting Vulnerable People which covered the key themes and updates since the previous update in December.

AJ provided an update on resourcing due to the increase in demand. There has been a significant uplift in resourcing which has led to a 50% increase in specialist resources across Protection of Vulnerable Persons (PVP) over the past three years. The increase includes Detective Sergeants for PVP Carmarthenshire; Sex and Violent Offenders; Strategic Support and Central Referral Unit. Detective Constable posts have been increased by 10 for Sex and Violent Offenders and PVP Investigators. A further four posts remain vacant but have been re-advertised. AJ noted that a further business case is being considered in relation to administrative support within PVP as a result of growing demands within MARAC, domestic abuse and child protection. Also noted was the ongoing work around high-tech and digital crime and the opportunities to increase resources in that area.

AJ updated the Board on the findings of the 2014/15 HMIC inspection on Child Protection and noted the twelve recommendations within that report. Three of those recommendations had been highlighted for immediate action and work within those areas has already been undertaken and HMIC have been formally updated with the progress made.

A MAPPA inspection had taken place in January which had been mostly positive, particularly around the approach to risk management. The feedback identified resourcing as a potential issue due to geographical challenges rather than caseload. This has resulted in the additional Sex Offender officers being added to the structure. A requirement for additional training for Sex Offender Managers had also been identified and the Force will be sending staff on that training. The CC added that the HMIC inspection had identified for the first time the challenges of the Dyfed Powys geography.

AJ noted that a lengthy self-assessment on PVP had been completed some months ago and HMIC's overall assessment had been that Dyfed Powys was not prepared for this area of business. The self-assessment included four key areas - governance, awareness and understanding, enforcement prevention and protection. A score of at least 75% was needed in each category but Dyfed Powys had not achieved those scores and as a result were one of 8 forces being further inspected. The HMIC inspection is scheduled for 27 July. Discussion ensued on the results of the self-assessment and what the Force are doing to improve this area of work. It was generally accepted that in Dyfed Powys the demand in this area is very low and that the Force are prioritising where they are focussing their efforts. The CC confirmed that for the small number of cases that are reported the Force's response is very good. The PCC noted the Force's concerns.

The PCC asked whether Dyfed Powys had any significant populations of minority communities and the CC noted that DP didn't tend to have large concentrations of minority groups but rather individuals.

The CC confirmed that a report will be written by HMIC following their inspection and that any recommendations will be considered proportionate to the demand in Dyfed Powys. The PCC will need to respond to that report.

AJ noted the forthcoming PEEL Vulnerability Inspections on Missing Children, Domestic Violence and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). AJ summarised the new protocol between

ACPO, CPS and HM Courts and Tribunals to expedite cases involving witnesses and victims under 10 years. This protocol will improve the support that is provided and maximise the opportunities to achieve best evidence from the victims. It was noted that some cases may not get to trial for up to two years. Section 28 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act allows pre-trial cross examination of child witnesses which can be done closer to the time of the incident being reported. This protocol will apply to all criminal offences cases involving a child victim or witness under 10 years. AJ noted that although there is a caveat where there's an expectation to fast track these cases they are not expecting agencies to incur additional costs in doing so. The Force are now monitoring and tracking cases in order to pick up those cases that are reported. In April there were 33 crimes recorded involving child victims and witnesses under 10 but not all will end up going to trial. It was noted that there are ongoing discussions at All Wales level between the Courts, the CPS, and other Welsh Forces to look at developing this protocol further. AJ confirmed that the protocol will be reviewed on an All Wales basis after 3 months and will take into consideration gaps in the protocol; barriers in terms of the ability of the courts to see and hear cases; and dealing with backlogs.

SC presented information on Missing from Home children which was another area covered by the PEEL Vulnerability Inspections. The Force have recently examined numbers for missing children and have carried out a lot of work around the operational response to it as well as looking at the reasons why they go missing, what's happened to them during that time, what risks have they been exposed to and links to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). The provision of de-briefing services for missing children has gone to tender and the response will be evaluated at the end May/beginning June.

One of the other challenges in Dyfed Powys is the number of Looked After Children that are placed in the area, often in rural areas where's there's no concentration of resources. SC gave examples of recent cases where there have been challenges.

The Force have carried out an internal review on the Absent Category and found the inappropriate use of the Absent category on STORM. The All Wales Protocol for Missing Children clearly defines the criteria for recording a child as absent as opposed to missing. A review of 132 absent messages found that there isn't a consistent approach taken in respect of that definition. Where there's an identified risk we shouldn't be using the absent category. The Force have amended the Missing Persons Policy to include that any high risk missing person report will be overseen by the Commander at the Force

Communication Centre (FCC). The use of Absent category within the FCC will be stopped and every report will be treated as Missing.

SC reported on the significant progress on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) over the last 6 to 9 months following the Rotherham enquiry. Operation Celtic (Dyfed-Powys Police review of CSE) is nearing completion and a series of recommendations have been made from the work undertaken to date, which are summarised in the Force's accountability report. The review also recognises the need to work with partner agencies and the role that they need to play in tackling CSE. The Regional Child Safeguarding Board (Cysur) have set up a CSE Task and Finish Group which will consider the multi-agency response to tackle CSE. SC noted that he is a member of that group.

Discussion ensued on the All Wales policy and how the local authorities were not always complying with it. SC confirmed that the local authorities had made some improvements and that the Force was still in the process of refining some of their processes. There will be a dedicated CSE lead within each county. There is a Cysur CSE strategy and action plan that has arisen as a result of the Force sharing Operation Celtic with them. Cysur will be looking at performance measures across the four local authorities to ensure compliance. The CC noted that Cysur will be sharing the agreed plan for Child Sexual Exploitation with the Force and the PCC asked that the report be brought back to an appropriate Board meeting.

Action: Force to share the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) report from Cysur at the July PAB.

The College of Policing will be conducting a review of Dyfed Powys in July, looking at the Force's response to CSE. The need for a Regional CSE Detective Inspector and Analyst within ROCU has been identified to look at CSE issues and applications are currently being received.

There is a continued growth in demand for services and every area of PVP seems to have an increased demand. SC noted the continued scrutiny and inspection by HMIC, WG and respective Commissioners (eg. Children, Old Persons, Anti-Slavery Commissioners) and the work streams produced from those inspections.

In moving forward, there will be reshaping of Specialist Resources to meet the new challenges and making the best use of frontline resources to manage threat, risk and

harm. The CC noted that there had been a significant step forward in raising awareness of CSE within the Force as well as influencing partners to consider their own approach and procedures. A discussion ensued on some of the challenges and issues with partnership working.

The PCC thanked AJ and SC for their positive and informative presentation and discussion moved on to queries from the PCC.

The PCC asked for a definition of an Adult and Child referral as well as the referral process. An explanation of the referral procedure was provided from the point of making a referral to the Central referral Unit (CRU) to the exchange of information between different agencies, the joint decision making process, through to the course of action to be taken. The PCC queried how many of those referrals would be looked at but with no further action. The CC confirmed that all referrals result in at least a strategy discussion which is recorded on the CATS system which then creates the audit trail of decision making for that particular case. A discussion ensued on the process of filtering referrals and the increased demand on the CRU due to the increase in referrals. It was noted that the fourth Detective Sergeant is now in place to deal with the demand. SR queried whether the referrals relate to new referrals or repeat referrals. It was explained that referrals come through the Force, social services and local authorities which may result in a victim being referred from more than one source.

AJ reported on the work commenced by Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and a report is due at the beginning of June. The PCC requested an update on MASH at the next PAB.

Action: Force to provide an update on MASH at the June PAB.

SR queried the continued increase in the numbers of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) eligible offenders within the DP Force area and whether this compared to figures nationally. It was explained that due to the rurality and geographical issues of Dyfed Powys this presents some additional challenges for DP as the majority of cases are complex and that relatively straight forward cases can take a considerable amount of time to progress.

The PCC asked about the numbers of perpetrators and whether there is a national 'per hundred thousand of population' benchmark. The CC said that the numbers of suspected

perpetrators in DP are low but there are also spikes in different places when you look at numbers per population, so there are clearly a lot of vulnerable people and a number of people who are likely to become perpetrators. It was explained that one missing enquiry can turn into a whole stream of work, from checking phones, examining social media and the enquiry then leading into an investigation. Examples were provided of how the Force's response to CSEs has improved and the changes that have taken place over the last twelve months.

The PCC asked for the raw data behind the graph presented for Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) referrals for greater analysis.

Action: Force to provide SR with raw data for the MARAC referrals.

The PCC enquired about the selection of the organisation which would conduct the Victim Satisfaction survey and it was noted that the work would be commencing in June. The Force were considering the development of a survey specific to domestic abuse victims.

Action: Force and OPCC to develop a Victim satisfaction survey specific to domestic abuse victims.

The DPCC offered to assist the Force with the challenges of partnership working. The DPCC also asked whether there were any other areas around PVP that could benefit from commissioning external services which could take demand away from the Force eg. the recent commissioning of the SERAF workers. AJ explained that the Force were currently looking at perpetrators around domestic abuse and an integrated programme against serious harm offenders. There will be a resource implication and any requirement would be known by the end of June.

SR queried the numbers of people detained (under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act) when the Mental Health Triage wasn't in operation and asked whether there was any consideration around increasing their hours. The triage was approaching 6 months of the 12 months' trial period and the Force would be happy to dedicate more resource. Hywel Dda University Health Board have committed one Mental Health practitioner to the project and they have now established a cohort of 6 Mental Health practitioners who can provide additional support. A full evaluation of the service would be conducted at the end of the 12 months and it was felt that it could evolve to a 24/7 service. The CC noted that early indications are that the Triage is working very well.

There are different arrangements in place in Powys. Any decision to detain a person under Section 136 requires authorisation from an Inspector. Before a decision is made advice is sought from the on-call crisis worker.

The PCC enquired whether the review could determine whether there are fewer detentions when the triage service isn't in operation. Discussion ensued on the costs, time and impact on other services once someone is detained under Section 136, particularly when out of hours.

The PCC asked whether the evaluation would consider whether the service needed the specialist van or whether it could work as well using an ordinary vehicle. AJ noted that data regarding deployment of the triage van will be available soon. It was noted that the mobile triage vans have more benefits than originally expected.

The PCC thanked AJ and SM for their presentation.

OPCC Accountability Report on Priority 2

The CoS presented an overview of the report on behalf of the Director of Commissioning. Commissioned services are beginning to make a difference - see for example the Newid service for domestic abuse victims and the satisfaction levels reported. There is an increased emphasis on contract management of commissioned services.

Discussion ensued around the demand for Appropriate Adults (AA) in custody and the PCC asked for more information on the provision of AAs for young people suffering from mental ill-health and adults with learning difficulties and registered learning disabilities. The CC noted the difference between those who have learning difficulties and those registered with learning disabilities.

Action: Force to scope what the demand is for Appropriate Adults in custody.

The PCC noted the ongoing discussion on SARCs and whether they should be centralised and whether there is a more cost effective way to work with the Health Board and the opportunity of contributing towards the training up of a Doctor to forensic standard.

The PCC noted that the Victims Hub is up and running and co-located at HQ and over the next 12 months work would be ongoing to have face to face contact with victims and have performance measures in place.

OPCC Monitoring Performance Report

SR introduced the OPCC performance report to the Board which included figures up to April. SR noted that the key headline in the report is around the increase in crime over the last few months and how it compares to the previous couple of years. The report also covers the first three months of the establishment of the Public Service Bureau and non-pay expenditure.

SR noted an increase in the volume of crime and wanted to drill down in more detail to ask whether that was related to specific offence types.

SR noted increases in arson and criminal damage offences in Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion and asked what action the CC is taking to tackle the increase. The CC explained that many crime figures are now different due to the focus on accurate crime recording. Many crimes are now recorded as criminal damage, which would in the past have been dealt with as anti-social behaviour. The CC confirmed that the data has revealed that incidents that should have been recorded as criminal damage in the past were not recorded correctly. We have seen a high level of damage across the town centre in Carmarthen - damage to unattended vehicles and wing mirrors, alcohol related offences, and licensing issues. This is not the whole reason for the increase. It is much less clear in rural areas around Carmarthenshire what the reason for the increase is - there is no particular theme emerging there. A number of these are more victim focussed eg. domestic abuse, threats, dispute over boundaries.

In Ceredigion, most criminal damage is recorded in Aberystwyth and Borth areas and is mostly damage to vehicles. The 'Clip Your Wings' campaign will tackle some of this damage (advice to push wing mirrors in etc.). The PCC asked if the Inspector in Aberystwyth could let his Public Affairs Advisor know about the campaign so that he could promote the operation. The Force is also undertaking some targeted patrols in areas where there is a concentration of alcohol licensees.

Action: OPCC to promote the Force's 'Clip your Wings' campaign.

SR asked if there was a specific reason for the recent spike in non-dwelling burglary offences in Ceredigion and what action the Force is taking to address this. The Force provided examples of operational active work to address these offences. The CC

explained that the figures are generally small, and some are linked to one group of under 16s. Work is ongoing to link some of the other crimes.

SR asked what proportion of common assault offences are domestic related; has the CC identified any other patterns or linking factors? The CC said that a third are domestic related – a particular piece of work is being undertaken to analyse the seriousness of the assaults and recording patterns. The CC explained that there seems to be a clear link between the drop in anti-social behaviour and the rise in the recording of common assaults. In the past these incidents would have been recorded as public order incidents and anti-social behaviour but are now being recorded as common assaults. Previously a number of minor assaults would have been reported as anti-social behaviour - they are now being recorded as assaults and dealt with accordingly.

SR asked what proportion of sexual assaults on a person aged 13 and over relate to offences committed against children under the age of 16? The CC could not provide numbers for those under 18 but 32% of the total of sexual assaults (above age of 13) are children under 16. SR asked for clarification about how CSE and sexual offences are recorded.

SR asked whether progress had been made in reducing the delays in relation to child protection cases. There seems to have been a decrease in the case length over the last few months but there are still issues around the turnaround of cases. There is an increased demand on CPS due to the increase in the number of sexual offences reported. The Head of Crime has monthly meetings with the Head of the CPS to look at the issues. Services are stretched, but the Force is monitoring the situation. The PCC asked for any information from the CPS on their average case length, time to first hearing etc. SR will obtain this information.

SR noted that the recent Home Office commercial victimisation survey on Business Crime had reported a decrease in satisfaction in the way that the Police are handling crime of certain sectors and also the fall in the number of premises within those sectors that have had contact with the Police. SR asked the CC if he believed that this is the case in Dyfed Powys. The CC noted this had been a national survey and that the same dissatisfaction has not been repeated in Dyfed Powys. The CC noted that DP have recently launched a programme of visits to local businesses, particularly agricultural businesses to promote the various Community Watch Schemes. The Force is asking for local business details

and they will be signed up to the Community Watch Schemes once the system is launched.

SR asked about the links the Force has with the Internet Watch foundation (IWF) and whether the Force refers suspected criminal content to the IWF. The CC said that if there is a report of indecent material online the Force will submit a report to the IWF as a matter of routine. The CC noted that there is sometimes a difference in thresholds, in that Dyfed Powys will sometimes report incidences where the IWF might not record.

SR noted that over the past twelve months Dyfed Powys continues to have the highest caution rate in England and Wales and asked if the Force are seeking to continue to reduce the level of cautions applied in Dyfed Powys. The CC said that it is not the Force's focus to reduce the number of cautions but rather deal with crime in the most appropriate way. The T/ACC explained that after the introduction of the Adult community resolutions on 1st January the number of cautions were down by 28% when comparing data for the first 4 months of this year and the last four months of the previous year. The Force confirmed that they are tracking the number of cautions that are issued and are looking at it on a monthly basis. The CC said there is a place for cautions and the difference is that the Force investigates every crime that's reported which means dealing with far more than other Forces. Dyfed Powys also prosecute a higher proportion of cases than any other Force.

SR asked whether consideration had been given when recruiting police officers to encourage Welsh speakers to apply for posts, particularly in Ceredigion. The CC confirmed that a Welsh application form had been available but that take up of that form had been disappointing and does not reflect the number of Welsh speakers applying. The CC also noted that the Force is working with Swansea and Trinity St David Universities, Pembrokeshire College and Coleg Sir Gar to promote recruitment of Welsh speakers.

The PCC reported on the data for the first three months since the establishment of the Public Service Bureau. It was not possible to draw firm conclusions yet but the Bureau appears to be achieving its aims. The PCC noted that there had been discussion about tweaking some processes to make the service more effective and efficient. The PCC noted that complaints need to be treated independently and if the public want a response to come back via the Bureau rather than the Force then that should be provided.

SR noted that a particular area of public confidence has generally been lower in Dyfed Powys than the England and Wales Force average. SR asked what the Force is doing to improve public confidence in this area. The CC noted that the Force had signed up to the best use of Stop and Search scheme, and was due to be monitored by the Equality and Human Rights Commission on how it engages with communities. The Force is looking to recruit in different areas of the Force to include diverse communities. The CC felt that Dyfed Powys treats people fairly but there is some more analysis required around that particular area.

SR asked what the Force policy is on the deployment of Tasers on children. The CC explained the Force Policy on the deployment of Tasers. The Policy states that there is no distinction between a child and an adult. The CC confirmed that Taser use is authorised on a weekly basis but its deployment requires an Inspector's authority and is not deployed on a regular basis, only in instances where Officers are faced with violence or threat of violence. The CC confirmed that there had been no recent instances where a Taser had been deployed on a child.

The CFO noted the focus in this report on non-pay expenditure and the data on the top 20 suppliers by value. Discussion ensued on how the Force ensure it gets Value for Money from all its contracts. The DoF said that the Force was involved with a range of activities, for example, the collaborative enforcement programme work ongoing through the Home Office. The DoF noted the ongoing work on standardisation of requirements across the Police areas and the possible collaborations on some contracts when a contract is expiring in a specific Force. The DoF noted that all contracts over £25,000 are subject to tender through the procurement department.

The CFO requested more detailed data from the following suppliers in order to analyse in more detail: forensic medical supplier (what the costs are for and where), the two vehicle suppliers (how many vehicles were supplied in each case), the two sets of builders (which projects are they working on); the two telecommunications providers (what each one is supplying and whether it would be cheaper to use just one supplier).

Action: Force to provide detailed information regarding costs for forensic medical supplier; vehicle providers; builders and telecommunication providers to CFO.

Update reports

a. Questions from the Chief Officer Group minutes

The PCC noted the requirements for increased resourcing in the Digital and Cyber Crime Unit (DCCU) which had been recommended in the April COG. A paper will be presented and discussed at a forthcoming Policing Board.

The PCC also noted the discussions about the budget for body worn video. The PCC requested to see a business case for body worn video.

b. Rate My Local Police app

An update on the 'Rate My Police' app pilot run by the Home Office was noted.

There was no other business.

Actions:

| ACTION SUMMARY | | |
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| Action N° | Action Summary | To be progressed by: |
| PAB 217 | Force to share the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) report from Cysur at the July PAB. | CC/Force |
| PAB 218 | Force to provide an update on MASH at the June PAB. | Force |
| PAB 219 | Force to provide SR with raw data for the MARAC referrals. | Force |
| PAB 220 | Force and OPCC to develop a Victim satisfaction survey specific to domestic abuse victims. | Force/DoC |
| PAB 221 | Force to scope what the demand is for Appropriate Adults in custody. | Force |
| PAB 222 | OPCC to promote the Force's 'Clip your Wings' campaign. | OPCC |
| PAB 223 | DoF to share the work on standardisation in relation to procurement collaboration. | DoF |
| PAB 224 | Force to provide detailed information regarding costs for forensic medical supplier; vehicle providers; builders and telecommunication providers to CFO. | Force |