

NORTHUMBRIA PCC MINUTES

Title

Business Meeting

Date

Scheduled 28 September 2023

Location

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Duration

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Kim McGuinness – Police and Crime Commissioner
Vanessa Jardine – Chief Constable (CC)
Ruth Durham – Chief of Staff of the OPCC
Debbie Ford – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)
Paul Godden – Head of Corporate Development (NP)
Brad Howe – T/ACC – Communities
Kevin Laing – Joint Chief Finance Officer (CFO)
Joscelin Lawson – ACO Corporate Services
Adrian Pearson – Director of Planning and Delivery (OPCC)
Tanya Reade – Corporate Governance Manager (NP)
Alastair Simpson – ACC – Crime and Safeguarding (NP)
Scott Young – ACC - Force Coordination (NP)

Apologies:

N/A

Due to the felling of the Sycamore Gap Tree the meeting did not proceed at the request of the PCC. DCC offered the opportunity for the OPCC to send questions for response outside of the meeting.

OPEN SESSION

1. Minutes of the open session of Business Meeting held on 15 August 2023

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Violence Reduction Unit

The Director for the VRU provided an update on current activity and emerging issues within the Northumbria VRU.

4. National Issues Impacting on Policing



No issues raised.

5. HMICFRS Publication: An inspection of the police contribution to the prevention of homicide

An overview of the findings from the inspection was provided together with Northumbria Police's current position.

Assurance was sought that the Force is happy they can comply with all three recommendations.

The PCC asked if Northumbria Police is confident with workload, that all homicide incidents will be uploaded on the portal for the Home Office within 30 days of being reported.

It was confirmed returns are submitted by the Major Incident Room (MIR) and there are no concerns regarding timeliness.

Regarding an approach to make sure the force can, on a sufficiently frequent basis, produce an analytical report concerning its death investigations, Northumbria Police is awaiting an update on transfer of data from Civica to Police; however, once technical data transfer is resolved this will be achieved. The Force is working towards completion by 31 March 2024; ahead of the August deadline in this report.

Arrangements for quickly identifying lessons from homicides and serious violence incidents, capable of involving partner organisations when appropriate, so that lessons can be learned more widely are already in place.

The PCC asked if the Northumbria Police homicide strategy and procedures meet all the requirements outlined in 'elements of more effective homicide prevention' identified in the HMICFRS report.

There is currently no serious violence / homicide communications strategy; however plans are in place to develop this. The launch of the Prevention Department 9 October 2023 is expected to address the points regarding protective orders, and the plan for the next homicide problem profile is to include partner data.

6. HMICFRS Publication: Race and policing: an inspection of race disparity in police criminal justice decision-making

An overview of the findings from the inspection was provided together with the Force position.

The OPCC will continue discussions with T/Chief Superintendent Prevention on community involvement aspects.

7. HMICFRS Publication: Race and policing: a review of the police service's leadership and governance arrangements for race-related matters



An overview of the findings from the inspection was provided together with the Force position against the recommendations.

8. Right Care Right Person

The PCC asked if the Force is happy that partners are fully on board and able to deliver within the timescale.

ACC (Force Coordination) advised there are some challenges from partners regarding readiness as a result of the overall volume of Public Safety Welfare calls from the public to Police. There is a multi-agency Gold Group in place for local delivery.

9. Joint Strategic Risk Register

The Joint Strategic Risk Register incorporating the strategic risk(s) faced by the Force and Office of Police and Crime Commissioner within twelve thematic areas was provided.

The Force's annual review took place during July/August 2023 when Executive Leads considered the current register to ensure it captures emerging risks and accurately reflects the current risks faced by the Force, and developed a Risk Appetite Statement to supplement the existing risk management framework in place in Northumbria Police.

The PCC asked if the risk appetite statement will be used to inform key strategic decisions and if the benefit of this in decision making can be assessed.

It is intended the risk appetite statement will help to guide conversations and decisions; its development in the annual risk review prompted useful discussion.

It was confirmed that risk appetite is subject to change and needs to flex in-line with the strategic environment and operating conditions; and as such the statement will be reviewed on a regular basis, and at least annually.

10. Forward Plan – Open Session

The Forward Plan had been noted.

11. Any Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

12. Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting would take place on Wednesday 1 November 2023 – 2.00pm – Middle Engine Lane/Teams.