

NORTHUMBRIA PCC MINUTES

Title

JOINT BUSINESS MEETING

Date

19 September 2019

Location

Stephenson Room, Middle Engine Lane

Duration

10:00 – 11:00

Present:

Kim McGuinness	Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria (<i>Chair</i>)
Winton Keenen	Chief Constable
Rachel Bacon	Assistant Chief Constable (ACC), Citizen Focus
Heidi Boden	Policy and Communications Officer, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)
Scott Duffy	Director of Governance and Communications, OPCC
Ruth Durham	Chief of Staff, OPCC
Tanya Reade	Corporate Governance Manager, Northumbria Police
Rachel Snaith	Director of Commissioning, Engagement and Policy, OPCC
Mike Tait	Director of Finance and IT and Joint Chief Finance Officer
Claire Taylor	Governance and Planning Adviser, Northumbria Police (<i>Secretary</i>)

Apologies:

David Felton	T/ Assistant Chief Constable, Crime and Communications
Debbie Ford	Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)
Joscelin Lawson	Director of People and Development, Northumbria Police
Dean Lowery	Officer of the PCC
Helen McMillan	Assistant Chief Constable, Territorial Policing and Operations

OPEN SESSION

1. MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF JOINT BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON 22 AUGUST 2019

Agreed.

2. FINDINGS FROM THE JOINT TARGETED AREA INSPECTION (JTAI) OF THE MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSE TO CHILD EXPLOITATION IN NORTHUMBERLAND

ACC, Citizen Focus outlined the main findings from the JTAI of the multi-agency response to child exploitation in Northumberland and advised it included an evaluation of the multi-agency approach focussing on children at risk of sexual or criminal exploitation. The inspection recognised that safeguarding agencies in Northumberland demonstrated a strong commitment to working together to safeguard children and have made changes in response to findings from previous inspections.

ACC, Citizen Focus stated the Director of Children's Services is to coordinate a multi-agency response in the form of a written statement, setting out the actions for the partnership and, where appropriate, individual agencies. This is to be provided by 11 November 2019. Following receipt of the formal findings, initial meetings with all agencies have taken place and a multi-agency improvement plan is under development.

Director of Commissioning, Engagement and Policy noted the sexual abuse service, which provides therapeutic support and queried whether this was a commissioned service, in order that feedback could be provided.

Chief of Staff raised the role of Operation Encompass School Liaison Officers (SLOs) and consideration for the role to support the work of the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) once funding ceases at the end of the year.

Action:

- i) ACC, Citizen Focus to provide an update on the response to the JTAI of the Multi-Agency Response to Child Exploitation in Northumberland to Scrutiny Meeting in January 2020.**
- ii) ACC, Citizen Focus to identify the sexual abuse service highlighted in the letter outlining the findings of the joint inspection, in order to provide feedback.**

3. VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT (VRU)

Police and Crime Commissioner gave the following headline updates:

- Closing date for the VRU Manager's post is 20 September 2019 and staffing of the wider team is in the process of being completed.
- The Chief Inspector is in post, looking at the VRU action plan and collating information from partners.
- The process of setting up a strategic decision making board is ongoing and all Chief Executives within Local Authorities are being contacted; two remain outstanding due to diary commitments.
- Education leads and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are to be approached.
- The Force's Communications and Engagement team are developing branding.
- Research has begun to identify evaluation leads.

Director of Commissioning, Engagement and Policy noted a recently completed knife crime problem profile could be used to inform a wider VRU Problem Profile. There is a budget to recruit a senior analyst as part of the VRU team to carry out a VRU problem profile, who will draw data from all partners.

She also advised the Home Office is sending specialist staff from their Victims and Vulnerability Unit to draw together people's experiences, to give a human insight. She advised the Commissioner has agreed to authorise two locality reviews, the first in Newcastle and second potentially Sunderland to help understand serious violence. All three products would feed into the VRU problem profile.

Action: VRU to be a standing item on future JBM agendas.

4. FORWARD PLAN

Future Capital and Revenue Monitoring reports to be provided by the Joint Chief Finance Officer.

Agreed.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

6. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

31 October 2019, 10:00, Forth Banks Police Station, Newcastle.