

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Arnot Hill House, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LU

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER STRATEGIC RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2021 AT GEDLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
CIVIC CENTRE**

COMMENCING AT 11.15 AM

MEMBERSHIP

(A – denotes absence)

- Caroline Henry - Police and Crime Commissioner
Sharon Caddell – Interim Deputy Chief Executive, OPCC
A Kevin Dennis - Chief Executive, OPCC
Charlie Radford - Chief Finance Officer, OPCC
Craig Guildford - Chief Constable, Nottinghamshire Police
Rachel Barber - Deputy Chief Constable, Nottinghamshire Police
A Mark Kimberley - Head of Finance, Nottinghamshire Police

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Howitt - OPCC
Noel McMenamin – Democratic Services, Nottinghamshire County Council

Phil Smith - Observer

1. NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2021

The notes of the meeting held on 14th September 2021, having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read and agreed as a true record.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from:

Kevin Dennis and Mark Kimberley.

**3. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE POLICE PUBLIC PROTECTION AND
SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

The meeting considered the published report, updating the Police and Crime Commissioner in respect of domestic abuse, rape and serious sexual offences, child abuse, safeguarding and on activity and progress following the IICSA Inquiry..

During discussion, a number of issues were raised and points made:

- Incidence of both rape and domestic violence were up on pre-Covid levels. There was an increase in reporting following the IICSA Inquiry and a number

of historic cases were still being processed. The increase in the statute of limitations from 6 months to 2 years was welcomed, but this also had had an impact on the number of reported cases;

- Victim satisfaction levels were generally good, but there were shortcomings reported in keeping victims informed, which remained an area of focus for the Force. Good partnership arrangements in place with victims' groups, particularly with Women's Aid;
- Recent technical innovations included resourcing 2 evidence-gathering 'digi-vans' to help capture forensic evidence as early as possible in an investigation, while staff were being trained in the use of polygraphs, for which Nottinghamshire was a pilot area;
- Commissioner Henry confirmed that public protection, and increasing public feelings of safety, were at the front and centre of her priorities as Police and Crime Commissioner. She commended the work carried out through the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Centre (MARAC) as highlighted in the report. The view was expressed that high levels of referrals through partners was testament to the maturity and strength of partnership working in Nottinghamshire;
- The meeting identified the balance between securing what victims and the public wanted from the service, for example removal of perpetrators but not necessarily perpetrator prosecution, and the need to pursue criminal justice, as a potential area for future scrutiny.

RESOLVED 2021/037

To note the report.

4. TACKLING MODERN SLAVERY (INCLUDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING)

The meeting considered the published report, providing an update on Force's performance and response to modern slavery.

During discussion, a number of issues were raised and points made:

- The view was expressed that the Force was performing well, with a dedicated unit established and a single whole-system approach with the wider Force and partner organisations was developing well. Demand was likely to increase and evolve, with current live activity including serious organised crime links to cannabis cultivation;
- While it was acknowledged that modern slavery was under-reported, awareness among the public was increasing, particularly in the Nottingham

conurbation. Commissioner Henry expressed the view that the Chairs of Strategic Partnerships could help with awareness raising and prevention;

RESOLVED 2021/038

To note the update.

5. CYBER-ENABLED CRIME AND KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE ONLINE

The meeting considered the published report, updating the Police and Crime Commissioner in respect of developments on the capacity and capability of the Force to tackle cyber crime and cyber-enabled offences.

During discussion several issues were raised and points made:

- Nottinghamshire saw a 10% increase in cyber-dependent crime over the previous year, with 80% of fraud and a significant level of harassment taking place online. Fraud was under-reported, in part due to the stigma involved;
- The Force had invested a lot of resource in addressing cyber-enabled crime, with a focus on evidence capture and recruiting tech-savvy apprentices with the required skills set. Given the continued and evolving threat, both incidence and costs were likely to increase over time;
- It was explained that Action Fraud looked to capture all fraud taking place and to investigate likely offenders. The National Crime Agency took the lead on top-end ransomware and hostile state activity, while the regional cyber resilience function focused on awareness raising and preventative measures;
- It was explained that engagement focussed on victim support at the local level to improve reporting.

RESOLVED 2021/039

To note the report.

6. MISSING FROM HOME UPDATE

The meeting considered the published report, which provided an update on progress in respect of work being undertaken by the Missing from Home Team.

Several comments were made during discussion:

- Missing persons numbers had increased but not to pre-Covid levels, and they tended to be missing for shorter periods. There was dedicated HQ resource in the Control Room working on Missing Persons, with specific staff dedicated to working with those went missing repeatedly;

- The Force's drone capacity was well-established and was instrumental in conducting searches for Missing Persons, with thermal imaging particularly useful for night-time searches;
- As Nottinghamshire was a net importer of care for vulnerable children and young people, it was acknowledged that there were challenges for the Force in being made aware of movement in and out of the County. Working arrangements with private sector service providers were improving, primarily as a result of increased input by the Force.

RESOLVED 2021/040

To note the report.

7. COUNTY LINES – SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN FROM EXPLOITATION AND VICTIMISATION

The meeting considered the published report, which provided an update on the Force's performance and response to County Lines.

There had been a substantial increase in County Lines intelligence received over the past 3 years, reflecting significant investment in addressing what was one of the Police Minister's key priorities. It was also reported that Covid had made street-level activity easier to recognise and pressurise

RESOLVED 2021/041

To note the report.

8. VIOLENCE REDUCTION UNIT – SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

The meeting considered the report, which provided an update on key successes and challenges for the Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire Violence Reduction Unit.

During discussion, it was confirmed that violence levels were down by the largest proportion of any Force outside the City of London. This was in part due to the pandemic, but was also due to the presence of initiatives such as Operation Reacher targeting knife crime, and successful early intervention and outreach work conducted by partners.

RESOLVED 2021/042

To note the report.

9. CHIEF CONSTABLE'S UPDATE REPORT NOVEMBER 2021

The meeting considered the published report, which provided an update on significant events and work since the previous update in July 2021.

In his introduction, the Chief Constable highlighted several issues, including receipt of national Outstanding Bravery awards, continued help and support for victims of crime, commendation for the quality of a complex case which led to a successful prosecution, the disruption of off-road biking activity in rural areas and improved call-handling rates.

In the brief discussion which followed, Commissioner Henry expressed interest in scrutinising further the 2-Way Crown Prosecution Service Review.

RESOLVED 2021/043

To note the report.

10. FORCE MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

The meeting considered the published report, which provided details of the Force Management Statement for 2021 Stop and Search activity by Nottinghamshire Police during 2020-2021.

RESOLVED 2021/044

To note the update.

11. PERFORMANCE AND INSIGHT REPORT

The item was deferred.

12. REGIONAL COLLABORATION – VERBAL UPDATE

There was no substantive discussion on recent regional activity at the meeting.

13. WORK PROGRAMME

No formal work programme was tabled or considered, but it was stated that a work programme would be developed in line with Commissioner Henry's preferred approach for these meetings going forward.

The meeting closed at 12.40pm

CHAIR