4 April 2020

To: Members of the Public Accountability Board

This matter is being dealt with by: Sally Parkin
Direct Line: 01142 964150
email: sparkin@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk

Dear Colleague

Public Accountability Board

The Public Accountability Board will be held on **Tuesday 7th April, 2020** at **10.00 am** via telephone conferencing.

The agenda and supporting papers are attached.

The Commissioner welcomes questions from members of the public. Questions can be submitted by email at info@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk up to 2pm on Monday 6 April 2020. Written responses to questions will be provided following the meeting.

Yours sincerely

E Redfearn
Head of Governance
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

Enc.
AGENDA

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<td>THAT, using the principles identified under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, as amended, or that they are otherwise operationally sensitive or would attract an exemption under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.</td>
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SOUTH YORKSHIRE’S POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

10 MARCH 2020

PRESENT: Dr Alan Billings (Police and Crime Commissioner)
Michelle Buttery (Chief Executive and Solicitor, OPCC)
Michael Clements (Chief Finance and Commissioning Officer, OPCC)
Sally Parkin (Governance and Compliance Manager, OPCC)
Fiona Topliss (Community Engagement & Communications Manager, OPCC)
Sophie Abbott (Deputy Chief Finance Officer, OPCC)
Sharon Baldwin (Evaluation and Scrutiny Officer, OPCC),
Mark Roberts (Deputy Chief Constable, SYP)
David Hartley (Assistant Chief Constable, SYP)
Carrie Goodwin (Head of Corporate Communications, SYP)
Debbie Carrington (Head of Finance, SYP)
Una Jennings (Chief Superintendent, Rotherham District, SYP)
Stephen Chapman (Superintendent, Rotherham District, SYP)
Andrew Lockley (Chair of the Ethics Panel)
Steve Wragg (Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee)
Cllr Garry Weatherall (Sheffield City Council)

Apologies for absence were received from: Erika Redfearn, Kevin Wright, Stephen Watson, Tim Forber, Lauren Poultney, Nigel Hiller and Councillor Paul Wood

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Commissioner welcomed those present at the meeting.

There were Councillor Short (members of the Police and Crime Panel), A Carter independent member of the Police and Crime Panel and three members of the press present.

2 FILMING NOTIFICATION

The Commissioner informed attendees that the meeting was being filmed and would 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

The Commissioner asked D Hartley to provide an update on Coronavirus. D Hartley confirmed that the Government has identified three phases for Coronavirus; phase 1 - contain, phase 2 - delay and phase 3 - mitigate. Plans are currently in
place in line with phase 1. Phase 2 may involve schools being closed and meetings being cancelled. The Force will be involved in the management of this.

D Hartley confirmed that Gold meetings and Business Continuity meetings are taking place. The Force’s Business Continuity Plan has just been refreshed.

The Commissioner acknowledged the difficulty of planning for Coronavirus. D Hartley confirmed that the Force are aware of the critical areas and plans are in place should the Force lose 10%, 30% or 50% of the workforce. This would mean looking at skill sets and broader use of resources.

The Commissioner confirmed that this was M Clements last Public Accountability Board before he takes up the position of Chief Finance Officer for North Yorkshire Police. He thanked M Clements for all the work he had undertaken and wished him well for the future.

This would also have been N Hiller’s last Public Accountability Board and the Commissioner wished him well for the future.

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 are 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 7 FEBRUARY 2020

The minutes of the meeting of the Public Accountability Board held on 7 February 2020 were agreed as an accurate record.

9 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2020

The minutes of the meeting of the Public Accountability Board held on 25 February 2020 were agreed as an accurate record.

10 MATTERS ARISING/ACTIONS
11 FORCE PERFORMANCE REPORT AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN
2017 - 2021 (RENEWED 2019) - TREATING PEOPLE FAIRLY

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the progress against the ‘treating people fairly’ outcome of the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 in support of the Commissioner’s overarching aim of South Yorkshire being a safe place in which to live, learn and work.

D Hartley highlighted the increase in police officers numbers and the importance of distributing resources fairly across the county.

The Force continues to work towards understanding the demand profile to ensure that resourcing decisions are taken with the best available evidence. There is a governance structure in place to ensure resources are distributed fairly and proportionately.

M Roberts confirmed that he did not think any other force has the level of sophistication around demand profiling.

The Force is also considering the number and allocation of detectives. The Force has recruited civilian investigators and has an internal campaign to bring in more detectives.

D Hartley highlighted that the Force is currently rolling out the use of mobile devices and laptops to frontline officers. This will provide some opportunities for remote working which is timely with the possible impact of the Coronavirus.
The Commissioner highlighted the speed of technology and enquired if new recruits are more technologically aware. D Hartley confirmed that this was usually the case and it could be quite hard for officers who are not as technically minded to keep up. ‘Superusers’ across all frontline areas have been identified who will assist in the smooth transition and ensure users are alive to the ongoing benefits of the new systems.

D Hartley highlighted that, following a joint inspection by HMI Prisons and Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS), the Force needs to improve the recording of detainee ethnicity information within the Custody recording system. A dashboard report has now been developed to ensure there is an increase in data capture. This is being monitored by the Diversity, Confidence and Equality Board chaired by the Chief Constable.

M Roberts highlighted that this allows the Force to identify any disproportionality and understand any trends in the data.

A Lockley commented that disproportionality is not well understood because of the out of date census data being used. It is believed that BAME figures for schools is much higher now than in the 2011 census data. This impacts on disproportionately figures in areas such as of arrests and stop and search. The Independent Ethics Panel (IEP) is currently looking at this. M Roberts confirmed this was an insightful piece of work being undertaken.

D Hartley highlighted that in relation to a workforce that is representative of South Yorkshire’s population, the Force is well placed around the proportion of female officers but more work needs to be undertaken around BME representation.

The Force acknowledged that recruitment was an opportunity. However, the Force recognised that the online tests impact unfavourably upon BME candidates. This will be considered at the next Diversity, Confidence and Equality Board.

A Lockley highlighted that the points he has made about disproportionality works both ways and recruitment data for BAME employees may be affected.

M Roberts confirmed that the Force is conscious of this and will try and get a cross section of communities.

In relation to fair treatment of staff, D Hartley highlighted the Equality Hub which brings together the strands of smaller equality groups from across the Force. There are currently ten internal associations involved within the Equality Hub, with additional representation from trade unions and the Police Federation, with patronage from ACC Poultney.

D Hartley highlighted the Force’s Fairness and Ethics Committee and the Innovation Station which enable staff to have their say.

D Hartley commented on the consistent level of victims satisfied with the overall service provided by the Force (75%). Attended incidents satisfaction is higher at 77% than non-attendance incident satisfaction which is at 73%. However, figures for January alone show that by April 2020 the Force is in line to achieve their 90% target for attended incidents.

Hate Crime recording has increased, however, satisfaction with the overall service has been inconsistent. Local hate crime coordinators are now contacting victims.
and reviewing the feedback from any dissatisfaction with the service provided. Sergeants are also calling victims after 7 days to ensure that the investigation is being appropriately progressed.

In relation to a fair police complaints system the Force was graded as Good by HMICFRS in September 2019 for Legitimacy and Outstanding for how well the Force ensures its workforce behaves ethically and lawfully.

12 FORCE PERFORMANCE - ROTHERHAM DISTRICT SUMMARY 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 Rotherham, in line with the reporting requirements.

The Commissioner thanked U Jennings for the report.

The Commissioner acknowledged the reduction in time taken by Rotherham officers to attend emergency and priority incidents and enquired if this was being rolled out to all districts. U Jennings confirmed that this had been a real area of focus in Rotherham. Rotherham has introduced a 24/7 resource management sergeant who consistently tracks response times for both emergency and priority calls. This has resulted in response times being consistently below the average response time experience in other areas across the Force. U Jennings confirmed that this is sustainable. Officers from Rotherham are currently working with the Force Senior Command Team to roll this out across South Yorkshire.

The Commissioner enquired if this meant officers are driving faster. M Roberts said absolutely not and highlighted that this is about the effective management of resources.

The Commissioner highlighted Operation Shield which aims to target harden address in potentially vulnerable areas and create a fear of committing crime in those localities amongst would be offenders. Community groups have commented favourably on the use of Smartwater and the Commissioner enquired if this was being rolled out everywhere. U Jennings confirmed that an evidence led approach is being used. This enables Smartwater to be rolled out in hotspot areas and areas where the council had identified homes which have the least security.

M Roberts confirmed that funding from the Commissioner had been used and work is now taking place to encourage other organisations to help fund this. Installing Smartwater costs less than replacing items that have been stolen or damaged.

The Commissioner enquired if the use of Smartwater had introduced displacement. U Jennings confirmed that Rotherham was not seeing this happen.

The Commissioner highlighted the £25,000 cash that had been recovered under Proceeds of Crime legislation and suggested this was quite low in comparison with other districts. U Jennings confirmed that Rotherham was the last district to recruit a financial investigator and she expected to see this grow over the coming months.

The Commissioner commented that he had attended the Safer Neighbourhood Service based at Riverside House and met the Mental Health Worker. He expressed concern that this was a short term contract. S Chapman confirmed that
the Rotherham Community Safety Partnership had now funded this post on a permanent basis.

The Commissioner acknowledged the reduction in demand from Rotherham District General Hospital. S Chapman confirmed this was as a result of a good working relationship with the hospital.

U Jennings highlighted the missing person’s policy which had been developed with hospital colleagues. This policy has resulted in a 20% reduction in the reports of missing people year on year and a 50% reduction year to date.

The Commissioner asked about the Community Action Partnership (CAP) meetings. S Chapman confirmed that there are 21 wards across the district, each of which have a monthly meeting. These meetings are non-prescriptive, chaired by local councillors or members and attended by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) neighbourhood officers and police officers / PCSOs. The meetings identify and address local priorities and receive and action local intelligence.

The Commissioner highlighted that members of the public understood that police officers could not always attend meetings but wanted to know when they would be attending. S Chapman confirmed that support from RMBC and the Force has been good.

U Jennings highlighted that she was working with some of the best and most hard working officers she had every worked with.

M Roberts highlighted the strong command team at Rotherham and acknowledged the outstanding leadership.

M Buttery commented that activity by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) could provide independent assurance that validates these comments.

13 PROJECT NOVA

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on Project Nova.

D Hartley highlighted that in July 2019, the Force reaffirmed its commitment to honour the Armed Forces community by signing the Armed Forces Covenant. To reinforce the covenant the Force re engaged with Project Nova who attended a total of 54 briefing sessions to uniformed police officers and Atlas Court staff. As a result, the Force has a better understanding of the veteran community and the potential risk and vulnerabilities that may exist. Staff are now able to provide improved and effective support to veterans in times of crime or crisis. Clear and effective lines of communication are in place to key partner organisations and the systems are already showing an increase in veteran referrals.

It is estimated that 11% of the population of South Yorkshire is a veteran or direct dependant equating to 150,000 people from the community.

In 2019, the total number of referrals to Project Nova from South Yorkshire Police totalled 179.
40 cases have been closed and 54 clients are currently engaged and receiving support.

M Roberts highlighted the importance of the project and confirmed this was something the Force should be proud of.

The Commissioner said that having worked with the armed forces at one time in his career he strongly supported Project Nova.

14 SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME

A report of the Commissioner’s Chief Executive and Solicitor was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an overview of the commissioning and assurance work carried out by the OPCC in support of victims of crime.

M Buttery highlighted that Section 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibilities Act 2011 requires Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to secure the maintenance of an efficient and effective police force for their area. Police forces are key service providers and most of the policing and crime budget for an area is provided to the police force. PCCs have discretion to invest in crime and disorder reduction activities from their main police grant in respect of their responsibilities for community safety in their area. In addition, since October 2014, PCCs also have the responsibility for commissioning local victims’ services. PCCs receive grant funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to facilitate this.

In South Yorkshire the Commissioner consolidates the funding received from the MoJ Victims Fund, Home Office Early Intervention Youth Fund and additional funding from the Partnership and Commissioning Budget to create a ‘Victims of Crime Fund’. The total of this fund for 2019/20 was £2.9m.

The Commissioner uses this funding to commission a number of services to support victims including the Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre Service and the Victim Support Service.

S Baldwin confirmed that in April 2019, the Local Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) in South Yorkshire commissioned an assurance assessment of criminal justice agency compliance with the Victims Code of Practice.

In May 2019, the MoJ requested all PCCs (and their offices) to work directly with LCJB partners to review compliance against five entitlements. From this work a number of suggested areas of focus were identified.

S Chapman confirmed that a lot of these areas of focus are already well underway including the use of scrutiny panels and focus groups to capture the view of victims and ensuring victims are aware of the self-referral route and the referral mechanisms illustrated in the victim booklet.

M Buttery confirmed that work is taking place with all criminal justice partners.

S Baldwin highlighted the impact this work is having on victim satisfaction figures.

The Commissioner requested an update report in 6 months’ time.
IT WAS AGREED THAT:

- An update report on the key findings and suggested areas of focus relating to compliance against the Victims Code of Practice be presented to the Public Accountability Board in 6 months’ time

15 EFFECTIVENESS OF NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING - RESULTS OF PUBLIC VIEWS

M Buttery provided a verbal update on the effectiveness of neighbourhood policing and resulting public views.

M Buttery highlighted that the Commissioner had asked for reality testing to be undertaken to provide him with some reassured that neighbourhood policing and problem solving is embedded across the Force.

Support was provided by Chief Superintendent Scott Green in relation to what the public expect from neighbourhood policing. This included visibility, accessibility and tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.

The work has been undertaken by the Commissioner’s assurance staff supported by his engagement team. Surveys are being undertaken face to face to target people who would not usually undertake a survey. The target number of surveys is 6000 of which two thirds have now been completed.

Early findings are positive with members of the public seeing an improved presence.

An internal report will be available in April 2020.

16 PCC DECISIONS

The report was noted.

17 IEP EXCEPTION REPORT

A Lockley presented the Independent Ethics Panel's (IEP) exception report.

A Lockley confirmed that some aspects of this report had already been discussed as part of other agenda items.

The Panel had undertaken work on monitoring complaints and in particularly the complaints reforms. The Panel was reassured to hear that there were no concerns at the current time. The IEP’s lead member on complaints intends to undertake dip sampling in both the Professional Standards Department and the OPCC.

The lead member for stop and search had asked the Panel to consider an issue for the Force’s Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel. The Force would like to show the Panel Body Worn Video recording of the stop and search. The IEP agreed that there were no fundamental ethical considerations but data protection issues are currently being considered.
M Roberts highlighted how well the IEP was working, in particularly the lead members.

The Commissioner enquired whether the IEP had representation from across all districts. A Lockley acknowledged that the geographical spread could be better.

18 OPCC DELIVERY PLAN 2020/2021

A report of the Commissioner’s Chief Executive and Solicitor was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide and seek Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) approval of the OPCC Delivery Plan 2020 / 2021 in support of the Police and Crime Plan 2017-21 (Renewed 2019).

M Buttery referred to a copy of the plan on a page which has the Police and Crime Plan objectives at the top of the page. The Police and Crime Plan 2017-21 has not been refreshed as a result of the forthcoming PCC elections.

The blue section at the bottom of the Plan on a Page is what the OPCC will be delivering. This is supported by a high level narrative.

The high level narrative was circulated at the meeting.

M Buttery highlighted a number of activities to be undertaken including - refining the process for strategic planning (this is being looked at by the Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC)); the PCC elections; and the Violence Reduction Unit.

M Buttery highlighted a useful meeting which had taken place with key officers, the PCC, Chief Constable and the chairs of the assurance panels. The outcome of this meeting is referenced in Section 2, number 8. JIAC will amongst other things focus on processes which enable the realisation of benefits and outcomes, including the return on investments and the delivery of savings plans. The IEP will look at the workforce mix and leadership culture of the Force.

Section 3 looks at delivering activity and commissioning services. Section 4 focuses on partnership working including bolstering the role of Community Safety Partnerships.

The final section is communications Included in this is meaningful reporting to the public through reports to the Police and Crime Panel.

M Buttery confirmed that a lot will depend on the outcome of the PCC elections.

19 FORCE DELIVERY PLAN 2020/2021

A report of the Chief Constable was presented to the Board. The purpose of the report was to provide an update the Commissioner as to the Chief Constable’s plan to support the Police and Crime Plan 2017-21.

M Roberts confirmed that the Force recognises the Commissioner’s priorities and is conscious that there are a number of plans in place. The Force’s Plan on a Page sets out how it will deliver the Commissioner’s Police and Crime Plan.
The Force has an effective and comprehensive Performance Management Framework to support the Plan on a Page and deliver the Police and Crime Plan.

The monthly Force Performance Day focuses on strategic delivery of the Performance Management Framework, and local accountability sits within the district and departmental Quarterly Performance Reviews.

M Roberts highlighted that the Force would be focusing on key deliverables including response times and domestic abuse. The Force is also preparing for the uplift in police officer numbers and expects there to be a greater steer from government around this.

The Commissioner enquired if there was any danger that the Home Office would start to set targets. M Roberts confirmed that this would be a matter for the Home Office but whatever the requirements are the Force would deliver against them whilst delivering a good service to the public.

A Lockley confirmed that this had been discussed during the meeting with the Commissioner, Chief Constable and key officers from the Force and OPCC and this was something the IEP would be considering.

M Roberts highlighted Appendix 2 - HMICFRS Integrated PEEL Assessment 2018/19 which shows that the Force are now good or outstanding. One area has not been inspected - How effective are the force’s specialist capabilities? M Roberts confirmed that he was disappointed not to be inspected as the Force had managed to retain its capability in this area.

M Roberts commented that he hoped the report provided assurance to the Commissioner that the Force has clear arrangements in place to deliver performance against his Police and Crime Plan priorities.

20 PAB WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme was noted.

21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no any other business.

22 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

7 April 2020 at 10am, at Barnsley Town Hall, Church Street, Barnsley S70 2TA.
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<td>387</td>
<td>10/03/2020</td>
<td>An update report on the key findings and suggested areas of focus relating to compliance against the Victims Code of Practice be presented to the Public Accountability Board in 6 months' time</td>
<td>03/04/2020 - Added to the work programme for September</td>
<td>S Parkin</td>
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT
To provide an update to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) around progress against tackling crime and ASB priority of the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021 to support of the PCC’s overarching aim of South Yorkshire being a safe place in which to live, learn and work.

The tackling crime and ASB priority focusses on:

- South Yorkshire Police’s (SYP) understanding of current and future demand on policing services and how well SYP use this knowledge;
- The effectiveness of neighbourhood teams in working with partners, in listening to the public, and in helping to prevent and tackle crime and ASB;
- The rehabilitation of offenders and the reduction of reoffending;
- How well crime is understood, and how far it is being brought down;
- Whether SYP has the right workforce mix to deal with crimes such as serious and violent crime, cyber-crime and terrorism; and
- Public health approach to crime.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S) AND / OR DECISION(S) REQUIRED
The force recommends that the PCC considers and discusses the contents of this report and considers whether further assurance is required in relation to the progress made to meet the police and crime plan priority.

3 PERFORMANCE SUMMARY ASSESSMENT
This report will present a brief summary of some of our work undertaken in tackling crime and ASB. It is presented as ongoing changes in direction / workload are under consideration due to the impact of COVID-19, therefore subject to revision/reprioritisation.

South Yorkshire Police’s (SYP) understanding of current and future demand on policing services and how well SYP use this knowledge;

In understanding current and future demand the force planning cycle, which incorporates the Force Management Statement, delivers an assessment of incoming demands across the force, identifies mitigation and financial decision making, and provides HMICFRS with an understanding of the implications of unmitigated demands.
All business areas and thematic leads in the force support this process. This ensures the understanding of analytical forecasting insight and subject matter expertise is viewed in combination, to support a realistic prediction from which to base decision-making.

Additionally to this, the Tactical Change Board delivers oversight to the Demand Programme. Managed in the force’s Business Change and Innovation department, the programme delivers outputs for the following areas of work:

- **Safer South Yorkshire Programme**
  Shift-pattern options for the Switchboard and SDesk are being compiled for the Atlas Review full business case. Options for the Crime Management Unit are at the stage of process mapping and analysis, to inform this outline business case.
  
The Crime Review moves to Phase 2 business case for Local Intelligence Cells and the Force Intelligence Cell.
  
Demand and process analysis has been completed across Criminal Justice, linked to the ongoing case file build pilot to support appropriate resourcing options to be delivered within the business case.
  
A review of the local requirements for Domestic Abuse resourcing is currently underway, with the force Domestic Abuse lead and PVP Governance team working with BC&I in the development of a business case.

- **Demand analysis**
  Aligned with the HMICFRS Older Persons report and recommendations, an elderly demand dashboard has been completed and will be refreshed monthly. Information regarding repeat older person callers has been circulated to Districts to inform local problem solving activity.

- **Capacity management**
  BC&I, Workforce Planning, and Learning & Development units are working closely to progress actions from the Establishment and Deployment Board regarding future uplift delivery. Using specialist process modelling software (Simul8), the force is undertaking an impact assessment on the demands associated with the tutor requirements to deliver the PEQF programme, which is due to start in September 2020.
  
A ‘neighbourhood resource model’ has been built within Simul8 to support the Capacity and Demand Analytics Project, following from a review of response functions. Work now moves to include demand modelling for PVP teams.

- **Partnerships**
  Sheffield City Council (SCC) has supported SYP understanding of local delivery with their demand prediction model that visualises long-term planning data up to 2038. This has been further enhanced with the addition of planning data provided by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. The intent is that further data sets can be added to this model to give a long-term demand prediction across the force area. This product is intended to support police resourcing and facilities planning decisions. Additionally work with SCC has also progressed information sharing on
ASB demands across the partnership, and practical delivery aspects are now being considered by BC&I.

The effectiveness of neighbourhood teams in working with partners, in listening to the public, and in helping to prevent and tackle crime and ASB;

Neighbourhood policing is an area of intense activity and growth for South Yorkshire Police.

During 2019/20, the force has continued its drive to develop and reinforce its Neighbourhood Policing structures, overseen by a monthly Neighbourhood Policing Gold Group, chaired by the Assistant Chief Constable (Local Policing).

The force has a Neighbourhoods Action Plan, overseen by the Gold Group, with work-streams aimed at increasing the efficiency, well-being and capacity of Neighbourhood Policing Teams across the county. The Action Plan has Chief Inspector strand leads for the key areas of activity, enabling problem solving to reduce demand. An ‘SNS Strategic Intent Document’ records activity against each strand. The key activity strands are linked to the national Neighbourhood Policing Guidelines 2018:

- **Engagement** – the force has a strategic engagement plan in which neighbourhood policing plays a vital part. This ensures an overall co-ordinated approach to all communities through differing methodologies of delivery. Development of an engagement tracker to capture and measure this is underway.

- **Problem solving** - firmly embedded in the force approach to neighbourhood policing, and due to the positive impact of training within neighbourhoods, this is now being delivered to other portfolios – such as in our approach to emerging crimes, ensuring problem-solving underpins the force approaches to criminality.

- **Targeted activity** - this approach focuses efforts to problems, people and places objectively assessed as requiring greatest need around intervention and action. Demand analysis has supported this approach, leading to the recruitment and training of four community analysts within the Safer Neighbourhood Service Hubs.

- **Promoting the right culture** – alongside the launch of the NHP Strategy 2020-23, the force has relaunched neighbourhood teams with increased commitment evident in the allocation of 30 new police officers in February, and a further 48 to be invested in September through the Police Now scheme. This has been personally championed by Chief Constable Watson, to continue to deliver on the force intention to deliver an outstanding NHP service to South Yorkshire communities.

- **Develop analytical capacity** - current technical development is underway around measuring the effectiveness and benefits of neighbourhood policing to assist SYP understand the service delivery. This delivery will support building public confidence in their local police. Internally, a new neighbourhood dashboard enables quick access to a variety of datasets linked to locally identified concerns, providing a capability for monitoring by neighbourhood team supervisors and officers.

- **Developing officers, staff and volunteers** – the force has identified a newly designed and NPCC endorsed national training program for neighbourhood
officers, and are planning to review and implement this with a cyclical training plan for officers and staff when appropriate. Training opportunities around legal and civil powers has been identified to enhance service delivery around reduction in ASB and crime utilising a wider variety of powers. Training is planned with legal services to support this implementation.

Two of SYP’s Designing Out Crime Officers have become the first in the region to achieve the new Level 5 Diploma in Designing Out Crime. The new qualification is equivalent to a 2-year foundation degree and recognises their considerable experience in this specialist field - they work with architects, planning offices and developers to ensure that the buildings and projects undertaken today reduce the likelihood of a crime being committed in the future.

- **Developing shared learning** – The force has an internal neighbourhood policing page held on the national Knowledge Hub, and is looking to identify, develop and share knowledge utilising the national platform. SYP was also recently successful again in securing a finalist in the national problem solving Tilley Awards, evidencing on-going innovation and expertise within the workforce and wider partnership approach to delivery.

The management focus on delivery is achieved through monitoring the prevention and deterrence activity. To support this, problem solving is evident within all neighbourhood teams, which leads to demand reduction.

The force has also drawn on academia to inform its development and in December 2019 organised a series of masterclasses in problem solving for senior management. The masterclasses were delivered to both officers and staff, with sessions facilitated by experts in problem-solving, including Professor Stuart Kirby of Lancaster University, Gloria Laycock and Aiden Sidebottom of the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science. The sessions gave attendees an overview and evidence base for problem solving and problem-oriented policing, to enable management teams to support successful implementation of the approach.

Feedback from attendees after the masterclasses showed that 81% agreed that the knowledge they have gained from the masterclass would inform their approach to their work, and 93% agreed that they felt better prepared to embed a problem solving ethos within their teams.

The Problem Solving and Demand Reduction (PSDR) Programme, in collaboration with the College of Policing (CoP), and as part of a consortium led by University College London have launched guidance documents on ‘Implementing and Sustaining POP’ and ‘Successful Problem Solving’. These are designed to provide police and partners with the resources to develop their problem solving knowledge and skills, and sustainably implement it into their ways of working. In addition to the guides, a research report to provide a baseline to evaluate the implementation of Problem Solving practices across police forces in the UK is currently being created. The basis of this report, which will complement the guides, is an exploration and evaluation of the snapshot exercise of problem solving and demand reduction activities taking place across police forces nationally. The report will also include an assessment of the current enablers and barriers to successful problem solving within policing. The guides and report were commissioned as part of the evaluation portfolio of Problem Solving and the
Problem Solving and Demand Reduction Programme. The PSDR Programme, a three-year initiative led by South Yorkshire Police on behalf of all forces, was introduced to transform ways of working at a local, regional and national level and will conclude in March 2020.

During 2020, the Neighbourhood Policing Gold Group will oversee a review of the force’s four Safer Neighbourhood Service (SNS) Hubs to ensure that good practice is captured. The SNS Hubs core aims are:

- Early intervention;
- Demand reduction;
- Protecting vulnerable people; and
- Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.

In September 2020, activities are planned to be supported by an academic partnership with the University of Leeds, when a post-graduate PhD student will conduct research in force into ‘Protecting the Vulnerable through Neighbourhood Policing’.

The force lead is also working to define the appropriate governance structures with Local Authorities and strategic partners to ensure efficient service delivery across agencies around agreed priorities consistently to communities across South Yorkshire. This approach should maximise efficiency and effectiveness around reductions in crime and ASB, and protecting vulnerable people by delivering a more co-ordinated and holistic service around agreed priorities with local communities. The force continues to work regionally and nationally with the College of Policing and HMICFRS, working to develop best practice in our implementation of the national Neighbourhood Policing Guidelines.

The rehabilitation of offenders and the reduction of reoffending;

The force has four Integrated Offender Management (IOM) teams, concentrating on IOM nominals in each district. Each district has a Local Offender Management Panel (LOMP) in place to ensure multi agency information sharing and to identify offenders who need to be managed by the IOM units. Each LOMP holds a monthly meeting, which is attended by key stakeholders involved in the IOM process where the teams select, review and deselect nominals from the cohorts. There are two separate meetings held by the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and the National Probation Service (NPS). These meetings ensure that CRC and NPS have the same multi agency information sharing, to identify the offenders who are subsequently managed through the IOM process.

The overarching aim of each LOMP is to reduce reoffending through partnership working, with the emphasis being placed on offenders who want to engage and change their behaviour. Central governance is provided through the Offender Management Governance Group, which supports partnership working with the NPS and CRC.

Identification of nominals suitable for inclusion within the IOM arena is achieved through a process of data analysis, use of the ONS harm index, and internal intelligence. The main cohorts of nominals are linked to offences of Domestic Violence, Child Sexual Exploitation, Organised Crime Groups and Serious Acquisitive Crime. In addition to this work, each IOM team have a bespoke list of
additional responsibilities tailored to the needs of their particular district. These responsibilities include arresting prison recalls and the management and arrest of wanted people. Analytical resources and improvements to the force system enables the CRC team to identify suspects and support early intervention work.

The use of voluntary tagging for a pilot of six tags has been implemented recently within Sheffield. The scheme involves a GPS tag being fitted voluntarily, with the idea that this tag supports the offender in cutting ties with criminal associates, and consequently avoids being persuaded back into a criminal lifestyle. The force is currently reviewing the success of this scheme for the pilot cohort.

The force continues to build upon partnership working, which was positively recognised by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation during the last thematic joint IOM / CRC inspection, published in February 2020.

Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) are a series of partnership meetings between South Yorkshire Police, NPS, housing services, NHS and other partnership agencies. Offenders who are due to be released from prison are nominated for discussion at the meetings within which safeguarding arrangements will be put in place to take account of the potential risk of harm to the public. The nominal is monitored and discussed, usually until the end of their period of licence.

Since 2014, the force has used polygraph testing to assist in the management of dangerous offenders and protect vulnerable people. Testing has been conducted exclusively with Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) to date, and the polygraph capability is seen by the force as a successful pilot, which is expected to be replicated across other forces.

The number of RSOs in South Yorkshire has continued to rise on an annual basis, although the rate of this increase has reduced over recent years. More recently, the National Crime Agency (NCA) has forecast an increase in the number of sex offenders identified via social media platforms and therefore the force expects another rise in the rate of increase over the next 12-18 months. In order to cater for the anticipated increase in the number of RSOs following the changes made by the NCA, the force is now undertaking an assessment of its current operating models to understand the resourcing requirements, and allow the force to efficiently cater for this demand for the foreseeable future.

Management of Sexual and Other Violent Offender (MOSOVO) Officers are responsible for visiting offenders graded at least medium on a four grade risk assessment (Very high risk, high risk, medium risk, low risk). Within the last year the force has introduced a model whereby appropriate low risk offenders are visited by local neighbourhood teams who have received specialist training. Following each visit, neighbourhood officers liaise with the MOSOVO officers, who maintain responsibility for the management of the individual. This process change has allowed the MOSOVO officers to focus more on offenders who pose a higher risk in the community and allows the local neighbourhood officers who sit at the heart of communities to understand the local picture of residing sex offenders. A review of these processes is currently underway, to allow the force to understand the impact of this change.

All RSOs and their addresses are now marked on the force incident system, which alerts staff to any incidents involving an RSO taking place at their home address. The introduction of this good practice through the use of system flags has
enhanced the management of RSOs. This ensures all intelligence is captured regarding an RSO’s behaviour that may come to light through an incident at their home address.

How well crime is understood, and how far it is being brought down:
The Crime Survey for England and Wales (data up to September 19) was released by ONS on 23 January 2020. Within this national focus, there has been no significant change reported in overall crime levels, although increases in robbery, knife enabled offences and fraud have been recorded.

Levels of crime in South Yorkshire have been relatively stable, with the most recent 12 months to December 2019 recording an increase of victim-based crime of 0.5% (+646 offences), with a monthly average of 10,254 crimes, daily rate of 337 offences across South Yorkshire.

Areas of key crimes where volumes recorded are above those of peer forces and increasing in volume in the most recent 3-month period are:

- Most Serious Violence – In the 3 months to January 2020 there has been a 16% increase (69 offences) in volume compared to the same period of the previous year, for which a peak in December 2019 was recorded. The highest driver within this is for ‘Assaults with intent to cause serious harm’.
- Possession of Weapons – In the 3 months to January 2020, there has been a 14% increase (52 offences) in volume compared to the same period of the previous year. This is considered positive with the volume influenced with proactive policing work and elements of stop and search factor results within this category.

Burglary remains an area of focus with a 3% increase (430 offences) in the 12 months to January 2020. In March 2020, the Force Performance Day agenda reviewed the performance delivery for burglary offences from the initial response through to final outcome. There were positive elements of improved performance reported:

- Despite the increase in offences, there has been an improvement in response timeliness for burglary victims
- Of the finalised forensics burglary packages, 26% are detected to a person or provide corroborative evidence against a suspect.

There were also some areas where the force will work to improve:

- The average length of a burglary has increased from 24 days to 27 days in the last 12 months.
- Some issues of data quality exist for the time in custody where time is spent outside of the custody suite (e.g. hospital / bail)
- 90% of burglary investigations did not have a named suspect identified

Analytical review of burglary and links to concerns over the targeting of elderly people highlighted the existence of targeting for distraction burglaries (aligned with the national picture), indirect targeting of elderly people via burglary of high value properties in affluent areas, and no direct targeting of elderly people in hot spot areas for burglary.
Further tactical delivery is being progressed through the Burglary Gold Group. One element of this is Operation Shield, the force’s approach to reducing incidents of burglary by means of target-hardening, offender management and media led deterrence. This is broadening its scope in other ways and during 2020, will be increasingly used to deter and detect offending in repeat domestic abuse cases, particularly stalking, harassment and breaches of Court Orders. The force lead for Operation Shield commissioned a survey of households in areas first targeted for the Operations and these early results showed:

- 90% (78/87) of those with Smartwater reported being more aware of crime prevention measures for their home compared to 63% (27/43) for those who did not
- 65% (53/82) of those with Smartwater reported having more confidence in their local police compared to 38% (16/42) for those who did not
- 99% (89/90) of those with Smartwater said they would recommend it to others.

For those people who were surveyed and had taken advantage of the offer of Smartwater, comments highlighted satisfaction with service provided; the helpful and informative nature of the police officers who visited; and the easy functionality of the Smartwater system.

Crime levels are understood and scrutinised, and plans are in place to deal with emerging threats and longer-term areas of focus. Within South Yorkshire, the ethos is to encourage the reporting of crimes, especially for crime types which are known to be under-reported (e.g. sexual offences, hate offences, domestic abuse) and to record crimes accurately, in line with the Home Office Counting Rules. These elements enable the force to develop a true picture of criminality, being at this point in a better position of knowledge to effect problem-solving, actual change and operational efficiency. Scrutiny within the governance structures at both the strategic and operational level is present, with regular attendance from OPCC and HMICFRS to provide assurance to the internal delivery.

Whether SYP has the right workforce mix to deal with crimes such as serious and violent crime, cyber-crime and terrorism;

As previously stated, the process of the ‘right workforce’ is captured for the force through the planning cycle including the delivery of the HMICFRS Force Management Statement. The demands within serious and organised crime exist in a number of areas – some of which are listed below:

- The force area has over 140 mapped Organised Crime Groups (OCGs), the ongoing risk management of which is supported by Local Responsible Officers.
- Of the active OCG groups, 73% have drugs as their primary threat, and OCG conflict activity is often linked to control of the localised markets for illegal drugs. The majority of firearms offences are linked to OCGs.
- Knife crime is not linked in the same way to OCGs, and spans across all areas of police work across areas such as domestic abuse, youth offending and night time economy.
• The drugs market is a contributing factor for human trafficking offences with an increase seen in the number of cannabis factories linked to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT).
• Under-reporting for MSHT remains a concern for the force with partnership working focussed on increasing victim confidence in the police service to support their needs and bring offenders to justice.
• Cyber-crime has been increasing over the past few years and is likely to continue to do so as technological capabilities increase and as technology continues to improve at an ever increasing rate.

Some areas listed require an improvement of knowledge across the organisation. Cyber-crime is an example of this, where knowledge may be required as part of standard investigative practice across a large number of crime types. To support knowledge dissemination, 48 Digital Media Investigators have been trained across the force to improve the local capability and a module has been included within Street Skills training (regular training for uniform officers built into their shift pattern, which takes place throughout the year).

Demand is expected to rise not only from the ever-increasing reliance on digital devices, but also as training is delivered and officers understanding of technological opportunities increases. The fraud team triage all reports of fraud, compile extensive investigation plans, offer advice to investigating officers and allocate each investigation to the most appropriate department. The fraud team also have responsibility for filing all fraud investigations and submitting relevant returns to the NFIB or Action Fraud.

The Serious Violent Crime Task Force, whose delivery has been reported in previous PAB documents, continues to work in partnership with schools, social care and Children and Young Person Officers (CYPOs) to identify appropriate interventions. The aim is to prevent young people entering a life of organised crime, for which short-term impact is more difficult to evidence, but the investment is in the long-term reduction in criminality.

The force has a strong understanding of future demand in specialist areas. Where additional resources have been identified as being required, options have been identified for the most effective delivery and Operation Uplift has further facilitated support to specialist roles in; digital forensics, cyber-crime, firearms, investigative officer capacity and further resources within the area of serious violent crime. These posts will take time to recruit and embed, but the important focus is on the right workforce mix.

Public health approach to crime

In June 2019, the Home Office announced £35m of funding available for 18 police forces areas to establish violence reduction units that would take a public health approach to preventing and reducing violence. A successful bid was made in South Yorkshire, with £1.6m of funding awarded in August 2019. A number of requirements accompanied the grant, including: production of a needs assessment (area profile), development of a response strategy, and at least 20% of the funding to be spent on early intervention and prevention.
SYP recruited a public health professional to be Head of the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit (SYVRU), co-delivered alongside a Detective Superintendent post. The SYVRU works towards the public health approach to violence reduction.

Analysing what drives violence is imperative. These are often ‘social determinants’ or ‘structural factors’ and include things like: access to services, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), trauma, family and social support, education (schools, colleges and universities), housing, community cohesion, income, work and physical/mental health - all of which underpin people’s lives. These drivers illustrate the need for partnership working, especially with our communities – which has been the heart of the VRU approach. The volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous nature of violence (and the causes of it) makes collaboration across many professions and services essential. Each partner has access to different skills, levers and mechanisms to affect change.

In the nine months since the VRU inception, the unit now has a fully-operational team. One area of success was through the community working groups, where community members provided input into the response strategy prior to development, for which their time was reimbursed. The VRU initially listened to communities and asked them what they thought should go into it, then approaching other partners and adding their views, to produce the strategy-on-a-page. This method was successful in strengthening relationships, providing rich information and ensuring that communities are at the heart of the violence reduction unit.

Over 50% of the funding has been provided to support early intervention and prevention, through the provision of:

- Hospital and Custody Navigators (to support those who receive a violent injury or who are arrested for a violence related offence, to make positive changes in their lives),
- Assertive Outreach Workers (to work with those who frequently go missing from home),
- A Community Violence Reduction Fund (which supported 25 organisations to carry out preventative activity with young people and adults),
- A Fortify fund (which provided funding for partner organisations working to reduce serious and organised crime),
- Mentors in Violence Prevention (which takes a bystander approach and focuses on healthy norms),
- Domestic Abuse Matters (training for frontline staff across South Yorkshire),
- A Shed Load of Cakes (aiming to give people with previous convictions fair employment at the living wage and support them to develop their skills),
- YOYO sport (providing sporting activities for young people), and more!

The unit has worked closely with academic leads within the N8 Policing Research Partnership and have submitted a bid for some funding to explore the use of knife crime imagery and impacts on young people.

One key programme is the ‘Plan B’ Custody Navigator programme. Custody Navigators are based in the custody suites between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday, and offer young people a ‘Plan B’ whilst they are detained in custody. This time in custody is seen as a moment where the young person may be most responsive to support and guidance – known as a ‘teachable moment’. The scheme is run by City Hearts and starting in Shepcote Lane Police Station, with rollout to Doncaster and Barnsley in 2020.
The custody navigators will engage and listen to those detained in custody and seek to understand how they have become involved in criminality. They will provide help and support aimed to steer them away from criminality and support them on a more positive journey. Plan B is not an alternative to the criminal justice system and proceedings will continue accordingly.

In the two months they have been operating, the Plan B Custody Navigators have engaged 34 detainees arrested for a violence-related offence. Twelve of the detainees are receiving ongoing support from the programme. Of these, four have enrolled with a college, five are receiving therapeutic trauma counselling and three have started new jobs. It is a promising start to the programme and more importantly offering a fresh start to the individuals involved.

Similarly, the VRU has been working with hospital Emergency Departments within the county to create a post of ‘patient navigator’. The role of the patient navigator is to engage with victims of knife and gun crime presenting at emergency departments, some of whom will have no contact with the police linked to their injury. This offers a multi-agency approach to divert the victim away from a lifestyle which attracts this type of offending. Academic research suggests that engaging with victims at key times of trauma such as attending an emergency department may influence future lifestyle choices.

A large part of the VRU remit is in setting the strategic leadership and direction for the force’s public health approach. As part of this, an event was held in January 2020 to bring together over 150 stakeholders involved in caring for looked after children. The aim was to identify the processes for improvement and upskill staff in the prevention and reduction of missing episodes. The event led to the development of a South Yorkshire wide missing from home and care protocol, from which the VRU will be delivering four bespoke training packages on joint-decision making for social workers and care workers, to support improved understanding and management of risk. This will support the aim of all parties in minimising necessary police contact with young people, and potentially reducing levels of criminalisation of young people.

The VRU is now in a position to further bid for Home Office funding into 2020/21. This is considered an excellent opportunity to support longer-term delivery plans and ensure existing delivery is embedded in South Yorkshire.

4 FUTURE DIRECTION/DEVELOPMENT

Over the next 12-months, our focus includes:

- focus on delivering our services to meet public needs and expectations;
- working with our communities to solve local problems;
- continue activity in delivery of prevention approaches for crime, designing methods pertinent to the problems we face
- tackling knife crime and violence through our developing public health approach and funding for serious violence; and
- supporting the uplift in areas to deliver specialist capability such as those linked to serious and organised criminality.
5 COMMUNICATION PLANS / CONSIDERATIONS

Officers across the frontline of SYP are being asked to complete a feedback survey on how digital mobility in South Yorkshire Police can be improved to support local delivery. A survey from the national Frontline Digital Mobility (FDM) Programme, designed to ensure the voice of the frontline is heard in decisions, is looking to understand how officers use mobile devices like smartphones and laptops to assist in their role. Since the rollout of the laptops and mobile devices, much positive feedback has been received but the digital team is keen to ensure all opportunities for maximising effective use of systems have been considered.

6 EXCEPTION REPORTING

The force continues to prioritise a response to 999 delivery and this is considered paramount to the contingency plans for COVID-19. All districts and departments have reviewed business continuity plans, and force resources and assets are being appropriately deployed, based on the daily incoming demands. This involves critical but unseen demand areas such as OCG management, and the management of violent and sexual offenders.

At the time of writing (18 March 2020), the national picture of requirements is changing on a daily basis. To support employee understanding and safety, there is a dedicated intranet page for force updates, forcewide emails are being used for critical instructions and a daily strategy meeting is being chaired by ACC David Hartley. Local briefings are being held internally and with partners, and plans are in place to support ongoing delivery. The scale of potential impact on policing resources over time is to date unprecedented, but the force is currently in a strong position to offer employee support and maintain an emergency response for the public.

All delivery timescales for force business are subject to the impact of COVID-19, which cannot be accurately predicted at this time.

Chief Officer Lead: Deputy Chief Constable Mark Roberts

Report Author: T/ Strategic Performance Manager Tania Percy
PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

7TH APRIL 2020

BARNSLEY DISTRICT OPERATIONAL DELIVERY UPDATE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update to the Police & Crime Commissioner in relation to local operational delivery of the Police & Crime Plan in Barnsley, in accordance with the plan's reporting requirements.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S) AND / OR DECISION(S) REQUIRED

The Police & Crime Commissioner is recommended to consider the contents of this update and consider whether and when further assurance or updates are required in relation to local policing and partnership working activities in Barnsley.

Chief Officer Lead:
ACC David Hartley

Report Author:
T/Chief Superintendent Sarah Poolman
Barnsley District Commander
PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

7th APRIL 2020

SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE REPORT

BARNSLEY DISTRICT OPERATIONAL DELIVERY UPDATE

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3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3.1 This report will outline the key operational activities in Barnsley using the following headings – Performance, Neighbourhood Policing & Protecting the Vulnerable, Understanding and Preventing Crime, Tackling Crime & Delivering Excellent Victim-Led Service, Innovation and Looking Forward to 2020/21.

3.2 Performance - Barnsley continues to develop its empowering performance management regime that has so far delivered significant improvements to response times, more timely management of threat and demand with the lowest ever number of outstanding suspects, whilst also ensuring that our neighbourhood, investigative and proactive teams are protected to focus on prevention and demand reduction. Our drive, determination and supportive regime has resulted in overall crime stability, ongoing reductions in key crime types such as burglary and sustained delivery around victim satisfaction.

3.3 Neighbourhood Policing - In the SNS hub, we have taken the learning and experience from our problem-solving approach to those with complex and multiple needs and applied it to repeat domestic abuse, enabling us to protect the vulnerable, build trust and confidence and bring offenders to justice. The locality neighbourhood teams continue to work hard to tackle those issues most affecting their communities and in February, we launched the 6th neighbourhood policing team, based at Hoyland, marking the final step in the structural reinvigoration of neighbourhood policing and providing enhanced visibility and enforcement capability in those lower confidence wards.
3.4 **Understanding and Preventing Crime** – having achieved a 16% reduction in burglary in 2018/19, we have been working hard to achieve further reductions in burglary in 2019/20 and we are on track to achieve this. We have invested further resource in our proactive capability, launching our Fortify team in January 2020 and have refreshed our burglary strategy and delivery plan to ensure that we achieve our ambitions. We continue to maximise our use of stop search and our partnership working to tackle recidivist offenders.

3.5 **Tackling Crime & Delivering Excellent Victim-Led Service** – recognising the vulnerability inherent in domestic abuse, we are committed to improving our response to domestic abuse. The multi-tiered investment in domestic abuse over the last year from the creation of the DA team, the co-location of our Independent Domestic Abuse Service (IDAS) with our response function, the problem solving approach to repeat DA and additional training provided to all staff is reaping rewards with improvements in both arrest and outcome rates over recent months.

3.6 **Innovation** – Since January 2020, Barnsley District, on behalf of the force, has been testing a new file build model, with a team of file builders working alongside officers to take their evidence and create case files. Early results and feedback suggest that it is improving the quality of files and thereby increasing prosecutions and providing better victim service as well as freeing up capacity for officers to focus on preventing and investigating crime.

Barnsley also have some bold ambitions under the Sustainability Strategy.

3.7 **Looking Forward to 2020/21** - we look forward to both the new recruits and the experienced returners that will join us over the next year that will enable us to drive forward our ambition to make Barnsley safer.

4. **PERFORMANCE**

4.1 **Performance Management** – Barnsley District continue to review and refine its approach to performance management in order to increase our efficiency and productivity and improve the service we provide to the communities of Barnsley. Our weekly performance regime continues to evolve, but provides clarity regarding our objectives and expectations, encourages innovation by individuals and teams and seeks to understand rises and falls in performance so that we learn and implement sustainable approaches.

This approach is yielding improvements across many areas of our business, enabling improved management of threat and harm through expeditious attendance and arrests, timely investigations, and better service to victims.

The graphs below show continuous reductions in total outstanding suspects and priority crime suspects since October 2019 to the lowest level seen in Barnsley. In addition, by working hard to manage threat and demand, the workload burden on our staff is reduced, thereby improving their wellbeing.
By managing our reactive demand, we have been able to not only protect, but invest more in our neighbourhood and proactive resources so that we can be sure that we are doing our very best to prevent crime and reduce demand.

4.2 **Overall Crime** - In terms of crime, figure 3 below shows that reported crime in Barnsley is stable with 24,356 crimes recorded between March 2018 and February 2019, compared to 24,565 recorded between March 2019 and February 2020. This equates to less than 1% increase year-on-year, compared to the national average of a 3% increase.

4.3 **Response Times** - Keeping people safe and making them feel safe often means getting the right resource to them quickly and safely. Having made vast improvements in the 6 months preceding the last PAB report, as predicted, the improvements have slowed down and we are now focussing our attention on maintaining our response times over a large geographic area and identifying marginal gains to further improve our response to victims. Timely attendance not only makes the caller feel safe, but in turn enables us to be more effective in terms of securing the evidence, detaining offenders and achieving the right outcomes for victims.
Figure 4 shows the significant improvement and maintenance of that position over recent months. Our median response time to emergencies now sits just over 11 minutes and is consistently below the 15 minute target.

We have adopted the same intrusive approach to priority incidents and, having halved our priority response times between April and October 2019, we have continued to make further gains, reducing our median from 48 minutes to below 45 minutes – see Figure 5.

Our response time to burglary also continues to improve from just over an hour to a median of 54 minutes in the last 3 months. This clearly has significant benefits in terms of victim reassurance as well as evidence gathering and bringing offenders to justice and this is reflected in the continuing high satisfaction rates (92%) for burglary victims.

5 NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

Barnsley District remains at the forefront of Neighbourhood Policing (NHP) via its multi-agency NHP teams and Safer Neighbourhood Service (SNS). Whilst the locality NHP teams focus on understanding and tackling local priorities, the SNS seeks to deal holistically with people with complex and multiple needs that lead to increased demand on the police and other agencies. Despite their differences, both rely on a partnership problem-solving approach to deliver on key elements of our plan on a page – to protect the vulnerable, prevent crime and harm and tackle crime and ASB.

In February, our 6th neighbourhood team was created as a result of the PCSO Review and the additional police officers it has made available to us. This team covers the Rockingham, Hoyland, Darfield and Wombwell wards, previously serviced by the Goldthorpe team. This is a great achievement and marks the final step in the structural reinvigoration of neighbourhood policing in Barnsley with the alignment of policing teams with the 6 Area Councils. Having a dedicated team will enable us to better tackle those issues that most affect these communities and build trust and confidence. The team are currently based at Goldthorpe, but will be moving into Hoyland Police Station as soon as the renovations are complete.
5.1 **Problem-Solving to prevent harm and reduce demand** – Recognising that Domestic Abuse is frequently complex with many push pull factors, we have used the experience and learning that our SNS Hub officers have acquired over the last 3 years and applied it to repeat victims and perpetrators of Domestic Abuse. Since September 2019, we have a dedicated repeat DA Hub officer who uses the POP approach to proactively tackle repeat domestic abuse, and work alongside IDAS, mental health, and substance abuse services to better protect the vulnerable and reducing demand.

**Case Study** - The victim first contacted us in January 2019 to report ongoing harassment from her estranged husband. This was investigated, he had bail conditions (which he breached) but CPS made the decision to NFA this matter. The victim did, however, get a Non-molestation order and occupation order. In March, May and June 2019, the suspect breached his non-molestation order on 5 separate occasions and was charged with this and a restraining order was put in place in August 2019. In September 2019, the victim reported a further breach as her children had received letters from the suspect, however, the attending officer filed the crime as it was deemed not to breach his conditions. From September onwards the victim made no contact with SYP on 101/999.

The DA officer proactively contacted the victim and spoke to her IDAS worker. It became apparent that the victim had little faith in the Police, felt we had not taken her seriously and still felt harassed by her ex-husband who didn’t want to accept the relationship was over. The DA officer persevered with the victim, listened to her and she became more open. The DA officer worked with the victim to get the restraining order varied, demonstrating to the victim that SYP would help her. Following this, the victim started to report numerous incidents to the officer directly as this meant that she didn’t have to explain her situation to a new call handler and then a new officer every time.

The proactivity and commitment enabled the officer to build the bigger picture of the husband’s behaviour and is now awaiting a charging decision from CPS for stalking.

**Learning from this approach:**

- Officer continuity - Repeat victims do not have to keep explaining the background.
- A non-judgmental approach, building trust with repeat victims.
- Regular and effective liaison with IDAS, obtaining real-time feedback from victims, which has led to early service recovery and improved victim satisfaction.
- A coordinated multi-agency approach to repeat DA enables underlying issues to be tackled.

This is just one example of how we are using problem solving across other areas of business and having an impact on victims, offenders and the wider community.

Across the NHP portfolio, there are currently the following POP plans:

- 35 on high demand individuals (repeat callers/MFHs/offenders)
- 9 for repeat and vulnerable victims (RVVs)
- 7 on repeat domestic abuse cases
- 18 on high demand/ vulnerable locations (BDGH, children’s homes, ASB hotspots)
5.2 **Understanding and Tackling Local Priorities** – To ensure that we are listening as widely as possible to our communities and are therefore better able to respond to those issues that affect them the most, we have restructured the PACT process and are making the most use of the new survey facility on SYP Alerts+. 238 surveys have been completed so far and we are working with the provider to ensure that the data can be extracted down to ward level to really inform us about what our communities think and feel.

Current PACT priorities across the district focus mainly on drug dealing and ASB. Figure 6 below outlines the priorities as given by respondents of the Your Voice Counts Survey. The surveys are broadly reflecting the same issues and therefore our efforts remain firmly focussed on these issues.

In response, we have done the following:

1. **Burglary** – we have refreshed our burglary strategy, in which there are 3 core objectives:
   - Reduced volumes of recorded Burglary Residential and Commercial in Barnsley - There have been increased patrols by both uniformed and plain clothed officers in hotspot areas and attrition visits paid to recidivist offenders. Roads Policing and other force assets have also been assisting us to deter and catch cross-border offenders.
   - Increased “Action Taken” Outcomes and in particular Outcome 1: Charge for Burglary – Daily and weekly review of burglary investigations to ensure investigative opportunities are maximised and charges from CPS. A robust process is in place to expedite all forensics hits, resulting in a 45% conversion rate in January 2020, highest in the force.
   - Increased public confidence through reducing the fear of burglary – we have been rolling out Op Shield Smartwater kits in the areas most affected by burglary since December 2019, with good take-up (350 kits in Penistone alone).
2. Drugs – Our ability to tackle drug dealing has improved as we have made a concerted effort to increase the flow of intelligence from our communities over the last year. This has enabled us to secure and execute 97 Misuse of Drugs Act search warrants in 2019, and 13 by mid-February 2020. Through our OCG partnership board, we strive to continually disrupt and prosecute members of those OCGs that blight the lives of many and affect their communities through drug dealing. The creation of our Fortify Team in January 2020 has provided additional capacity to tackle OCGs and prolific drug dealers.

3. ASB – In Goldthorpe and Bolton-upon-Dearne, the behaviour of a group of 12-15 year olds was deteriorating from involvement in ASB to violence and criminal damage and was disproportionately affecting the elderly and more vulnerable within that community. Recognising that this issue required a multi-agency response as well as enforcement to fundamentally tackle this behaviour, the neighbourhood team:
   - convened a strategy meeting and secured support from both YOT and children’s services
   - put in place a S.35 Dispersal Order and secured support from force assets to enforce this over several weeks
   - delivered inputs to the local schools
   - conducted joint visits to parents and carers
   - diverted the majority, but are pursuing CJ outcomes against the ringleaders
   - engaged with residents and MP, updated them on actions

There have been no further reported issues from this group, trust and confidence in the police has increased with positive feedback from the residents group, one of whom has now joined the Barnsley IAG.

Our proactive, multi-agency operations in the town centre also continue, with 4 days of action in January 2020 and further activity in March. As a result of the concerted efforts to tackle those responsible for repeat ASB in the town centre, Criminal Behaviour Orders have been prepared, in conjunction with CPS, on all of the top 12 nominals, with the main offender going to court at the beginning of April.

All of the above priorities featured on our recent Op Duxford on 12th March, resulting in:
   - 2300 people engaged
   - 17 arrests
   - 4 PSPO dispersals
   - 10 vehicle seizures
   - Off road bike operation
6. UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING CRIME

6.1 Burglary and other Serious Acquisitive Crime - in 2018/19, there were significant reductions in burglary and other serious acquisitive crime in Barnsley:

- Burglary 16.6%
- Theft 12%
- Vehicle Offences 11%
- Robbery 4%

Barnsley have been working hard to maintain this position and as can be seen from the figure 7 below, we are on track to achieve a further reduction in both residential and commercial burglary this year. Figure 7:

This improving picture for burglary has been achieved through seasonal analysis, scanning and daily focus on those prolific offenders that will commit a significant number of offences within a very short time period and, therefore, require positive and early intervention.

Our refreshed burglary strategy outlined above will build on the successes over the past 2 years and, through our new Fortify team, focus heavily on intelligence gathering and bringing offenders to justice as well safeguarding our communities in partnership.

6.2 Stop Search - As a result of our increased proactivity and focus on tackling those issues that affect our communities the most, our use of stop search has remained high over the last few months. However, of equal importance to the number is the positive outcome rate as this is
an indicator that the power is being used appropriately. As can be seen, we are maintaining a 21% positive outcome rate. Our Community Challenge Board provides an extra and independent layer of scrutiny, reviewing stop searches and providing feedback, which assures us of the legitimacy of this tactic.

6.3 **Use of Orders** - Having invested in the SNS at the earliest stages, we developed expertise and were ‘lawfully audacious’ in the use of ancillary orders to prevent crime and harm. As the first area to make use of Civil Injunctions, we have not stood still and have sought feedback from the judiciary, resulting in a greater emphasis on CBOs and the embedding of a streamlined process through IOM in order to ensure that CBOs are applied for at the earliest opportunity for recidivist offenders.

Orders currently in place:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Civil Injunctions</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 due in court</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.4 **Working with Partners to prevent re-offending** - Our embedded partnership approach around our most prolific offenders is key to both preventing harm to our communities but also engaging with the individual and assisting them on a pathway away from criminality. Members of CRC work within the SNS Hub and our IOM team are embedded within the National Probation Service. CRC have been applauded for their ‘Enhanced Through the Gate’ Programme, which looks at the underlying reasons for committing crime and attempts to put in place steps that will reduce the risk of re-offending.

7. **Tackling Crime & Delivering an Excellent Victim-led Service**

7.1 **Domestic Abuse** – as has been demonstrated through our proactive problem-solving approach to repeat DA, Barnsley district are committed to taking positive action and providing the best outcome for the victim.

In June 2019, we created a dedicated Domestic Abuse team to own all high-risk domestic abuse, providing high quality service to the victim and drive for positive outcomes to break the offending cycle. However, it was recognised that the vast majority of domestic abuse still sits with response teams and as a result, the DA team has been expanded to include a process unit that will deal with all domestic abuse prisoners.

Recognising that victim attrition in DA is high and often occurs within hours of reporting an incident, Barnsley District has taken action to reduce the time taken to provide wider support to victims of DA by having IDAS co-located with our response teams. This means that a victim can give consent to immediately receive a call from the IDAS worker and be offered support and signposting within hours of the incident occurring. We have seen an increased take-up
of IDAS support, positive feedback from victims and better understanding of DA by officers as a result of IDAS briefing our staff and engaging with them.

We now also hold Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse meetings (MADA) at which the police, IDAS and children’s social care discuss high-risk cases, ensuring fast-time safeguarding actions are undertaken.

Daily scrutiny ensures that there is a presumption in favour of arrest, safeguarding is put in place immediately and that offenders are prevented from causing further harm through the imposition of bail conditions or application for a Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO).

As a result:

1. Our arrest rate has increased and is at 48.4% average over the last 12 weeks
2. Our charge and action taken rate has increased substantially over recent months – see figure 8 below – which means that more offenders are being brought to justice
3. Our satisfaction rate is second highest in the force (82%) with the highest satisfaction in terms of both actions taken and follow up by officers.

7.2 Most Serious Violence (MSV) - Barnsley District continues to have the lowest number of offences categorised as ‘Most serious violence’ in the force – see figure 9.

However, since Christmas, we experienced an increased number of organised crime group (OCG) related MSV incidents. Analysis has been undertaken and has confirmed that these incidents are not connected. Investigations continue into many of these incidents, however, individuals have been charged in relation to the most serious and are currently on remand.
Our aim is to make Barnsley a hostile environment for those who seek to benefit from organised crime and prevent the exploitation of vulnerable people. The new Fortify team provides dedicated owners of each OCG with neighbourhood teams delivering on local disruption.

Work is ongoing through targeted patrols as well as raising awareness through schools and the Youth Council to tackle MSV, organised crime and child exploitation, but it is widely recognised that this cannot be achieved by SYP in isolation and is a shared priority for the partnership. Our multi-agency organised crime board, crime sub-group under the Safer Barnsley Partnership and Barnsley Safeguarding Children Partnership Board are all cognisant of the legal duty to prevent and tackle serious violence and are coordinating their work to ensure that we are delivering against this priority. Several Barnsley organisations secured funding from the Violence Reduction Unit in December 2019 and work is ongoing to ensure further bids are submitted following the announcement of continued funding in 2020/21. The tri-local authority initiative to tackle child exploitation, ‘Epic’, continues to engage with young people and those involved in/on the periphery of OCGs and associated violence, however, this funding ceases at the end of March 2020. There are ongoing discussions as to how this work can continue.

7.3 Financial Team - Barnsley is the only district to have its financial investigators embedded locally. Since June 2019, this very small team (2 members of staff) have proactively involved themselves in diverse areas of policing from high risk missing person enquiries, the disruption of OCGs and reactive investigations through to the systematic review and follow-up on unpaid orders from the past.

In the 10 months this team has existed, they have recovered £88,300 compared to £5,000 the year before. In order to increase their capacity and therefore their ability to ‘make crime pay’, it has been agreed that staffing within this team will be increased within the next few months.

8. INNOVATION

8.1 File Build Pilot – Barnsley District was chosen to test a file build model whereby experienced Criminal Justice Unit police staff take the relevant information from officers and convert this into a quality file in a timely manner. This not only reduces the cost per file, but more importantly provides a speedier journey for victims, bringing offenders to justice and increasing satisfaction and confidence amongst our communities.

The pilot has been running since the 6th January and over 200 cases have been built through this process and submitted to CPS. The feedback from both officers and the police staff has been really positive:

“It’s so much better being here and dealing with a file from start to finish. Much more job satisfaction. I feel like I am really helping with getting the criminals to court and freeing up the officers.” File Build Officer
“I’ve only been in the job 2 years, so I have only ever known Connect. But this new system is so much better! I am getting more time to be out, being proactive.” Police Constable

8.2 **Sustainability** – in line with the refreshed Sustainability Strategy and wider recognition of the Climate emergency, Barnsley District is striving to be the first single-use plastic free police station. This will mean the removal of vending machines that supply single-use plastics and officers will be encouraged to bring their own bottle and drink more healthily!

We are also working with Fleet Management to ensure maximum efficiency of our vehicles and with Procurement to purchase energy efficient, sustainable products.

9. **LOOKING FORWARD TO 2020/21**

Recruitment - The first half of 2020/21 will see the arrival of 34 new recruits to Barnsley District, in addition to a further 8 coming into neighbourhood policing under the Police Now scheme. Under the national 30+ scheme, we are also seeking to retain the skills and experience of the retiring or recently retired police officers. This will enable us to further deliver against local priorities, serious acquisitive crime and the most serious criminality.

From September 2020, the force will be launching the Policing Education Qualifications Framework (PEQF), which marks a substantial change in the professionalisation of the training of police recruits. This framework will ensure that police officer training mirrors that of other professional bodies with academic (degree-level) qualifications underpinning operational training. From the first two cohorts, 30 new recruits are destined for Barnsley post initial training and recruitment is ongoing for later cohorts.

Accommodation - the renovation of Hoyland will be completed in the summer, enabling the new neighbourhood team to move in and provide increased visibility and enforcement capability across those 4 wards. We have also secured approval to reconfigure and refurbish Wombwell Police Station in 2020/21 in order to make maximum use of this estate.

10. **CONCLUSION**

Barnsley District, working in partnership, continues to deliver against these key priorities for the communities of Barnsley. The district, whilst proud of the service it provides, is not complacent and strives to be innovative in its approach and to constantly look for alternative, more efficient and effective ways of working.

Chief Officer Lead:
ACC Dave Hartley

Report Author:
Temp Chief Superintendent Sarah Poolman
Barnsley District Commander
1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To set out the Police & Crime Commissioner’s (PCC’s) focus for 2020-21, for the duration of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.

2 RECOMMENDATION(S) AND / OR DECISION(S) REQUIRED

To consider and discuss any matters arising from this report.

3 SUMMARY – PCC’s FOCUS FOR 2020-21

3.1 It has been necessary for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to consider the PCC’s role and responsibilities as a result of two unforeseen events:

- The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic which as disrupted all aspects normal life in almost every country in the world, including the UK
- The postponement, as a result, of the 2020 PCC elections to 7 May 2021

3.2 The PCC had already determined that the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan should remain for the coming period and now that his term has been extended to 2021 he reaffirms them. They are:

- Protecting vulnerable people
- Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
- Treating people fairly

3.3 However, the emergency situation created by COVID-19 means that business cannot be as usual. In order to respond to the emergency and fulfil his statutory responsibilities, the PCC’s focus will, therefore, be on:

- Ensuring the Chief Constable has sufficient resources to respond to the emergency
- Ensuring, on behalf of the public, that the police respond in ways that are necessary, sufficient, proportionate and ethical (holding to account)
- Facilitating effective partnership working among agencies and groups working in community safety, violence reduction and criminal justice
- Commissioning and co-commissioning services, particularly for victims of crime, and providing grants for policing and anti-crime purposes

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1 The Home Office has confirmed that PCCs are under no obligation to issue new Police and Crime Plans. (APCC GEM 39/2020)
With this in mind, the plan annexed to this cover report (at **Annex 1**) has been written to clarify the PCC’s new focus during the current COVID-19 crisis and beyond, in line with his statutory responsibilities.

4 **BACKGROUND**


3.2 On 3 March 2020, the Prime Minister introduced the government’s coronavirus action plan of measures for the UK, following a declaration of *‘threat to public health’* under regulation 3 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020. The PM has since held a series of Cabinet Office Briefing Room A (COBRA) meetings to develop the government’s strategy for the coronavirus.

3.3 The government’s COVID-19 strategy provides the framework for the UK’s response, with Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) co-ordinating the local response.

3.4 On 23 March 2020, the government announced restrictions aimed at reducing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). These restrictions asked people not to leave their homes except for:

- shopping for basic necessities, as infrequently as possible;
- one form of exercise a day - for example a run, walk, or cycle - alone or with members of your household;
- any medical need, to provide care or to help a vulnerable person; and
- travelling to and from work, but only where this is absolutely necessary and cannot be done from home.

3.5 The Coronavirus Act 2020 (the Act) received Royal assent on 25 March 2020. The Act broadly continues and supplements measures within the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020, and aims to support the government’s strategy by:

- increasing the available health and social care workforce
- easing the burden on frontline staff
- containing and slowing the virus
- managing the deceased with respect and dignity
- supporting people

3.6 The Act introduces powers for the police (see **Appendix A**) to enforce the government’s restrictions and so help prevent significant further transmission of the virus. The Act also delays local and PCC elections that were due to take place on 7 May 2020, until 6 May 2021, and amends existing legislation enabling courts and tribunals to make use of live video or audio links.

4 **THE PCC’S MODIFIED GOVERNANCE MEETINGS**

5.1 The plan at **Annex 1** includes reference to the PCC having determined that his key governance and assurance meetings **should** continue to take place as part of the checks and balances the public would expect to see. These will now be held **virtually** to comply with social distancing.
5.2 In relation to future meetings of the PCC’s Public Accountability Board (PAB), the PCC will invite the Chief Constable to provide an update on key issues of public interest related to the police response to COVID-19.

5.3 The OPCC will also present a report to the PCC’s PAB meeting based on information collated through its engagement with the public and partners, and relevant correspondence and complaints addressed to the PCC. The first of these reports is attached (ANNEX 2).

5.4 Information of public interest from these meetings will be published on the PCC’s website in accordance with the PCC’s COVID-19 Publication Strategy.

5.5 More details regarding future PAB meetings, including their frequency, work programme and how to get involved, will also be published on the PCC’s website.

5 NATIONAL SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 There are a number of other supporting arrangements of note.

6.2 The Minister of State for Crime, Policing and the Fire Service, Kit Malthouse, has put in place weekly briefings to ensure PCCs are provided up to date information, as well as providing a route for local issues to be raised nationally for consideration. The PCC has already raised a number of concerns, issues and risks in this forum.

6.3 The Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) is the national body bringing together the views of PCCs and working with the Home Office and National Police Chiefs Council to influence policing and crime policy at a national level. The APCC is providing guidance and daily updates regarding all policing and crime coronavirus matters.

7 SOUTH YORKSHIRE ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 The South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF) brings together frontline responders and other agencies with a significant role to play in managing and recovering from the effect of emergencies in the county. The LRF’s COVID-19 Strategic Co-ordinating Group is developing multi-agency emergency plans to mitigate the impact of the current COVID-19 outbreak on the communities of South Yorkshire. The most senior leaders from each of the relevant organisations are represented on this Group. South Yorkshire Police’s representative is Assistant Chief Constable Hartley.

6.2 The PCC receives regular updates from ACC Hartley, and from the OPCC’s Engagement & Communications Manager who attends and supports the LRF’s Communications Sub Group. This sub group collates updates from partner organisations to circulate on a daily basis, and co-ordinates key internal and external messages.

6.3 South Yorkshire Police has put in place Gold, Silver and Bronze Command structures to provide strategic, operational and tactical leadership and co-ordination of the Force’s response to COVID-19. The Force’s Gold Group is chaired by ACC Hartley. Some of the work so far has included:

- the establishment of a Coordination Unit to monitor the availability of Force resources
- table top exercises to assess the potential impact on service delivery of various scenarios and the mitigating actions necessary
• enhanced cleaning regimes at all three police custody suites, and at the call-handling centre at Atlas Court, in order to minimise transmission of the virus
• daily telephone conference calls across the four forces in the Yorkshire and the Humber region to share information and learning.

6.4 The PCC’s Chief Executive and Engagement & Communications Manager now participate in these Gold Group meetings.

8. THE OPCC’S BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLANNING

7.1 The OPCC has put in place a Business Continuity Plan (BCP), designed to help the OPCC cover all core functions which will enable the PCC to discharge his statutory responsibilities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

7.2 In line with government guidance, the PCC and all OPCC staff are working from home, enabled by technology. The aim is to provide ‘business as usual’ as far as possible in what is a dynamically changing situation.

7.3 Shortly after the 3 March declaration of the threat to public health from COVID-19, all providers of PCC commissioned services were asked to provide their Business Continuity Plans for consideration by the OPCC’s Partnerships & Commissioning Manager. These are currently being assessed as to the robustness of plans, management of risks and the sustainability of providers and services.

7.4 The OPCC is also conducting assurance activity to ensure victims, witnesses and offenders are receiving required services, and continuity of service.

9. THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

9.1 The Police and Crime Panel (PCP) is responsible for supporting, reviewing and scrutinising the PCC in the exercise of his functions.

9.2 Discussions have taken place between the OPCC and PCP administrators to develop suitable arrangements to allow the PCP to effectively carry out its responsibilities. National guidance on the arrangements is anticipated.

Report author:

Michelle Buttery, Chief Executive & Solicitor, OPCC
NEW POLICE POWERS

- Officers will continue to police by consent, explaining the circumstances for the intervention and encouraging individuals to comply with the Government request. If considered necessary, officers may take enforcement action if people are not listening and putting others at risk. They should broadly follow the following four steps:

  o Engage – officers will initially encourage voluntary compliance
  o Explain – officers will stress the risks to public health and to the NHS. Educate people about the risks and the wider social factors.
  o Encourage – officers will seek compliance and emphasise the benefits to the NHS by staying at home, how this can save lives and reduce risk for more vulnerable people in society.
  o Enforce – if the public do not comply the police may:
    ▪ instruct them to go home, leave an area or disperse
    ▪ ensure parents are taking necessary steps to stop their children breaking these rules
    ▪ issue a fixed penalty notice of £60, which will be lowered to £30 if paid within 14 days
    ▪ issue a fixed penalty notice of £120 for second time offenders, doubling on each further repeat offence
    ▪ Individuals who do not pay a fixed penalty notice under the regulations could be taken to court, with magistrates able to impose unlimited fines.
    ▪ If an individual continues to refuse to comply, they will be acting unlawfully, and the police may arrest them where deemed proportionate and necessary.

- Officers will need to be alert to potential child safeguarding, homelessness, mental health or domestic abuse issues which may provide a viable reason as to why an individual is outdoors. For instance, they may be unable to return home due to safety concerns. In these situations, the police will need to identify appropriate support and utilise multi-agency resources to sufficiently safeguard.
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South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner

FOCUS OF ACTIVITY 2020-21 - for the duration of the Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Introduction and Summary

This Plan has been made necessary as a result of two unforeseen events:

- The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic which has disrupted all aspects of normal life in almost every country in the world, including the UK
- The postponement, as a result, of the 2020 PCC elections to 7 May 2021

The PCC had already determined that the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan should remain for the coming period and now that his term has been extended to 2021 he reaffirms them. They are:

- Protecting vulnerable people
- Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour
- Treating people fairly

However, the emergency situation created by COVID-19 means that business cannot be as usual. In order to respond to the emergency and fulfil his statutory responsibilities, the PCC’s focus will, therefore, be on:

1. **Ensuring the Chief Constable has sufficient resources to respond to the emergency**
2. **Ensuring, on behalf of the public, that the police respond in ways that are necessary, sufficient, proportionate and ethical (holding to account)**
3. **Facilitating effective partnership working among agencies and groups working in community safety, violence reduction and criminal justice**
4. **Commissioning and co-commissioning services, particularly for victims of crime, and providing grants for policing and anti-crime purposes**

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1 The Home Office has confirmed that PCCs are under no obligation to issue new Police and Crime Plans. (APCC GEM 39/2020)
Background – the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak


2. On 3 March 2020, the Prime Minister (PM) introduced the government’s coronavirus action plan of measures for the UK, following a declaration of ‘threat to public health’ under regulation 3 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020. The PM has since held a series of Cabinet Office Briefing Room A (COBRA) meetings to develop the government’s strategy for the coronavirus. These meetings are attended by a cross-departmental range of senior ministers, the chief medical officer, security officials, military chiefs, emergency services leaders and civil servants.

3. The government’s COVID-19 strategy is driven by the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies. It provides the framework for the UK’s response, with Local Resilience Forums (LRFs) co-ordinating the local response.

4. On Monday 23 March 2020, the government announced restrictions aimed at reducing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). These restrictions asked people not to leave their homes except for:
   - shopping for basic necessities, as infrequently as possible;
   - one form of exercise a day - for example a run, walk, or cycle - alone or with members of your household;
   - any medical need, to provide care or to help a vulnerable person; and
   - travelling to and from work, but only where this is absolutely necessary and cannot be done from home.

5. The Coronavirus Act 2020 (the Act) received Royal assent on 25 March 2020. The Act broadly continues and supplements measures within the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020, and aims to support the government’s strategy by:
   - increasing the available health and social care workforce
   - easing the burden on frontline staff
   - containing and slowing the virus
   - managing the deceased with respect and dignity
   - supporting people

7. The Act introduced powers for the police (see Appendix A) to enforce the government’s restrictions set out at paragraph 5 above, so as to help prevent significant further transmission of the virus. The Act also delayed local and PCC elections that were due to take place on 7 May 2020, until 6 May 2021, and amended existing legislation enabling courts and tribunals to make use of live video or audio links.
Section 1: Ensuring the Chief Constable has sufficient resources to respond to the emergency

1. The government expects PCCs to play an important role in supporting chief constables in helping keep the public safe during the coronavirus outbreak.

2. It is understood that government funding will be made available to PCCs to cover the policing response to COVID-19. South Yorkshire Police are recording its spend on all activity specifically related to this crisis, in order to claim for government funding and minimise the direct impact on South Yorkshire’s council tax payers.

3. The South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum (LRF) brings together frontline responders and other agencies with a significant role to play in managing and recovering from the effect of emergencies in the county. The LRF’s COVID-19 Strategic Co-ordinating Group is developing multi-agency emergency plans to mitigate the impact of the current COVID-19 outbreak on the communities of South Yorkshire. The most senior leaders from each of the relevant organisations are represented on this Group. South Yorkshire Police’s representative is Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) David Hartley.

4. The OPCC’s Engagement & Communications Manager attends and supports the LRF’s Communications Sub Group. This sub group collates updates from partner organisations to circulate on a daily basis, and co-ordinates key internal and external messages.

5. South Yorkshire Police has put in place a Gold, Silver and Bronze Command structure to provide strategic, operational and tactical leadership and co-ordination of the Force’s response to COVID-19. The Force’s Gold Group is chaired by ACC Hartley. Some of the work so far has included:
   - the establishment of a Coordination Unit to monitor the availability of Force resources
   - table top exercises to assess the potential impact on service delivery of various scenarios and the mitigating actions necessary
   - enhanced cleaning regimes at all three police custody suites, and at the call-handling centre at Atlas Court, in order to minimise transmission of the virus
   - daily telephone conference calls across the four forces in the Yorkshire and the Humber region to share information and learning.

6. The PCC’s Chief Executive and Engagement & Communications Manager now participate in the Gold Group meetings. Their role is threefold:
   - a) part of the PCC’s support role

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2 The main agencies involved in South Yorkshire’s LRF are those classified as Category 1 Responders: South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue; Yorkshire Ambulance Service; the four Local Authorities in South Yorkshire; the NHS; Public Health England; and the Environment Agency.
b) to input issues from the OPCC which require consideration by the Gold Group – e.g. information from the public, partners, PCC-commissioned service providers, ‘business as usual’ performance monitoring; issues relating to the OPCC’s staffing resilience and business continuity arrangements, etc.

c) part of gathering evidence to assure the PCC about the police response to COVID-19.

7. As well as briefings from OPCC staff attending Gold Group meetings, the PCC receives regular updates from ACC Hartley - as LRF member and as the Gold Commander for COVID-19. These updates cover the latest position regarding the Force’s resources. The PCC maintains his regular dialogue with the Chief Constable (CC).

8. In terms of decision-making on resources issues, there is already have in place a Joint Corporate Governance Framework which describes how the PCC and CC conduct business efficiently, including decision-making, both jointly and separately. It sets out rules around who is legally able, or delegated, to make what kinds of decisions, depending on whether they are PCC or CC decisions, their significance and financial value, etc. In response to the COVID-19 situation, these ‘rules’ are being updated to provide flexibility and resilience, whilst reflecting the legal position and maintaining adequate controls.

9. The OPCC’s Business Continuity Plan aims to provide resilience around the PCC and OPCC staff who have key decision-making roles and responsibilities within the schemes of consent and delegations, financial regulations and standings orders as to contracts.

10. The PCC chairs a Planning and Efficiency Group (PEG), attended by the CC and senior officers from the OPCC and Force. This Group aims to deliver evidence-based, timely strategic and financial planning. The PCC and CC are using this forum to consider COVID-19 resourcing issues. It should be noted that South Yorkshire Police plans to increase police officer numbers over the medium-term as part of Operation Uplift3. The PEG meeting will consider the impact of COVID-19 on Operation Uplift, and on the PCC’s Medium Term Resourcing Strategy (MTRS) more generally.

11. Finally, the OPCC’s Commissioning Team had already planned this year to pursue external funding opportunities to maximise the funding available for policing and crime services in South Yorkshire. The team’s work will now include supporting any bids for funding that are directly linked both to the immediate response to the current crisis, and the medium and longer term impact of the crisis on our communities.

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3 The Government’s announced national uplift of police officers beginning in 2019/20.
Section 2: Ensuring, on behalf of the public, that the police respond in ways that are necessary, sufficient, proportionate and ethical (holding to account)

1. The short and medium-term impact of the coronavirus is yet to be fully understood, but the risks to keeping the people of South Yorkshire safe are significant.

2. There is a government and a public expectation that arrangements to hold each police force to account on behalf of its communities will continue. The OPCC will ensure that such arrangements are in place, but that this does not result in demands on the Force that could distract them from their COVID-19 response.

3. The PCC’s arrangements will therefore include providing *checks and balances around the implementation of new police powers* introduced through the emergency provisions within the Act.

4. The CC is operationally independent but he speaks with the PCC on a regular basis, keeping him abreast of operational decisions, particularly where a major shift in policy is contemplated. Sometimes decisions have to be taken quickly and it is not possible for the CC to speak to the PCC beforehand, though this is rare. In the present context, the CC has already discussed the approach the force will take to the emergency, assuring the PCC that the force will seek as far as possible to persuade people to observe social distancing and not to undertake unnecessary journeys. Enforcement may become necessary, but only if persuasion fails. The PCC believes this is the right approach, is fully supportive and believes the public will understand and be supportive too.

5. An *Independent Custody Visiting Scheme* forms part of the PCC’s assurance arrangements. This is a statutory scheme involving volunteer members of the local community who visit police stations unannounced to check on the treatment and welfare of those held in police custody. The PCC has suspended this activity to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. However, the OPCC is considering guidance from the Independent Custody Visiting Association and working with the Force to implement revised arrangements. Such temporary arrangements will be aimed at providing adequate oversight and assurance on the welfare of detainees (as well as the welfare of police officers and others working in the custody setting), whilst not creating any additional risks.

6. The PCC’s *evaluation and scrutiny work* will continue to be risk-based and focus on those areas of significant public interest / concern, seeking to protect those most vulnerable from crime and ensuring the delivery of appropriate support services to those who become victims of crime.

7. The PCC has a number of *formal governance / assurance meetings* to assist in fulfilling his statutory responsibilities, including the:

   - **PCC’s Public Accountability Board** (PAB). PAB meets monthly and is the main place where the PCC publicly holds the CC to account. Members of the public and press are
invited to attend PAB and asked to provide questions in advance. These meetings are recorded and published, along with their agendas and reports.

- **Joint Independent Audit Committee** (JIAC). A statutory Committee that provides assurance around the effectiveness of the PCC’s and CC’s arrangements for managing risk, maintaining an effective control environment and reporting on financial and other performance. JIAC will have a heightened role in providing assurance on the robustness of Force and OPCC arrangements in mitigating risks presented by the coronavirus, including the impact on *Operation Uplift* and the MTRS more generally.

- **PCC’s Independent Ethics Panel** (IEP). This Panel provides the PCC and CC with independent and effective challenge and assurance around integrity, standards and ethics of decision-making in policing. The PCC has asked the IEP to consider how it might provide assurance around the police use of the emergency powers.

It was already planned that the IEP would take on other assurance work this year, to:

- a) anticipate and mitigate the challenges created by an influx of new police officers and support the Force in demonstrating its efforts to improve the diversity of the workforce
- b) support the Force as it puts in place, and delivers, business continuity in response to COVID-19
- c) anticipate and mitigate the challenges that a target-driven performance focus can bring to an organisation
- d) provide independent assurance on the new police complaints handling arrangements

plus any further work required in considering the ethical issues relating to digital policing.

8. To ensure **transparency and accountability**, including evidencing the application of checks and balances, the PCC has determined the meetings outlined above **should** continue to take place. These will now be held virtually to comply with social distancing measures and information of public interest will be published on the PCC’s website in accordance with his **COVID-19 Publication Strategy**.

9. In relation to the PCC’s PAB meeting, the PCC’s Twitter channel will be used to provide live updates and the key headlines as they are being discussed to ensure these public facing meetings are accessible. The media will also be invited to ‘dial in’ to the meetings to allow them to continue to report the discussions.

10. More details regarding future PAB meetings will be published on the PCC’s website, and Twitter channel including the meeting’s frequency, work programme and how to get involved.
The PCC’s role as the voice of South Yorkshire’s communities

11. If the PCC is to hold the police to account on behalf of the public, then it is important the PCC listens to, and understands, the issues communities and individuals are facing in these unprecedented times.

12. Public face-to-face engagement activity has ceased and a revised PCC Community Engagement and Communications Strategy will be implemented in due course.

13. The OPCC will continue to respond to all correspondence and complaints received. This information will be used to shape the PCC’s communication with the public and partners. The information will also be fed into the CC when appropriate, to address any issues as they arise. Enquiries so far have included:

- concerns about the availability and distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for police officers and staff
- reporting instances where social distancing was not being adhered to, and
- the lack of clarity around what constitutes an essential journey.

14. The PCC’s Engagement & Communications Team will collate information relating to COVID-19 which is gathered through its activity, and which emerges through correspondence and complaints. They will use this information to prepare public engagement reports for the PCC’s PAB meetings.

15. The team will continue to provide a proactive and reactive service to the national, regional and local media to ensure awareness of the PCC’s responsibilities and decisions relating to the COVID-19 situation, in support of openness, transparency and public accountability. The team will also continue to work closely with the Force and partner communications colleagues to ensure public messages are co-ordinated and properly contextualised.

16. The Engagement & Communications Manager will also continue to support the Assistant Chief Constable (Local Policing) leading the Force’s Trust & Confidence Steering Group to understand and respond to the drivers of public confidence in policing, particularly important in these unprecedented times.
Section 3: The PCC’s role to facilitate effective partnership working - especially among partners working in community safety, violence reduction, and criminal justice

Community Safety

1. Under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, there is a reciprocal duty on partners to cooperate, as well as a power for the PCC to call the responsible authorities from South Yorkshire’s four community safety partnerships (CSPs) to come together to discuss issues affecting the whole police area and to make sure priorities are joined up. The OPCC is represented at each of the four district CSP meetings.

2. Using these ‘PCC convening powers’, the PCC has established a Countywide Community Safety Forum attended by all four CSP chairs and others to enhance proactive partnership working and communication on a countywide basis. An example of this countywide approach is the PCC’s instigation of the co-commissioning of a countywide domestic abuse perpetrator programme.

3. The PCC provides CSP funding each year to enable the four CSPs to meet their priorities and support the delivery of Police and Crime Plan priorities. At each countywide forum meeting, the CSPs provide updates on how the funding is being used and to what effect.

4. The PCC will facilitate effective partnership working in this area in support of the LRF’s management of the local response to COVID-19, and South Yorkshire’s recovery to normal life and normal business.

Violence Reduction

5. The government has allocated ‘Year 2’ funding to the PCC for a South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) in order to continue its public health (partnership) approach to violence prevention and violence reduction across the county. The funding is subject to consideration of a bid that has been submitted by a range of South Yorkshire partners.

6. Similarly, the PCC is awaiting confirmation of a bid for further Police ‘Surge’ funding for violence reduction activity, and there are plans to work more closely together between the Force’s ‘Surge’ activity and the VRU in 2020/21.

7. The Violence Reduction Executive Board, chaired by the PCC, will continue to steer and direct the activity of the VRU, the wider OPCC and partners in this area.

8. However, business continuity planning has taken place in this area and it is already clear that there will be a significant impact on planned prevention and reduction activities, as a result of COVID-19. It is already clear that some activity will have to be deferred – e.g. diversionary sports programmes – due to social distancing measures.
9. The VRU had determined that a **Violence Reduction Fund** would focus on addressing the causes of domestic abuse through a Primary Prevention Fund in 2020/21. The PCC intends to closely assess the impact of the current crisis (including the current lockdown situation) on incidents of serious violence, including domestic abuse.

The Criminal Justice System and Criminal Justice Partners

10. **South Yorkshire’s Criminal Justice Board (SYCJB)** is made up of those key partner agencies who work in the criminal justice system – e.g. the police, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), courts, prisons, probation services, etc.

11. SYCJB is chaired by the PCC (although he has delegated this to his Chief Executive prior to the current COVID-19 crisis). The Board’s overarching vision is that: ‘**Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield are areas where people have trust and confidence in their local criminal justice system, which supports victims; rehabilitates offenders and young people who commit crime; reduces re-offending; and delivers value for money.**’

12. The Criminal Justice System has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

13. The PCC chaired a meeting of the LCJB on 2 April 2020 to focus on two main issues:

   - the impact of the COVID-19 crisis and current business continuity arrangements across our criminal justice agencies
   - to start developing a South Yorkshire criminal justice recovery plan.

14. The PCC will hold more **regular SYCJB meetings** as this dynamic situation unfolds, in order to facilitate agencies’ management of day-to-day business and current risks at a strategic level.

15. Supported by SYCJB’s Business Manager (a senior member of OPCC staff), the PCC’s Chief Executive will lead work to highlight emerging local issues at ministerial level. She will also oversee modelling work to underpin a **South Yorkshire’s Criminal Justice Recovery Plan**. SYCJB’s Business Manager will also support efficient and effective information exchange between partners on an ongoing basis.
Section 4: The PCC’s role to commission and co-commission services (particularly victims’ services) and to provide grants for policing and anti-crime purposes

1. The PCC commissions services in South Yorkshire using his policing and crime budget. Most of these services are provided by the police force. The PCC’s role includes responsibility for commissioning local victims’ services.

2. The OPCC is working hard to ensure that PCC commissioned services continue to operate and support vulnerable people when they need them. Specific services commissioned or co-commissioned by the PCC include the:
   - Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre Service
   - Victim Support Service
   - Independent Sexual Violence Advocate Service
   - Services to support victims of Domestic Abuse
   - Restorative Justice Service
   - Child Sexual Assault Assessment Service

3. Shortly after the 3 March declaration of the threat to public health from COVID-19, all providers of PCC commissioned services were asked to provide their Business Continuity Plans for consideration by the OPCC’s Partnerships & Commissioning Manager. Regular discussions with service providers and co-commissioners are taking place to stay abreast of the situation and its impact on services.

4. The OPCC is also conducting assurance activity to ensure victims, witnesses and offenders are receiving required services, and continuity of service.

5. In addition to commissioned services, the PCC has provided a variety of community grants to groups that aim to help prevent crime and anti-social behaviour. Many of these projects involve diversionary activity and much of the planned activity will no longer be possible. The OPCC is making contact with each grant recipient to agree a way forward.

6. In relation to new grants, the PCC has asked the OPCC to consider whether there are available funds to identify and address policing, crime and victims’ needs as a direct result of the COVID-19 situation.

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APPENDIX A

NEW POLICE POWERS

- Officers will continue to police by consent, explaining the circumstances for the intervention and encouraging individuals to comply with the Government request. If considered necessary, officers may take enforcement action if people are not listening and putting others at risk. They should broadly follow the following four steps:
  - Engage – officers will initially encourage voluntary compliance
  - Explain – officers will stress the risks to public health and to the NHS. Educate people about the risks and the wider social factors.
  - Encourage – officers will seek compliance and emphasise the benefits to the NHS by staying at home, how this can save lives and reduce risk for more vulnerable people in society.
  - Enforce – if the public do not comply the police may:
    - instruct them to go home, leave an area or disperse
    - ensure parents are taking necessary steps to stop their children breaking these rules
    - issue a fixed penalty notice of £60, which will be lowered to £30 if paid within 14 days
    - issue a fixed penalty notice of £120 for second time offenders, doubling on each further repeat offence
    - Individuals who do not pay a fixed penalty notice under the regulations could be taken to court, with magistrates able to impose unlimited fines.
    - If an individual continues to refuse to comply, they will be acting unlawfully, and the police may arrest them where deemed proportionate and necessary.

- Officers will need to be alert to potential child safeguarding, homelessness, mental health or domestic abuse issues which may provide a viable reason as to why an individual is outdoors. For instance, they may be unable to return home due to safety concerns. In these situations, the police will need to identify appropriate support and utilise multi-agency resources to sufficiently safeguard.
Public Accountability Board

TITLE OF REPORT

CORONAVIRUS - Public Engagement & Communications Activity Update

DATE OF REPORT:

7 April 2020

AUTHOR OF REPORT / CHIEF OFFICER LEAD

Fiona Topliss
Communications and Engagement Manager

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To explain the work that is being undertaken to continue with the Police and Crime Commissioner's statutory obligation to engage with the public and hold the Chief Constable to account for his engagement.

To outline how the Office is understanding how the public are feeling in relation to the police application of emergency legislation in relation to the coronavirus outbreak and how local community organisations and commissioned services are faring.

2 SUMMARY OF OPTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISION REQUIRED

That the report be noted.

3 BACKGROUND

The PCC has a statutory duty to engage with the South Yorkshire community about police and crime priorities and to commission services which improve police and crime outcomes to improve the lives of local people.

Within the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the PCC has responsibility for:

- Obtaining the views of the community on policing
- Obtaining the views of victims of crime about matters concerning the policing of the area
- Obtaining the views of the public in relation to the setting the annual budget and precept
- Having regard for public views when carrying out functions

The PCC must exercise his statutory responsibility to:
• Hold the Chief Constable to account for the effectiveness and efficiency of the Chief Constable’s arrangement under section 34 (engagement with local people).

The OPCC engages extensively to understand the public’s priorities. This enables their views to be represented in the Police and Crime Plan and to become an integral part of the decision making process, which is vital to increasing public trust and confidence in policing.

Throughout the year the engagement that takes place provides a dialogue between the OPCC, the Force and the public and stakeholders to create and manage sustained and effective opportunities for the public to learn about, question and shape policing priorities and activities, and ultimately to participate in community safety as an active partner.

During the course of the year much of this work (although not all) is carried out within communities through face-to-face engagement at community meetings and events.

Following the introduction of Government legislation to prevent the spread of coronavirus by ensuring people stay at home and avoid non-essential travel, this face-to-face engagement work has temporarily ceased.

Instead we are ensuring we have mechanisms in place to make contact with groups and individuals to gather their concerns and feedback on issues that are affecting them and their communities relating to policing services, during this current pandemic.

We are also proactively engaging with the public using our social media channels and the local media to ensure the Police and Crime Commissioner’s role during this time is communicated widely and understood.

4 KEY THEMES

The Police and Crime Commissioner’s Communications and Engagement Team is making contact with individuals, community organisations and partners across South Yorkshire and gathering issues and concerns and feedback. This work will continue whilst the current measure are in place.

Social media accounts are also being closely monitored to identify any themes and areas where the public are raising issues to obtain an indicator of how communities are feeling and coping with the situation. Any areas of concern or appreciation are fed back to partner organisations.

A number of themes have been identified and have been reported widely through the local, regional and national media, as well as social media channels. These include:

Policing Issues:

• Concerns from the public over those who are not following the advice to stay in.
• Supportive of police action to stop motorists to enquire if their journeys are essential.
• Positive reaction to South Yorkshire Police’s visibility.
• Reassurance patrols in villages being well received by the community, particularly interactions with children who are putting up rainbow pictures in windows in support of the police and the NHS.
• People are recognising the need for police educational road checkpoints and there are a growing number of comments on social media for more to take place.
• Members of the rural community remain fearful of being stopped for travelling to look after their animals. They know their journey is legitimate but are anxious in case they are stopped.
• A number of concerns raised across social media relating to areas of Sheffield (predominantly Page Hall, Firth Park and Spital Hill) due to residents still congregating in groups. Despite patrols and positive engagement work from local neighbourhood policing teams, including information translated into other languages, joined up work with the local authority and with young people, there are still pockets where communities are not complying with advice and warnings. We are assured that the Force is now looking at all available options, including using short-term enforcement to influence behaviour which will protect the community and the NHS and ultimately save lives.

General non-policing concerns:

• Request for help with food and prescriptions – plenty of support groups across social media specific to postcode areas as well as local authority support.
• Concerns over pets – either going missing or needing homes.
• Lots of support for NHS staff and police officers as well as other front line and essential workers such as shop assistants, lorry drivers, bin collectors etc.
• Questioning of those being made to work that are not seen as ‘key workers’ and criticism of companies that are continuing to operate and place employees at risk.
• Older people cannot get supermarket delivery slots.
• Older people are vulnerable as many tend to use cash and cannot get to the bank to withdraw money – concerns that they are vulnerable to fraud as they may create credit accounts or provide others with bank cards and pin numbers.
• Requests for help for personal protective equipment (PPE) for staff in care homes and parts of the NHS.
• Lots of community spirit and support being offered and praise for local shops.

Correspondence with the public:

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner received a number of concerns regarding the provision of PPE during the early stages of the pandemic.

Between 16 March 2020 and 30 March 2020 the OPCC received 22 COVID-19 related enquiries. Of these some related to the health and welfare of police officers, staff and external visitors, including concerns about the availability and distribution of PPE.

We acknowledge the work that has been undertaken to procure extra PPE and distribute to front line officers in a very short space of time. We are assured by the Chief Constable that the Force is doing all it can to continue to procure the necessary PPE for those on the front line.
Others related to reports of breaches of social distancing and the remaining enquiries fell into two main categories: people worried about the potential risks to themselves from cross-contamination; and vehicle related matters including the lack of clarity around what constitutes an essential journey.

5 MEDIA & SOCIAL MEDIA

The Police and Crime Commissioner is not a response service so media enquiries have not been at the same levels as those received by our police, NHS and local authority partners.

Over the last two weeks the Police and Crime Commissioner has written opinion pieces for local media and has responded to announcements over Government advice and the introduction of emergency legislation.

Ensuring that victims of crime and other vulnerable people still have access to vital services is a priority for the Police and Crime Commissioner. We have supported both commissioned services and partner services that are supporting those most in need during this time across social media to share their information with our followers.

We are actively using the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Twitter account to support and promote services across South Yorkshire that are providing a lifeline to vulnerable people as well as supporting key messages for residents from official sources.

6 RECOMMENDATION AND DECISION REQUIRED

The PCC is recommended to note the report.

7 COMMUNICATION PLANS / CONSIDERATIONS

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, via the Communications and Engagement Manager, is part of the Communications Sub-Group of the Local Resilience Forum.

As a partner agency the Office is supporting partners by providing, and supporting others to provide consistent, coherent and credible information on the local impact of the coronavirus pandemic. This includes reiteration and localisation of national messages on matters of public safety and gathering information on local emerging communications needs in relation to public safety.

Fiona Topliss
Communications and Engagement Manager
1 April 2020
1 Report Objectives

1.1 This Report is to provide the Public Accountability Board (‘PAB’) with a record of key decisions taken by the PCC outside of this Board since the last PAB meeting.

2 Recommendations

2.1 The Board is recommended to note the contents of the report and to comment upon any issues arising.

3 Background

3.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out the functions and responsibilities of the PCC.

3.2 The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Specified Information) Order 2011 sets out the requirements of the PCC to publish information about decision-making.

3.3 The PCC has a Framework for decision-making by both the PCC and those exercising delegated authority on behalf of the PCC. It details the arrangements put in place to enable the PCC to make robust, well-informed and transparent decisions, and hold the Chief Constable to account. This Framework is currently being updated to accurately reflect the Commissioner’s revised arrangements around decision making.

3.4 Decisions taken by the PCC will primarily arise from discharging his statutory functions and are likely to include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

- Collaboration/partnerships
- Strategic Direction
- Governance, including policy
- Budget setting
- Commissioning
- Capital programme spend
- Asset requisition/disposal

4 DECISIONS

4.1 The PCC has made 71 decisions in 2019/20.
4.2 Between 2 March 2020 (the date of the last report) and 31 March 2020, the PCC has made the following decisions to draw to the attention of the Public Accountability Board.

4.3 South Yorkshire Bassetlaw Partnership Collaborative Board

The PCC approved the grant of £40,000 to South Yorkshire Bassetlaw Partnership Collaborative Board from the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit Fund grant.

The funding will be used to fund activities to co-design new approaches to supporting people with multiple disadvantages using a sub-regional approach.

There will be a focus on integrating homelessness and mental health services including emphasis on violence reduction.

This is a new initiative which takes forward a strategic agreement between the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System and South Yorkshire Local Authorities to focus on multiple disadvantage as a shared priority. The investment will support the costs of a co-design process which will develop and test new models of care and generate collaboration on this important issue across partners in South Yorkshire. It will also establish an important strategic and developmental three way partnership between the Violence Reduction Unit, South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System and Local Authorities which is important given the complex nature of issues facing people locked in a cycle of rough sleeping, addiction, offending behaviour, poor mental health and physical health, who are often victims and/or perpetrators of violence.

4.4 Doncaster Children’s Trust

The PCC approved the grant of £9,228 to Doncaster Children’s Trust from the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit Fund grant.

The grant will be used to support pilot activity in Doncaster which will shape future delivery for the Trust. Evidence from this pilot and from other funded assertive outreach pilots in Sheffield will help shape future services in Doncaster.

Staff will focus on repeat or high risk missing Looked After Children as well as other young people who are missing and at risk of exploitation. Outreach workers will target areas where young people are known to go to when ‘missing’ and build relationships with those who have regular missing episodes.

4.5 The Rhubarb Shed Cafe

The PCC approved the grant of £20,000 to the Rhubarb Shed Café for the Shed Load of Cakes pilot from the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit Fund grant.

The grant will support the development of a South Yorkshire version of the Glasgow Street and Arrow Project by creating a self-sustaining training and support package around catering for ex-offenders coming out of prison, or now living in the community and at risk of re-offending.
The project will have a mobile catering unit that generates income and serves the public healthy food alongside training and support for an intensive project aimed at ex-offenders to give them a second chance and gain life skills and employment. The unit is mobile so it can travel across the county into all communities of need and link the partner food based community projects together to form a county wide project enabling areas can learn from each other.

The unit will also be used as a highly visible and informal engagement tool for the project and partners tackling violent crime and raising awareness of the wider Violence Reduction Unit objectives to prevent and reduce violence.

4.6 Commissioner’s Community Grant Scheme 2019/20 – Panel Recommendations February 2020

The Commissioner’s Community Grant Scheme for 2019/20 enables non-profit organisations to apply for funding of up to £5,000.

The overall Community Grants Scheme budget for 2019/20 amounts to £120,000.

Proposed activities must address one or more of the PCC’s strategic priorities as set out in the Police and Crime Plan. Funded organisations have to show compliance with terms and conditions including the submission of monitoring information at agreed milestones.

In February officers considered and assessed five applications for funding with a total value of £22,258 and recommended five applications for approval (with some reductions due to ineligible / unsupported expenditure).

The PCC considered the panel recommendations on 17 February 2020 and agreed to fund the following five bids with a total value of £17,965.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Recommended Funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stand Against Violence</td>
<td>Violence Prevention</td>
<td>£2,700</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Firvale Community Hub</td>
<td>Engage</td>
<td>£4,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Frank Trust</td>
<td>Rotherham Workshops</td>
<td>£2,639</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Mind Apart</td>
<td>Moving Forward</td>
<td>£5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Yorkshire Mixed Martial Arts Academy</td>
<td>Reducing Antisocial</td>
<td>£3,050</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Further information about individual grants can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner at info@southyorkshire-pcc.gov or 0114 2964150.

4.7 As a result of COVID-19 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) intend to withhold any funding that would result in a breach of government guidance until said restrictions are lifted.

4.8 A log of PCC decisions can be found on the PCC’s website at https://southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/openness/publications/. There are a number of PCC decisions which we
are unable to publish for reasons such as, being commercially sensitive, operationally sensitive or, they involve ongoing criminal proceedings (this is not an exhaustive list).

Report Author: Sally Parkin
Designation: Governance and Compliance Manager, OPCC
Contact: sparkin@southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk
### Agenda Item 13

**Force Performance Reporting**

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<tr>
<th>OPCC</th>
<th>SYP</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provide the PCC with an update on Sheffield District’s performance against Police and Crime Plan priorities.</td>
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</table>


- Provide update to PCC re Force progress towards the priority Protecting Vulnerable People in the Police and Crime Plan.

**Budget Monitoring Yearly Outturn as at 31 March 2019**

- Provide year end (Quarter 4) summary budget position for 2018/19. To inform final accounts and the PCC’s Annual Report.

**Sustainability Strategy**

- **Action from PAB 7/10/19** - Provide an update on the Force and PCC’s Sustainability Strategic. (Agreed to report back May 2020)

### Chief Executive Reporting

**PCC Decisions**

- To provide the Public Accountability Board (‘PAB’) with a record of key decisions taken by the PCC outside of this Board since the last PAB meeting.

### Assurance Panel Reporting

**IEP Exception Report**

- Provide overview of the Panels areas of exception reporting for PCC’s information / action, include the themes from IEP work programme eg, Stop and Search, Use of Force and Equalities.

**JIAC Exception Report**

- Provide an overview of the Committees areas of exception reporting for PCC’s information / action.
### Force Performance Reporting

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<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>OPCC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Force Performance – Doncaster District Summary Update</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Abuse Update</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Action 380 at PAB 14/01/20 – A further report on Domestic Abuse to be brought to a future meeting. (Agreed to report back June 2020)</td>
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### Chief Executive Reporting

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<th>Purpose</th>
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<tr>
<td>PCC Decisions</td>
<td>✓</td>
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To seek PCC approval / agreement to proposals as requested (to be notified 10 working days before date of meeting)
### Force Performance Reporting

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<th>OPCC</th>
<th>SYP</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Force Performance</strong> – Rotherham District Summary Update</td>
<td>✅</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provide the PCC with an update on Rotherham District’s performance against District Summary outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Force Year End Performance Assessment Report</strong></td>
<td>✅</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provide final year end position of Force performance against Police &amp; Crime Plan 2018/19. To inform PCC’s Annual Report</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chief Executive Reporting

| PCC Decisions | ✔ | ✅ | To seek PCC approval / agreement to proposals as requested (to be notified 10 working days before date of meeting) |