

# **SOUTH YORKSHIRE'S POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD**

**27 NOVEMBER 2018**

**PRESENT:** Dr Alan Billings (Police and Crime Commissioner)  
Michelle Buttery (Chief Executive and Solicitor - OPCC)  
Michael Clements (Chief Finance and Commissioning Officer - OPCC)  
Mark Roberts (Deputy Chief Constable - SYP)  
Lauren Poultney (Assistant Chief Constable - SYP)  
Alison Fletcher (Office Manager - SYP)  
Carrie Goodwin (Head of Corporate Communications - SYP)  
Nigel Hiller (Director of Finance)  
Sally Parkin (Business Manager)  
Fiona Topliss (Community Engagement & Communications Manager)  
Scott Green (Chief Superintendent – SYP)  
Kevin Wright (Evaluation and Scrutiny Officer – OPCC)

Apologies for absence were received from: Tim Forber, David Hartley, Melvyn Lunn, Erika Redfearn, Sara Slater, Stephen Watson, Zaiada Bibi and Rob Winter

### **1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Commissioner welcomed those present at the meeting.

### **2 FILMING NOTIFICATION**

The Commissioner informed attendees that the meeting was being filmed and may be uploaded onto his website. By entering the meeting room, attendees are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for publication on our website and/or training purposes.

### **3 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### **4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no public questions.

### **5 URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items.

### **6 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

There were no items to be considered in the Absence of the Public and Press.

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

8 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the following amendments on page 4, Force Performance – Rotherham District Summary Update:

Third paragraph, sixth sentence to read M Roberts highlighted that satisfaction, as people progress through the court process, is dependent on a number of agencies not just the police.

9 MATTERS ARISING/ACTIONS

332	S Barton to raise court sanctions for people sleeping on the streets at the Local Criminal Justice Board. 28/08/18 – Ongoing. Action to be transferred to T Forber who will report back following the next LCJB on 4 October 2018. 27/09/18 – M Buttery confirmed that sentences are being given in line with sentencing guidelines and therefore suggested that the action be amended for it to be raised at the Countywide Community Forum, adding that an excellent presentation had been given by Stuart around homelessness at the Sheffield City forum and suggested this could be brought to a future PAB. 29/10/18 – T Forber suggested this needed to go to the South Yorkshire Strategic Safeguarding Partnership rather than the Countywide Community Forum. T Forber to report back following the meeting on 10 December. <b>DISCHARGE</b>
344	F Topliss to look at the monthly online chat forum undertaken by the Doncaster East Neighbourhood Team. 29/10/2018 – F Topliss to prepare a note for the PCC 19/11/2018 – Information provided to the PCC. <b>DISCHARGE</b>
348	S Chapman to provide a copy of the shared performance report referred to in paragraph 4.10 of the report 27/11/2018 – M Buttery to discuss with M Roberts outside of the meeting. <b>DISCHARGE</b>
349	M Buttery to speak to M Roberts outside of the meeting in relation to the work taking place around cyber-crime in the North East region 15/11/2018 – Discussed at Management Board. <b>DISCHARGE</b>
350	M Buttery would discuss the gaps in data around serious and organised crime for the performance framework with T Forber 27/11/2018 – M Buttery and T Forber to meet next week. <b>DISCHARGE</b>
351	Consideration would be given to the questions in the Your Voice Counts survey to better understand the declining levels of

	confidence in the criminal justice system 27/11/2018 - ongoing
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**10 PAB WORK PROGRAMME**

M Buttery presented the next three months of the PAB work programme which is circulated in advance of the meeting.

**11 FORCE PERFORMANCE - BARNESLEY DISTRICT SUMMARY PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide a brief update in relation to local operationally based delivery of the Police and Crime Plan in Barnsley, in line with the reporting requirements.

S Green highlighted that there had been a sustained reduction in Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC), such as burglary and robbery, across Barnsley. This is directly linked to the collective activities of Neighbourhood Policing, proactivity around offender management and strong investigative delivery following the return of CID to local command.

Barnsley has seen 100 fewer residential burglaries in the last year. This follows a change in definition for residential burglary. The Commissioner highlighted that residential burglaries in South Yorkshire were high compared to the rest of the country. M Roberts confirmed that South Yorkshire was more in line with its Most Similar Group (MSG) and was one of the few Forces showing a decrease.

S Green highlighted that a large number of residential burglaries were shed break-ins rather than house burglaries. The Commissioner asked what the split was between shed break-ins and house burglaries, S Green thought this was about 50/50. It was acknowledge that shed break-ins were less intrusive.

Barnsley District has developed a detailed action plan to improve victim satisfaction. This has been enhanced by a more focused 12-week Delivery Plan. Satisfaction levels have seen a slight dip in recent months but overall satisfaction for Burglary (Dwelling) remains high at 87%.

A discuss took place around the increase in resources for Neighbourhood Policing. Under the previous Local Policing Unit model for Barnsley, the Neighbourhood Policing offer consisted of:

- 2 x Inspector
- 0 x Sergeant
- 0 x Police Constables
- 42 PCSOs (8 externally funded by BMBC)

Under the current Neighbourhood Policing offer, which includes both Neighbourhood Policing Teams and the multi-agency Safer Neighbourhood Service (SNS), it now consists of:

- 2 x Inspectors
- 6 x Sergeants (1 in the SNS and 5 on NHP Teams)
- 25 x PCs (5 in the SNS and 18 on NHP Teams)
- 42 PCSOs (8 externally funded by BMBC)
- 1 x Licensing Officer
- 1 x Hate Crime Officer
- 1 Designing Out Crime Officer
- 1 x Partnership Analyst

This is an additional 35 staff and officers.

Barnsley's collective ambition is to create a further Neighbourhood Policing Team and reopen Cudworth Police Station as a Neighbourhood base.

S Green highlighted that from May 2018 to September 2018, Barnsley experienced 4 homicides, a high profile critical incident in the Town Centre and a fatal road traffic collision. The sustained demand reduction from the Neighbourhood Policing Teams has meant that the District has been able to deal with the increased demand from these incidents. Similarly, the District has also been able to monitor closely any emerging community tensions.

The perception and actual use of Spice in the Town Centre remains a concern. A significant amount of partnership working in relation to dealing with the issues associated with Spice is taking place. There have been successes in terms of arrests of those involved in Drugs Supply offences and discussions remain ongoing with partners regarding innovative approaches to dealing with Spice as a broad partnership issue.

The Commissioner enquired about a new drug called 'Monkey Dust' which he had heard was stronger than Spice. M Roberts highlighted the difficulty in identifying what drugs had been taken and confirmed that it was difficult to generalise.

To enhance engagement the District has re-introduced online Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings. S Green highlighted that this was an additional tool and would not be used all the time. The Commissioner enquired whether the information obtained at PACT meetings was addressed. S Green confirmed that issues were progressed.

Whilst there has been significant national coverage regarding violent crime, Barnsley has seen no significant increase and nothing that can be linked to gang or organised criminality. Similarly, Barnsley records the lowest knife crime, firearms, drug offences and personal robbery rates across the Force.

## 12 FORCE PERFORMANCE - EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS AND VALUE FOR MONEY

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the progress South Yorkshire Police has made to meet the requirements of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan (2017-2021) regarding Efficiency, Effectiveness and value for money.

The Commissioner thanked N Hiller for the report.

N Hiller highlighted that the Commissioner and Chief Constable had been assessed for the year 2017/18 as being Value for Money by KPMG, the Commissioner and Chief Constable's auditors, as part of the audit on the annual accounts.

During the period 2010/11 to date, South Yorkshire Police received a 30% reduction in government policing grant, which in real terms was a 21% reduction in total resources. South Yorkshire has seen greater reductions in resources than all but 6 other Forces. The Force has made savings of around £84m per annum.

The Force evaluate collaborative activity using the Collaboration Review Framework to provide assurance and recommendations to both the Chief Constable and the Commissioner. A number of recommendations have been approved and progressed which has led to both increased effectiveness and efficiency while also providing a stronger base for which the Force can evidence successful collaborative working. Agreement has also been reached at an executive level with the six other police forces in the North East to use the framework as a collective tool to review regional collaboration.

N Hiller highlighted some of the non-cashable efficiencies made by districts and departments including; no longer detaining mental health patients in its custody suites which was time and resource intensive and Sheffield District introducing a local demand management unit to address time-consuming administrative processes to reduce outstanding crimes and incidents and the impact on frontline staff. This also provides a location that staff can move into as part of a recuperative plan for return to work or avoid absence from work.

The Commissioner confirmed that it was right to highlight non cashable savings.

To improve transparency and public accountability, the Force has produced a summary statement of accounts and sets of accounts which are far more visually exciting and appealing.

N Hiller highlighted that Geoff Berrett, Head of Finance, will be retiring at Christmas. The Force is making the most of this opportunity to re-examine existing staffing structures with a view to improving the efficiency of the Finance function and its effectiveness in meeting organisational needs.

The Commissioner thanked Geoff Berrett and wished him well for the future.

South Yorkshire Police jointly with South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service has appointed a joint Head of Estates. A revised Estates Strategy is being developed and will underpin the Force's strategic resource planning. It will also be a key element of the Force's Capital Strategy and Capital Programme.

A new post, has been created jointly with the Fire and Rescue Service to manage more comprehensively the day to day management and maintenance of the joint estates.

South Yorkshire Police has a detailed savings plan which for 2018/19 anticipates the Force delivering £6.1m. As at the 31 October 2018, the Force is confident that £5.8m of those savings have been implemented.

N Hiller confirmed there had been some slippage of the Capital Programme, however, the Strategic Resourcing Board is now proactively managing it more than in previous years.

The Procurement Team have taken on the role of national commercial leads for the Fleet Category.

South Yorkshire Police is at the end of the 5 year IT Strategy which was created by the joint service with Humberside Police. Since the departments creation it has delivered Revenue Savings of £6.5m and Capital avoidance of £6m.

The Head of IS has recently produced a new IS Strategy.

Smart Contact has gone live and Connect is being upgraded subject to successful testing. Preparations are underway for the full scale deployment of body worn video using the experience gained deploying the same technology in Humberside Police.

The Commissioner enquired about Smart Contact and whether the public will have noticed any changes. L Poultney confirmed that the first stage was changes to the hardware and the public will not have noticed any changes. The call back facility will be tested over the next few weeks and she was hoping this would be rolled out before Christmas. Once this is in place the Force will inform the public.

N Hiller highlighted the importance the Force places on wellbeing.

There has been recent developments with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) around partnership demand. Anonymised data has been shared which will allow YAS and police data to be layered onto one map to better identify for example, hotspots, trends or hidden demand which can then inform resource location.

A recent visit from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service recognised the considerable progress made to understand the Force's capacity and capability in order to allow resources to be matched to demand and aligned to workforce costs. This resulted in a Cause for Concern being removed.

The Commissioner acknowledged that it was good to have a detailed overview but suggested that next time the report concentrated on a few key areas.

**IT WAS AGREED THAT:**

**The next Efficiency, Effectiveness and Value for Money report concentrate on a few key areas**

13 STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

This item was covered under item 14.

14 POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PRIORITIES

M Buttery presented a report which aimed to inform the Board and therefore the public about the emerging policing and crime priorities that are likely to be reflected in the renewal of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan in April 2019.

The Commissioner issued a new Police and Crime Plan (Plan) following his re-election in May 2016, with a renewed focus on protecting the most vulnerable, partnership working and improving communities' trust and confidence in policing services in South Yorkshire.

The Commissioner has renewed his Plan each year to take account of changing and emerging policing and crime priorities.

The Commissioner's three priorities have remained the same but other things have changed: demand on the police is growing and changing, government funding in real terms is reducing and other public services are shrinking – putting greater pressures on the police to do more and more non-crime work – such as searching for missing people

The analysis of current and future crime threats and community concerns, focuses on the following areas:

- Serious violent crime (especially knife crime)
- Gangs and drug use / drug markets
- Vulnerable people and young people
- Burglary and other acquisitive crimes
- Spice and other substance use in our town centres and city
- The policing of protests
- Improved community engagement
- Improved 101 service

The Commissioner has also indicated that he wants to continue supporting the restoration of neighbourhood policing, improving efficiency – e.g. the introduction of new IT to enable greater productivity and forging stronger collaboration with partners, not least the Fire and Rescue Service.

M Buttery highlighted that an early draft of the narrative had been shared with the Chief Constable. M Buttery will now lead the work with the Deputy Chief Constable to further focus the Commissioner's priority areas, and develop the performance measures.

M Roberts confirmed that all the areas highlighted were relevant but a tiered approach would be required due to each area of focus differing in different areas of the county. He highlighted the increased pressure being put on public services and that resources were not going to improve.

M Roberts agreed to give due consideration to the areas of focus but did not want to over promise.

In relation to child criminal exploitation M Roberts highlighted that this was a different issue for South Yorkshire than most other forces and required a proportionate response. The Force is better structured to look at these types of issues now.

M Buttery confirmed that strategic planning was running in parallel with the budget process. Work is ongoing to determine next years budget requirements and Medium Term Financial Strategy. The announcement on the Commissioner's discretion to increase the Council Tax Precept is critical to this process.

The police settlement announcement is expected on 6 December.

The next financial year is uncertain and budget scenarios are currently being developed which will provide a range of options for the Commissioner.

Information on the Council Tax Precept will be brought to the next Public Accountability Board on 18 December.

The January Public Accountability Board will cover the budget and Council Tax Precept ahead of the Police and Crime Panel on 4 February 2019.

The Police and Crime Panel have a budget working group which is kept informed of developments ahead of any formal meetings.

The Commissioner highlighted that previously the police service was asked by government to keep the precept down but now the Government was asking Police and Crime Commissioners to increase the precept by the maximum amount.

## 15 PRECEPT CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN

F Topliss presented the Commissioner's Precept Consultation and Engagement Plan. The Plan outlines the process the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will undertake to seek the views of the public and local elected members.

Consultation with the public takes place throughout the year. Between February and November people are asked to vote on whether they think SYP provides good value for money.

So far, this year the public seem to be aware of the pressure on the police service and there appears to be a reluctant acceptance that the precept will increase.

Once the Government grant has been announced the Commissioner's Engagement Team will consult on the level of precept for South Yorkshire to obtain a consensus of opinion before the Commissioner consults with elected members and makes a decision on the level of the precept.



The Police and Crime Panel review the Commissioner's proposed level of council tax precept and make its recommendations in February, before the Commissioner finalises the budget for the coming year.

The Engagement Team uses a number of consultation methods including face-to-face, online surveys, webchats and proactive media. F Topliss highlighted that support will be needed from South Yorkshire Police to promote the precept survey via social media to ensure it gets out to as many residents as possible through their larger social media audiences.

The Commissioner acknowledged the realism from the public in relation to what resources are available and highlighted the investment made in Neighbourhood Policing.

**IT WAS AGREED THAT:**

**The Force support the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's precept consultation by promoting the survey via their social media channels**

**16 OPTIONS FOR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE GOVERNANCE IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

M Buttery presented an update report on the options for the Commissioner's involvement in governance of the Fire and Rescue Services.

M Buttery had been working with an independent consultant to prepare a scoping document for the Commissioner to enable him to consider his next steps. This document deliberately did not arrive at any conclusion, but outlined the advantages and disadvantages for South Yorkshire of each of the options for Fire and Rescue governance. The report is now available.

M Buttery highlighted the following sections in the report:

- The executive summary at page 7 of the supplementary pack, which included information on the Commissioner's input to the South Yorkshire Leaders' meeting on 20 July 2018.
- Page 9 which sets out the Police and Crime Commissioners who have already taken on, or are proposing to take on, responsibility for the governance of fire and rescue services under the provisions of the 2017 Act.
- Pages 10 and 11 which show the activity and progress already made.
- Why a change in governance might be needed at page 11, current pace of progress, current ambition and efficiency.
- Page 17 which identifies the critical success factors as the basis for assessing each of the three models of governance:

1. Provision of clear strategic aims to drive transformative change for South Yorkshire
  2. Provision of effective and timely decision-making in support of these strategic aims
  3. Improved and more visible oversight, scrutiny and public accountability
  4. Greater pace, breadth and depth of collaboration to achieve transformative change
  5. Better use of resources to allow re-investment in frontline services
- A high level summary of the themes raised consistently in discussion with those consulted at page 18.

The Commissioner thanked everyone who had been involved in the exercise.

The Commissioner confirmed that having considered the report he does not believe that the benefits of the Single Employer Model outweigh the disadvantages. He does however; consider that further and faster progress with collaboration could be achieved.

One of the ways the Commissioner thinks this may be achieved is for the Fire and Rescue Authority to consider giving the chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority the authority to make decisions at the Police and Fire Collaboration Board.

If the Fire and Rescue Authority are agreeable to this he would see no overriding reason to pursue a change to the governance arrangements at this time; but if not, he would favour making a business case for the Governance Model going forward.

A Lockley queried the legal position of the Chair of the Fire and Rescue Authority and whether delegations could be made. The Commissioner confirmed he was not looking for a change in legal position. He is asking for the Chair to receive backing to be able to make decisions at the Police and Fire Collaboration Board once decisions in principle had been made by the full Authority early enough in the collaboration journey.

A Lockley asked whether the Independent Ethics Panel and the Joint Independent Audit Committee would have any role in the process. M Buttery confirmed that this would be considered as part of the assurance mapping.

## 17 INDEPENDENT CUSTODY VISITORS

S Parkin presented a report on the Commissioner's Independent Custody Visiting Scheme.

S Parkin informed the Board that the main areas of concern for the Independent Custody Visitors (ICVs) was in relation to the new Connect IT system. Custody staff are unable to print off a list of custody numbers of detainees in the cells when ICVs arrive to undertake their visit. This has resulted in custody staff having to manually produce a list which is taking up a considerable amount of time. ICVs are also concerned by the amount of time it is taking to view the Custody Record on

Connect again this is tying up custody staff. These issues are currently being considered by Chief Inspector Aziz.

Doncaster ICVs continue to raise concerns about the condition of the Doncaster Custody Suite. This is being considered as part of the Capital Programme.

Future work includes the development of the Animal Welfare Scheme, ensuring the South Yorkshire ICV scheme is statutorily compliant and development of the report form.

S Parkin highlighted the attached Annual Report 2017/18. This is the first time an Annual Report has been produced and shows that during 2017/18 ICVs conducted 137 and saw over 750 detainees.

The Commissioner thanked S Parkin and L Crowley for the work they had done on the ICV Scheme. He informed the Board that he had attended one of the ICVs training session and been impressed by the ICVs dedication and commitment to scheme.

The Commissioner queried the time ICVs undertook their visits with no visits taking place after 11pm. This is something which is currently being discussed with ICVs.

18 PCC DECISION REPORT

The decisions set out in the report were noted.

19 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - TO BE NOTIFIED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING

20 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

18 December 2018 at 10am, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, 5 Carbrook Hall Road, Carbrook, Sheffield, S9 2EH.

CHAIR



