

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD: NOTE OF THE MEETING

6 November 2023

Attendees present (in person and virtually)

Dr A Billings (Chair)
 M Buttery (Chief Executive & Solicitor, OPCC)
 E Eruego (Deputy Chief Finance Officer, OPCC)
 F Topliss (Engagement & Communications Manager, OPCC)
 S Parkin (Governance & Compliance Manager, OPCC)
 S Baldwin (Evaluation & Scrutiny Officer, OPCC)
 T Forber (Deputy Chief Constable, SYP)
 S Poolman (Assistant Chief Constable, SYP)
 J Bland (Assistant Chief Officer Resources, SYP)
 D Carrington (Chief Finance Officer, SYP)
 L Kosciwicz (Chief Superintendent, Rotherham, SYP)
 J Humphries (Violence Reduction Unit)
 S Wragg (Chair of the Joint Independent Audit Committee)
 M Lewis (Interim Chair of the Independent Ethics Panel)

Apologies received

E Redfearn, S Abbott, K Wright, L Poultney, R Alton, D Thorpe and D Hartley

NO:	AGENDA ITEM NAME
1	<u>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</u> The Commissioner welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2	<u>FILMING NOTIFICATION</u> The Commissioner confirmed that the meeting was being streamed live on You Tube (SYPCC Media) and was being recorded and uploaded via You Tube to the website (www.southyorkshire-pcc.gov.uk/) where it can be viewed at a later date.
3	<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> There were no announcements.
4	<u>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</u> There were no public questions.

5	<p><u>URGENT ITEMS</u></p> <p>The PCC requested assurance on Pro-Palestine protests.</p> <p>T Forber confirmed that South Yorkshire had seen some limited protests. These had passed off relatively peacefully.</p> <p>Four people have been arrested, investigations are live and ongoing.</p> <p>There are some incidents where SYP are trying to identify the offender.</p> <p>SYP recognise that there is public concern around what is taking place in the Middle East and the need for peaceful protests. Engagement is taking place with all parties.</p> <p>There is a designated command structure in place and scrutiny is in place to ensure the protests are undertaken in a peaceful manner.</p> <p>The Commissioner highlighted the demand on resources. T Forber confirmed that the previously weekend there had been two FA Cup football matches at relatively short notice which had put a strain on the force, but this is something they are used to. Next weekend is Armistice Weekend in addition to a big fixture match.</p> <p>The Commissioner enquired about dark nights. T Forber commented that this had passed off slightly quieter than in previous year. This may have been down to the weather.</p> <p>M Lewis commented that previously when there had been problems in the Middle East there had been spikes in hate crime. He enquired if this is the case this time.</p> <p>S Poolman informed the Board that there was no data to suggest this. Nationally, there has been a huge rise in anti-Semitic crime, SYP is closely monitoring this.</p>
6	<p><u>ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS</u></p> <p>There were no items to be considered in the absence of the public and press.</p>
7	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
8	<p><u>SUMMARY NOTE AND DECISIONS/ACTIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 2023</u></p> <p>The notes of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record.</p>
9	<p><u>ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>There were no outstanding actions and matters arising.</p>
10	<p><u>ROTHERHAM DISTRICT SUMMARY UPDATE</u></p>
Purpose	To provide assurance to the Public Accountability Board (PAB) and the communities of Rotherham that SYP is committed to working with our

	partners to deliver the vision and strategic objectives of the Police and Crime Plan.
Key points	<p>A discussion took place with Chief Superintendent Laura Kosciwicz, the District Commander for Rotherham, about the report in the Agenda Pack. The Commissioner asked questions about the following areas in the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resourcing challenges • Domestic Abuse, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Violence Protection Notice (DVPN) and Domestic Violence Protection Order (DVPO) ○ Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) ○ Protecting Vulnerable People investigation teams ○ Project Soteria • Child Sexual Exploitation • ASB in Dinnington • Burglary • Missing from Home Officers • Organised Crime Gangs • Right Care, Right Person
Decision / Action	None

11	<u>FORCE PERFORMANCE AGAINST POLICE AND CRIME PLAN – CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR</u>
Purpose	To provide an update on the progress against the 'Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour' priority of the Police and Crime Plan, 'Safer Streets More Police (2022-2025)' to support the Commissioner's overarching aim of South Yorkshire being a safe place in which to live, learn, work and travel.
Key points	<p>A discussion took place in the following areas of the report in the Agenda Pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in theft from vehicle and an increase in theft of vehicle • Response times • Priority graded incidents resolved upon first deployment of an officer • Attrition in the Force Control Room • Nomination for the Large Contact Centre of the Year in the UK National Contact Centre Awards • SYP's investigative standards • Retail crime • Dangerous dogs • The rise in Off-Road Bike/Quad incidents • Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme (ARIS) funding • Disruption / Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) seizures
Decision/ Action	None

12	<u>QUARTERLY BUDGET MONITORING REPORT (Q2)</u>
Purpose	To inform the Public Accountability Board of the Force's outturn on its revenue and capital budgets as of 31 March 2024. It is based on an analysis of income and expenditure for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 before accounting adjustments.
Key points	<p>D Carrington, SYP's Chief Finance Officer drew attention to the following areas within the report in the Agenda Pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report is the full year projected outturn as at 30 September 2023 • SYP is currently projecting a net underspend of £3.5m (before legacy costs) • The projected underspend is impacted by the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Utilities ○ Income ○ In year savings ○ Growth ○ Workforce plan changes • The reported underspend has created opportunities to meet new and emerging cost pressures of £3.2m without the need to approach the PCC for reserves. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outsourcing of the Pension Remedy calculations ○ Estimates costs associated with the discovery of Doncaster Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) ○ The vehicle replacement programme ○ Priority Based Budgeting Tranche 2 ○ Dangerous dogs
Decision/ Action	None

13	<u>INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMITTEE (IEP) ASSURANCE REPORT</u>
Purpose	To inform the Commissioner of any exceptions for noting from the IEP meeting held on 18 September 2023
Key points	<p>M Lewis, Chair of the IEP, drew attention to the following areas, within the report in the Agenda Pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effectiveness of external scrutiny • Challenges remain around disproportionality of non-white citizens • SYP recognises that disproportionality exists in South Yorkshire even if not on the scale found in some other force areas, notably but not exclusively London • The collection of data on the ethnicity of subjects is improving but relies on self identification • The failure to record the true location of every stop and search event weakens the reliability and usefulness of stop and search data

Decision/ Action	None
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14	<u>JOINT INDEPENDENT AUDIT COMMITTEE (JIAC) ASSURANCE REPORT</u>
Purpose	To inform the Commissioner of any exceptions for noting from the JIAC meeting held on 27 September 2023
Key points	<p>S Wragg, Chair of the JIAC, drew attention to the following areas within the report in the Agenda Pack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT governance continues to be a risk • The new Internal Auditors are settling in • The External Auditors have the following areas that need resolving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Closing valuation of land and buildings ○ Valuation of the pension fund liability for Police Pension Scheme (PPS) ○ The pension fund net surplus for Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) • SYP, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the External Auditors are in advance of a lot of other authorities who are still completing last year's accounts • S Wragg acknowledged the amount of work undertaken by SYP and the OPCC on the Statement of Account 2022-23
Decision/ Action	None

15	<u>TRUST AND CONFIDENCE</u>
Purpose	To provides an update from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) on the ongoing work in support of improving trust and confidence in policing, one of the PCC's fundamental principles that underpins everything we do
Key points	<p>M Buttery, the OPCC Chief executive & Solicitor, highlighted the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidence in policing has been badly damaged nationally where police officers have seriously breached the standards of professional behaviour expected of them • The Home Secretary has highlighted the need to improve police culture and the public's trust that police officers will keep them safe in their communities • In May 2023 the Chief Constable provided a summary of the work underway to this Board. The key areas of the report included:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leadership and Culture ○ Violence Against Women and Girls ○ Police Perpetrator Domestic Abuse ○ Regulation 13 ○ Police Race Action Plan ○ Counter Corruption • DCC Forber has agreed that there will be more trust and confidence reports which include the work taking place to address national factors and understand local drivers • The work of the PCC's independent assurance panels
Decision/ Action	None

17	<u>PCC DECISIONS</u>
Purpose	To provide the Board with a record of key decisions taken by the Commissioner outside of this Board since the last PAB meeting
Key points	M Buttery drew attention to the following point from the report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purchase of a shared welfare vehicle, funded by SYP
Decision/ Action	None

18	<u>WORK PROGRAMME</u>
Purpose	To provide the Board with an overview of the content of future meetings
Key points	M Buttery highlighted that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work programme provides details of the next three meetings • A Witness Report is on the agenda for the next meeting
Decision/ Action	None

19	<u>AOB</u>
	None

20	<u>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</u>
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	8 January 2024 at 2pm
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PCC Signed



8 January 2024

APPENDIX A

Action 455 - Further information to be provided on the work of the LADOs, including the benefits of them working with the police on missing people

Response

LADO role:

- To coordinate the safeguarding and investigative process in response to allegations made against people working with children.
- To provide advice/guidance to employers or voluntary organisations when there are concerns or allegations about individuals who work with children.
- To liaise with police and other agencies including Ofsted and professional bodies such as the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) General Medical Council (GMC) and the Teaching Regulatory Agency (TRA).
- To monitor the progress of referrals to ensure they are dealt with as quickly as possible, consistent with a thorough and fair process.
- To resolve any inter-agency issues.
- To collect strategic data and maintain a confidential database in relation to allegations.
- To ensure that measures are in place to prevent further harm or abuse and that where required, referrals are made to the appropriate social care team or regulatory body

Every local authority has a statutory responsibility to have a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) who is responsible for co-ordinating the response to concerns.

The LADO will be alerted to all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works with children has behaved in a way that has harmed, or may have harmed a child, including committing a criminal offences a child or related to children.

LADO will manage any allegations made.

In terms of the police relationship around LADO specific to Missing there are circumstances where this is used. This is often when an adult in employment is under investigation around criminality linked to a missing child. LADO may support information gathering and ongoing safeguarding.

The benefit of this approach ensures better information sharing between agencies.