

Members:	Mr Tim Burton, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC) Chief Constable Simon Prince QPM (CC)
Also Present:	Dr Helen Morgan-Howard, Chief of Staff, OPCC (HM-H) DCI Steve Davies (SD) DCI Ifan Charles (IC) Insp. Mark McSweeney, Staff Officer to the Chief Constable (MMS) Mrs Claire Bryant, Office Manager, OPCC (CB)
Apologies:	Mr Christopher Salmon, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
Observers:	Mrs Anne Williams, Support Officer, OPCC (AW)

ACTION SUMMARY FROM MEETING ON 18/11/2015		
Action N ^o	Action Summary	Progress:
PAB 285	Special Constabulary recruitment and retention plan, including detailed recruit profile and comparison with previous years, to be provided at a Policing Board meeting at the end of January	In progress
PAB 286	Sergeant Howells to communicate with OPCC regarding rural businesses' involvement in Business Crime Survey	
PAB 287	Force to provide OPCC with access to 999 and 101 call handling data through the Qlikview system	Completed
PAB 288	Force Communication Centre call handling data to be reviewed at February Policing Accountability Board meeting	In progress
PAB 289	Force to report on the impact of the Special Constabulary national recruitment process on retention rates	Due at the end of January
PAB 290	Chief Inspector Steve Davies to communicate with Karys Thomas about profile of evidential difficulties in taking domestic abuse cases to court	Ongoing

The DPCC opened the meeting stating that there were two amendments to the agenda. The online crime reporting presentation was now a report, and the Safe as Houses presentation was deferred to another meeting.

Minutes of the Accountability Meeting held on 18th November 2015 and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record, with no matters arising.

Online Crime Reporting Report

The Force had provided an update report prior to the meeting, which the CC gave an overview of. The Force had looked into the "Facewatch" application and considered it a useful tool for businesses. It had been successful in town centres however further review was required to ascertain its suitability for rural businesses. The CC recommended that relevant representatives from the Force and OPCC discuss the possibility of commissioning a service. The DPCC was happy to consider the recommendation that potential commissioning opportunities be explored.

Force Accountability Report on Priority 2 – Protecting Vulnerable People

SD and IC presented the report in detail. The DPCC thanked both SD and IC for a comprehensive and professionally presented report. The amount of positive and proactive work undertaken in this area was clear. The DPCC queried how resources would be balanced between specialist officers whilst maintaining effective community policing and response capability. The CC acknowledged this would be a key challenge facing the Force in the future and had been tasked to the Spending Wisely team who will make recommendations to the CC as to how to utilise the resources provided by the PCC to deliver the service. Efficiencies brought through recent improvements in areas such as mobile data help to accommodate the increased demand. The CC considered that a central specialised unit was not the most appropriate due to the geography of DPP. DPP is the largest force area in England and Wales, with the lowest population which results in a police officer coverage of 2.8 officers per 10 square miles. The City of London has 6,800 officers per 10 square miles, and the force with the next most challenging geography has 4.7. This means that DPP must consider carefully how specialist services are provided at the same time as delivering community policing. One option was to train some frontline officers, providing specialist skills enabling them to deliver an enhanced level of service and advice to their supervisors without being part of a centralised team. The CC considered that the level of service provided to victims of crime in Dyfed-Powys was of a very high order.

The DPCC concurred that policing rural areas presented different challenges to those faced in urban areas. The DPCC suggested that the work for the Commissioner's office for the future months was to ascertain the real cost of rural policing and the challenges faced, in order to feed this back to the Home Office.

The DPCC queried if there were opportunities to review how commissioned services to complement or supplement the specialist resource required to protect vulnerable people. The CC considered that it would be useful to map the areas DPP deal with now and what demands were expected in the future and the provision from commissioned services in order to identify gaps or forthcoming gaps. SD stated that the role of Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) is critical but needs to be expanded. A domestic abuse perpetrator programme is merited as these solutions to protecting vulnerability are intrinsic to the Force's forward business planning. The DPCC stated that a review of the IDVA service would be conducted shortly and welcomed feedback from the Force regarding future commissioned services coming under the priority of protecting vulnerable people.

The DPCC questioned what impact the increase in sexual offences and CSE had on MAPPA caseload, and whether the capacity exists to deal with the increase. IC stated that the number of registered sex offenders had risen by 7 over the last year, but the number of violent offenders had risen by 96, which presented more of an impact on probation. It was anticipated that over the next five years there would be a substantial increase and therefore planning to ensure the appropriate resources are in place is vital.

A question asked at one of the Commissioner's Your Voice Days was what hate crime training was provided to officers, and by whom. SD stated his understanding was that the training was very broad and assumed the training may be provided within the Force. It was agreed this information would be sought and reported back to the OPCC.

Action: Force to clarify who delivers the hate crime training to officers and what this entails

The DPCC sought the CC's views on collaboration from partner agencies specifically surrounding information sharing protocols. SD stated that the Wales Accord for the Sharing of Personal Information (WASPI) was followed and effective information sharing was in place. The ethos of "dare to share" was well ensconced, especially in cases of child protection. The CC expressed the need to continue to exercise extreme vigilance particularly in light of some of the shrinking funding settlements received by other agencies. There will be the need to identify the impact on the public and address this accordingly. The DPCC considered there would be a need for the CC and PCC to discuss the matter with partner agencies to identify how any cuts being made to other services may impact on DPP.

The DPCC sought assurance that the Force was confident that sufficient resources were in place at the entry points within Dyfed-Powys to ensure DPP are identifying and disrupting those who might wish to use Dyfed-Powys as the entry point for human trafficking. SD confirmed that the Force was aware of the issue but understanding the extent of the problem was a work in progress. SD considered that the resources were available and DPP had a greater understanding of human trafficking and modern slavery, but whether resources were always sufficient was unclear.

The DPCC queried how many cases of Honour Based Violence (HBV) or Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) had occurred in DPP over the last 3 years, and whether this was a general reflection of the real situation across the Force area. IC stated that 22 cases of potential HBV or FGM had been identified and all had been reviewed, the learning from which had been shared with Detective Inspectors. The findings had influenced the HBV, FGM and forced marriage Force policies which were drafted and awaiting sign-off. Work was underway to scope what information was held by other organisations regarding these crimes. The information sharing agreements discussed earlier would be vital in receiving the anonymised data in the future.

The DPCC expressed his full support for the Force’s approach to reducing the number of children being held in custody. The DPCC queried if it was true that no secure accommodation for young people within Dyfed-Powys, and if so, what impact this had. IC stated that the nearest accommodation was in Neath, which does pose challenges to DPP, but considered this a challenge for Welsh Government. IC considered that secure accommodation was not always the solution, but other agencies could be involved to support children to return home or to care homes with support.

The DPCC raised the recent HMIC inspection into vulnerability, where DPP was graded as requiring improvement. The DPCC sought the CC’s assessment of the report, and what steps had already been put in place to address the recommendations of the report. The DPCC also sought assurance that vulnerable victims of crime are a priority for the Force and are guaranteed to receive an excellent service from DPP. The CC quoted from the report:

“In grading the police’s overall effectiveness at protecting vulnerable people, HMIC judged 12 forces to be good, 27 to require improvement and 4 forces to be inadequate. No forces were judged to be outstanding.”

The report states that DPP has a strong ethic to protect vulnerable people, which is led by a hands on approach from the top of the Force and good support from partners. They identified areas for improvement in 999 and 101 call handling procedures and also pointed at what they termed a lack of professional expertise in the investigation of some domestic abuse (DA) cases, that is that some DA cases were investigated by officers who were not specialist detectives. The CC highlighted performance figures regarding DA provided in the report, comparing DPP with the average in England and Wales. These figures are outlined in the table below, for ease of reading.

	England & Wales average	DPP performance
Arrests (per 100 cases)	66	83
Charge rate (% of all crimes recorded)	16.6	23.8
Domestic abuse charge rate (% of all domestic abuse crimes)	27.3	35.9
Victim satisfaction rate (%)	83.8	87.4

Based on these statistics, the CC asserted that DPP are sending the right officers to deal with domestic abuse cases. The CC expressed his astonishment the Force had not been graded as at least good, whilst acknowledging that they would always seek to improve. The CC considered every case that is either not reported to DPP or does not result in a positive outcome for the victim with the offender being brought to justice is one too many. The HMIC report was considerably out of date because the inspection was conducted much earlier, and much of the work discussed in the meeting is part of the action plan to deliver against the report. The CC stated that the public should be confident and reassured that DPP puts victims first. The CC suggested that the figures demonstrate that victims are more confident to report crimes and DPP are rising to the challenge to investigate each one. The DPCC echoed that he was also surprised at the grading considering the headline text suggests DPP is outperforming many other police forces. The DPCC stated the Force report and answers provided at the meeting provided a high degree of reassurance that vulnerable people across Dyfed-Powys are receiving a high level of service from DPP.

OPCC Accountability Report on Priority 2

The DPCC provided an overview of the report, which includes an overview of all commissioned services, the costs associated and progress to date. Work was underway to encourage more self-referrals to the Victim Support Help Hub, as the majority of referrals were from DPP. It was identified that IDVA support to victims now extended through court and beyond, regardless of the outcome, in an attempt to reduce repeat victims. The OPCC had commissioned services around sexual assault and rape centres (SARCs), and the DPCC brought attention to the fact raised in the Force report that a child victim of such crimes has to travel outside of the Force area for examination. Whilst the DPCC considered this should never have happened, Dyfed-Powys does not have the specialist workers to conduct the examinations. A proposal had been tabled by a working group led by Welsh Government to potentially move all SARCs into centres of excellence based in Swansea or Cardiff, which may have led to the closure of the facility in Carmarthen. The OPCC remains fully committed to the provision of local services to vulnerable people and will continue to fund New Pathways to run the SARC in Carmarthen. The DPCC also stated that funding had been obtained from the Home Office to establish SARCs in Aberystwyth and Newtown, both of which were currently having the appropriate equipment installed. This provision will reduce the trauma to the victim and reduce the travelling time incurred by officers. The DPCC stated that the approach to commissioning would remain the same in that local provision would be prioritised where possible, which can be more costly but can respond more quickly and efficiently. The DPCC does not believe it is fair or equitable that a vulnerable victim in Dyfed-Powys has to face significant travel to access support that is available freely and easily elsewhere. Every pound that is invested into a commissioned service has to either reduce demand on DPP or offer a complimentary specialist support service that DPP probably should be providing themselves. The CC agreed that the currently commissioned services have

played a significant role in supporting DPP officers in helping vulnerable people, and would continue to do so. There would always be gaps in the services delivered, and as DPPs approach to identifying need develops, commissioned services will need to be constantly reviewed to ensure they fit the changing needs and complexion of the communities DPP polices. Force and OPCC specialists have successfully worked together to develop the specification of commissioned services and should continue to do so.

OPCC Monitoring Performance Report

The DPCC presented the report, briefly highlighting the key points before asking the questions contained within the report. These were answered and will be published within the report and updated on the Commissioner’s website.

No other business was raised.

ACTION SUMMARY FROM MEETING ON 16/12/2015		
Action N°	Action Summary	To be progressed by:
PAB 291	Force to clarify who delivers the hate crime training to officers and what this entails	SD
PAB 292	Force to share research on Honour Based Violence with the PCC (research to include data from partners and subject profile)	IC