



Meeting: Police Accountability
Board
Venue: Police Headquarters
Date: 12th December 2014
Time: 1.30 – 3:30



Members:	Mr Christopher Salmon, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Chief Constable Simon Prince (CC) Assistant Chief Constable Simon Powell (ACC) Deputy Chief Constable, Carl Langley (DCC) Jayne Woods, Chief Finance Officer (CFO) Mr Edwin Harries, Director of Finance (DoF) Ms Samantha Gainard, Director of Legal and Compliance (SG)
Also Present:	Chief Inspector Steve Cockwell (SC) Detective Superintendent Andrew John (AJ) PS Christina Fraser, Staff Officer to the Chief Constable (CF) Mrs Sharon Richards, Performance Manager, OPCC (SR) Mrs Alison Perry, Director of Commissioning (AP) Miss Angharad Lewis, Office Manager (AL)
Apologies:	Mr Tim Burton, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC) Mrs Carys Morgans, Chief of Staff, OPCC (CM) Mr Adrian Williams, Director of Resources (DoR)

ACTION SUMMARY		
Action N^o	Action Summary	Progress
PAB 162	Force to look at the number of Hate Crime Officers available at any one time to ensure an appropriate number of Officers are trained.	In progress – Force in the process of comparing with national figures
PAB 163	The ACC to provide the PCC with terms of reference in relation to Operation Celtic.	Completed
PAB 164	The ACC to provide the PCC with information on emergency charging decisions including the category of crimes which the Force are permitted to make decisions on.	Completed
PAB 165	The OPCC and the Force to consider the need to assess Victims Satisfaction as part of the Victims Support service to be commissioned in the New	In Progress

	Year.	
PAB 166	The CC to consider what the police operational requirements are with regards to particular areas to inform the Estates strategy.	Ongoing
PAB 167	Cennydd Powell to assess the requirements of the Force in relation to estates against those of the Local Authorities and Local Health Board to determine where there are opportunities for Collaboration.	Ongoing
PAB 168	Force to ensuring that a Moderating Policy is published to show why comments have been removed from the Rate my Police system.	Ongoing
PAB 169	The OPCC to consider the Rural Policing Strategy for 2014-2017, and feedback accordingly.	Completed
PAB 170	C. Curtis to provide the PCC with a Statement of Need in relation to where and what type of Special Constables are required in certain areas, together with a recruitment and training plan.	Ongoing
PAB 171	C. Curtis to consider the approach made by Volunteering Values and other individuals to support the development of the Special Constabulary.	Completed
PAB 172	CF to seek response from Superintendent Steve Matchett in relation to the Crest Survey.	Completed

Minutes of the Accountability Meeting held on 14th November and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last Police Accountability Board were agreed to be a true account of the meeting.

OPCC Monitoring Performance Report

SR provided the Board with an introduction to the Report, outlining a number of key themes, including an increase in more serious offences including sexual offences, domestic abuse and offences against the person. She confirmed that these would be looked at in context of the HMIC data integrity report published in November.

The PCC enquired as to what the current level of reported historical sexual offences stood at and the level of child sexual offences. The ACC confirmed that the Force had experienced a rise of 33% in the number of historical abuse offences being recorded over the last 12 months; 57% of those offences reported

were against children, however some of which were consensual i.e. between a boyfriend and girlfriend. The ACC confirmed that this was similar to other forces who were experiencing similar trends. SR referred to the HMIC report and noted that all 6 cases alluded to in the report related to offences against children which did not correlate against the figures that only 57% of overall reports related to offences against children. The ACC confirmed that the data used in the report had been collected over 12 months ago and since then, measures had been put in place within the public protection unit to ensure that cases were categorised and appropriately.

The PCC noted that the Force had not supplied figures to a recent BBC report in relation to offences against children. The CC confirmed that he was of the understanding that there had been a breakdown in communication and confirmed that there was no reason as to why the Force couldn't provide the data requested.

The PCC moved on to discuss the second question raised in the report surrounding the 24 cases that HMIC reported were not recorded as a crime. SG confirmed that there were in fact 28 cases identified by HMIC. She explained that three issues had been identified as the cause of the problem; the first being call handling. Where two incidents are being reported at the same time, a crime has in the past only been recorded once. The second issue identified is where Officers investigate whether an offence has been committed, but fail to record the same as a crime. According to HMIC, when the offender does not have the necessary mens rea, it should still have been recorded as a crime even though no offence had been committed. The third issue identified was that in 2012, Code C disposals were moved into the Incident Resolution Team who had not received sufficient awareness and training in relation to the Home Office accounting rules. SG confirmed that Code C disposals were now dealt with by the Force Crime Recording Bureau to ensure that the crimes are captured at the relevant time. It was confirmed that the Force would be carrying out an Audit in January to ascertain whether the issues raised by HMIC had been rectified.

SR enquired as to whether there had been a change in policy for recording crime as a result of the report. The CC confirmed that there would be a move to direct officer entry in the New Year. If there was no visible improvement following the

move to direct officer entry, then the Force would look at the possibility of noting all incidents as crime at source. Discussions ensued surrounding the Force's plans to improve crime recording.

The PCC queried whether incidents of ASB should sometimes have been recorded as crime. Discussions ensued as to whether ASB was being recorded correctly and the PCC raised concerns in relation to incidents of ASB not being recorded as crimes. The DCC confirmed that ASB incidents and crimes could be recorded alongside each other and were not mutually exclusive.

SG confirmed that the Force were in the process of preparing a training user analysis and training plan as suggested by HMIC.

Discussions moved onto the guidance issued by the Home Office in relation to Serious and Organised Crime. The ACC confirmed that the Force were in the early stages of producing the Local Profile. An update would be provided as to the progress in the next PAB.

Action: ACC to provide an update on the development of the Local Profile at the next PAB

The PCC raised a discussion point surrounding the Force's policy for requesting international police checks on foreign internationals. The ACC confirmed that there were improvements to be made by the Force and confirmed that a working group would be established in January to work towards meeting the target set by Government of 60% compliance by April 2015. The ACC confirmed that Dyfed-Powys had carried out 110 checks since April 2014.

The PCC enquired as to the results of the Gun Amnesty which took place during November 2014. The ACC stated that it had been a successful operation which had been managed carefully. It was confirmed that the Police had taken possession of 92 guns, 2 rifle magazines and 30 separate rounds of ammunition, none of which belonged to certificate holders. The ACC stated that some of the weapons handed in had been illegal.

SR queried as to what happened if, after notifying a licence holder that their licence was due to expire, they took no action to renew the same. SG confirmed

that a Firearms Officer would visit the licence holder and negotiations would take place to decide what should happen to the firearms i.e. placing the same into storage.

SR then moved on to discuss Domestic Abuse and noted that the number of Domestic crimes recorded had increased. She noted that as the number of overall crimes reported were decreasing, the proportion of Domestic Abuse cases were increasing. She queried whether the increase was driven by the number of victims, whether they were repeat victims and how did the data compare nationally. The ACC confirmed that figures were in line with the national increase with the Force experiencing an increase of 24% of incidents and 18% increase in crimes in the last 4 months. The ACC suggested that this was partly as a result of increased confidence in reporting such as with sexual offences and also Domestic Abuse campaigns. The ACC stated that the level of repeat victims was 10% lower than last year. AJ confirmed that figures were taken from Coordinated Action against Domestic Abuse (CADA) where figures from all organisations, charities etc. were fed into one place.

AP asked that the Force keep an eye on the figures given the work the OPCC were currently carrying out, concentrating on the high risk cases. If the increase was due to new incidents then it would be necessary to look at carrying out work around the prevention of Domestic Abuse. The repeat rate for Domestic Abuse incidents is currently at 22.4% and the repeat rate for crimes of Domestic Abuse was up 10.2%. It was confirmed that this was an increase on last year.

The PCC requested information surrounding a recent staff bulletin referring to delays in reviewing no crime and new crime outcomes as a result of resource issues. SG confirmed that this resource issue had come about as a result of annual leave and an internal three week audit. SG stated that she was confident that the resource issues had now been dealt with.

The PCC queried whether the Force would assess the effectiveness of the 'we are in we are open' directive. The ACC advised that Senior Officers had been carrying out visibility visits to ensure that the directive was being complied with. SR asked whether the Force had received many complaints in relation to the accessibility to Police Stations. The ACC confirmed that this was not an issue.

Discussions moved on to the Force's plans to facilitate the sharing of good practice and learning across the Force in line with HMIC's recommendations. SG confirmed that a 'Learning Lessons Sub-Committee' was in place and work was currently being carried out on the Force intranet. SR stated that it was essential that the information be used properly and improvements had been made with sergeants being alerted automatically.

The DCC stated that the question raised at 5.2 of the report was misrepresented. The concern raised by HMIC in fact concerned the cross reference between the procurement contracts and the gifts and hospitality register. The DCC confirmed that he reviewed the register once completed by PSD. The HMIC report had raised concern that the register was not checked every time there was a procurement contract awarded. The DCC confirmed that the position would be reviewed.

In relation to the IPCC's complaints report, the DCC confirmed that in relation to recording within 10 days, the Force was currently at 95% compliance. It was noted that the Force was aware of the delays highlighted in the report and that now PSD had been relieved of some of the caseload, they would expect matters to improve.

The PCC advised that a consultation exercise would be undertaken to assess public confidence and satisfaction in the complaints handling process pre and post the Public Service Bureau.

Action: Force to provide data with regards to the level of satisfaction with current complaints handling process if available.

CFO requested that she be provided with an estimate from the Force as to what the year-end position may look like in relation to the spend on Police Officers and Staff at the end of the financial year.

Action: Force to provide CFO with an estimate of the year-end position in relation to spend on Police Staff and Officers.

OPCC Accountability Report on Priority 2

AP gave a summary of the OPCC's position in relation to commissioning of services, including an update on a recent meeting to review pilot schemes.

The ACC queried progress being made in relation to when the rural satellite Rape Crisis Centres. AP confirmed that the work would be carried out in the next couple of months.

Action: AP to keep SC and AJ updated in relation to progress with the Rural Satellite Rape Crisis Centres.

Force Accountability Report on Priority 2

SC and AJ gave a presentation on Priority 2 to the Board. It was noted that within the Force, some business areas were more prevalent than others, including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Domestic Abuse.

An update was provided in relation to the Mental Health Triage. A review of 178 detentions under s.136 showed that Officers were spending a significant amount of time with individuals prior to them being assessed. Funding secured from the Home Office has now been spent on two response vehicles for the triage. AJ confirmed that an Officer from the Force had been appointed to the Triage system for a period of 12 months with a similar person being appointed by Hywel Dda. The officers would work on the project on a permanent basis with an additional Officer/Mental Health Practitioner being assigned to the team on a weekly basis. Operating hours would be between 4pm-12pm Saturday and Sunday when the Force usually experiences an increase in demand.

AJ outlined the operational model which had been put in place and provided an overview of the ongoing development of the Triage system. It was noted that the number of s.136 detentions were reduced simply by having a Mental Health Practitioner on hand to access records through the health service, and being able to make the decision on how to manage the individual.

AJ advised that researchers from the University of South Wales had developed an evaluation process and were engaging with service users and Officers. The researchers were also developing data collection templates to monitor progress.

AJ provided an update on adults at risk and confirmed that in the last year the Force had experienced a growth of around 30% in the number of referrals received. AJ gave an overview of the expected impact of the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014.

SC provided an update on CSE stating that it had been disappointing to note that a lack of awareness with the front line staff had been highlighted in the recent HMIC report and that the Force's approach was deemed to be reactive. SC confirmed that a lot of work had been carried out over the last 6-12 months to improve the position with additional training being provided and processes streamlined. Further work would be carried out to raise awareness and improve training.

An update was provided in relation to Operation Celtic. It was confirmed that some work had been carried out with Local Authority Care Homes to ensure staff carry out risk assessments. These would then form the basis of service level agreements between the Force and the Local Authorities. The Force was looking at expanding the remit of this work to cover foster parents.

It was confirmed that funding had been received from Barnados to fund a worker within the Force on a part time basis, to provide a better understanding of CSE issues. SC highlighted that out of the 782 children reported missing since April this year, 300 had been cases of repeat missing children. It was important that front line officers were aware of the dangers and signs of CSE.

It was confirmed that the Force is now looking at working towards the National ACPO plan for CSE.

SC provided an update in relation to Modern Day Slavery which he confirmed was a growing area. He advised that an Anti-Slavery Coordinator and the local forums had been established in Wales. SC stated that there had been 50 incidents of Modern Day Slavery in Wales during 2013 which had passed through the national referral mechanism; of which one had been within the Force area.

The Board were advised that a week-long operation had taken place during October to raise awareness of Modern Day Slavery. Additionally, a 3 day training

programme had now been developed between the CPS and South Wales Police to raise awareness of Modern Day Slavery. Detective Inspectors who chair the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) procedures in terms of management of risk were due to receive training in January. Further training for SIO's and front line staff would also take place in the New Year.

SC informed the Board that the Force currently had one ongoing investigation in relation to forced labour; there had also been a referral in relation to an individual at risk of sexual exploitation and there had also been arrests at the ports. It was noted that as awareness surrounding the problem was increasing, more incidents were coming to light.

SC presented information on Domestic Abuse and repeat victimisation. Discussions ensued as to the definition of a serial perpetrator. SC confirmed that there was a difference between repeat perpetrator and a serial perpetrator and confirmed that there was work to be done surrounding the identifying of serial perpetrators.

SC discussed the Wales Integrated Serious and Dangerous Offender Management (WISDOM) pilot which will form part of the IOM Cymru Governance focusing on high risk of harm offenders. It was confirmed that a local implementation team would meet in January.

AJ completed the presentation by outlining the improvements and investigations being carried out by the Force. In particular, it noted how the Force was implementing the recommendations made by HMIC, confirming that there had been an increase of 8 officers assigned to Public Protection. It was further confirmed that there were 62 Officers within the department which amounted to around 6% of the overall establishment; the numbers will be monitored to see whether the number of Officers correlate with demand and whether there is need to move some of the resources around further.

AJ was keen to monitor thresholds and ensure that the Force is not taking on the work of other organisations.

The PCC queried as to what the Mental Health Team were measuring their success against. AJ confirmed that they were measuring against the number of incidents

they respond to, the number of detentions under s.136 and how many are detained in a proper establishment, the management of repeat callers and also the time Officers spend with individuals without support. The PCC stressed the importance of monitoring the success of the Triage carefully in order to ensure the Force is in a strong position to raise resources should it be necessary. The DCC confirmed that the greatest gain for the Force was the savings surrounding custody; North Wales had seen a reduction in their s.136 detentions of 90%. It was noted that this would result in a significant saving given the time Officers spent with a s.136 detainee in custody.

SR raised a discussion point on resource issues and the number of inappropriate referrals being received. AJ confirmed that this was a threshold. SC confirmed that such referrals did however cause difficulties.

AP suggested that the Force keep her updated with regards to their relationship with Barnados in light of information recently received by her.

Action: SC and AJ to share information with AP in relation to the Force's relationship with Barnados with regards to CSE.

The CC noted that the need to increase the ability to deal with all victims effectively will result in a significant cost for the Force. The PCC stressed that if there was a case to be made, then the funding would be found and suggested that there may be opportunities to address less serious types of offences through volunteer services, commissioned resources etc. without taking up police resources.

Update reports

a. Community Remedies Update

The ACC provided an update in relation to Community Remedies. He confirmed that the Force was on track to launch on the 1st January 2015 with over 300 Officers trained, pod casts prepared and Press Release ready to be published.

b. Community Speed Watch report update

CF confirmed that the Force had developed a partnership with GoSafe who were now taking on back office functions. The Community Speed Watch Scheme will be rolling out in early spring.

The CFO queried as to whether there are any cost implications of GoSafe providing their services.

Action: CF to confirm whether or not there are any cost implications of GoSafe providing their services in relation to the Community Speed Watch.

c. Innovation fund proposals

The CFO provided an update on the position with regards to Innovation Fund proposals. She confirmed that the internal bid was currently being developed and suggested that the same would be circulated as soon as it had been finalised.

The CFO confirmed that we were still awaiting the detailed proposals from the other Welsh forces which we had indicated an interest in.

Action: ACC to enquire as to whether a proposal from Inspector Gary Davies is to be submitted for consideration.

d. CCTV

The PCC confirmed that the CCTV report had now been circulated amongst the Councils and that the OPCC were in a position to publicise the report. The PCC confirmed that he would no longer fund publicly monitored CCTV.

The CC raised concerns surrounding the extrapolation of some of the findings of the report. He suggested that care needed to be taken not to suggest that CCTV was being switched off.

The ACC commented that the provision of CCTV supports the investigation of Serious Crime, when plotting the moves of offenders and victims in prosecution cases, and was of significant value. The PCC stated that it was necessary to

evidence its value. The PCC reiterated his unwillingness to pay for such CCTV until it was proven that it was of value. The CC noted that it wasn't necessarily publicly funded CCTV that was relied on for the investigation of crime as private CCTV would also be used. The CC also noted that areas may also emerge as problem areas which would need to be considered on a case by case basis; the CC suggested that we should reserve s.17 powers under the Crime and Disorder Act which puts the obligation on partners to take crime and disorder into account.

The CC confirmed that the Force would be inclined to fund instances of CCTV when it was deemed necessary; they did not however want to advocate spending on publicly monitored CCTV continuously as it would simply be too expensive. The DCC confirmed that it was in fact an ACPO stance that the Police would not fund CCTV anywhere in the country.

Action: Force to provide a considered response to the CCTV report prior to PCC's meetings with Local Authorities in January.

Any Other Business

The CFO summarised the meeting's actions.

IBM – i2 Suite of Products

The PCC introduced a letter received in relation to i2 products to the Board and confirmed that a response was required from the Force by the 19th December 2014.

Action: Force to advise PCC if they intend purchasing IBM i2 Suite of Products by the 19th December 2014.

Issue of caution for £7,000.00 theft from care home

The Commissioner raised a discussion point surrounding a case which had been brought to his attention where a caution had been issued to an offender who had stolen £7,000.00 from a care home. A discussion ensued as regards to the detail and it was acknowledged that having looked at the matter objectively, perhaps CPS advice should have been sought.

ACTION SUMMARY		
Action N°	Action Summary	To be progressed by:
PAB 173	ACC to provide an update on the development of the Local Profile at the next PAB	ACC
PAB 174	Force to provide CFO with an estimate of the year-end position in relation to spend on Police Staff and Officers.	Force
PAB 175	AP to keep SC and AJ updated in relation to progress with the Rural Satellite Rape Crisis Centres.	AP
PAB 176	SC and AJ to share information with AP in relation to the Force's relationship with Barnados with regards to CSE.	SC, AJ
PAB 177	CF to confirm whether or not there are any cost implications of GoSafe providing their services in relation to the Community Speed Watch.	CF
PAB 178	ACC to enquire as to whether a proposal from Inspector Gary Davies is to be submitted for consideration.	ACC
PAB 179	Force to provide a considered response to the CCTV report prior to PCC's meetings with Local Authorities in January.	Force
PAB 180	Force to advise PCC if they intend purchasing IBM i2 Suite of Products by the 19th December 2014.	Force