Police and Crime Commissioner Management Meeting – September

17th September 2015 2pm Council Chamber, Mole Valley District Council Offices, Dorking

Attendees:

Jeff Harris (DPCC – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner)
Alison Bolton (CE - Chief Executive – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)
Ian Perkin (Treasurer – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)
Shiraz Mirza (Advisor to the Police and Crime Commissioner)

Lynne Owens (CC – Chief Constable – Surrey Police)
Nick Ephgrave (DCC – Deputy Chief Constable – Surrey Police)
Jane Harwood (ACO – Assistant Chief Officer – Surrey Police)
Paul Bundy (HoF – Head of Finance – Surrey Police)

Sarah Gordon (Minutes – Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)

Agenda Item	Subject/Note	Action
	The PCC had sent his apologies for this meeting due to his involvement in national PCC business in London. The Deputy PCC chaired the meeting in his absence.	
Item 1	Matters Arising/Minutes of the last meeting – 22 nd July 2015	
	The DCC gave an update on the actions from the previous meeting:	
	 Maxwell Aboh-Tshiunza was sentenced to nine years No further victims have come forward at present following the sentencing of Ray Eve The offender who committed 13 burglary offences was sentenced to 5.5 years BME Recruitment – the Force had recently hosted a recruitment stand at the Jalsa Salana 2015 event in August 2015. Illegal migrants – between 1st April – 14th September 199 alleged immigrants had been detained by Surrey Police. The DCC couldn't confirm that all 199 had been taken into police custody as those figures weren't available but the policy was for this to happen before they were transferred on. Funding Formula Consultation – a joint report from the OPCC and Surrey Police had been submitted to the consultation which contained a fair representation of both parties' views. 	

Item 2 Surrey Police Progress Against the Six People's Priorities

The CC presented the updated report. Burglary was following a continued reduction. Violent crime was still increasing but this was largely due to a change in the scrutiny of recording and also the increase of reporting in both current and historic incidents. With regards to CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) there was more work to be done to understand the problem. Resources in this area had increased and the Force would be reconfiguring the organisation to address the issues further.

The DCC said that the Force was currently struggling to address the positive outcome rate for violent crime. Whilst the number of offences being positively resolved were increasing this was outweighed by the increase in reporting. Detective Superintendent Jon Savell was spearheading some innovative work on the East Division which had seen some positive results. He would now look to roll this out in West and North divisions.

The detection rate for serious sexual offences had dropped over the past couple of years. An improvement plan had been instigated in Autumn 2014 which had seen a month on month improvement with a 13% increase and a move up the rankings nationally.

The Force had moved from worst in the country for burglary detection to being in the top ten. The current choices the Force was making about where to focus investigative work, for example CSE, had had a slight impact on the burglary detection rate but the DCC gave reassurance that it was still a significant issue that would maintain Force focus and operational activity. The upcoming campaign, Operation Candlelight, would focus on enforcement.

The CC stressed that Surrey was not changing the way it deployed to reports of burglary. She needed to move investigative resource but this wouldn't impact on officer attendance. Reports of such incidents would always receive a response. The Force had to make difficult choices about rebalancing resource against a diminishing budget.

The CC addressed some good work reports which were detailed in the report.

The DPCC referred to the increase in digital related crime and asked what types were now recorded as a crime and what impact this had on the Force. The CC explained that abuse via social media was now recorded as harassment. A number of fraud and deception incidents also occurred through cyber space. The DCC explained that the Force was supporting the DPCC in his Surrey CyberSafe initiative. A joint Surrey Sussex Cyber Crime Unit had been established to deal with the threat of cyber related crime. The size and scale of this unit may need to be reviewed in due course.

The DPCC asked the DCC to explain the definition of a positive outcome. The DCC explained that it was similar to a detection – the identification of an offender and bringing justice against that offender. The Home Office had introduced a list of 10-15 positive outcome

categories.

The DPCC asked whether the Force was working with schools and communities to raise awareness of psychoactive substances. The CC said that the Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) offered reassurance and worked with District and Boroughs in an enforcement capacity. A number of good operations had been carried out in partnership with Surrey Trading Standards.

The CC explained that a paper would be discussed in Part Two of the meeting which related to the Force's proposals for retention and recruitment as there were currently issues with both including the high cost of living in Surrey, how public sector pay had degraded against private sector pay and the changes to police officer pay. The Force was operating with slightly less resource than the same time last year. Part of this was due to the fact that a number of officer annual leave days had to be moved due to the number of operational events that took place in June. The Force was currently carrying a higher vacancy rate although part of this was deliberate due to funding decisions that had to be made. The CC was immensely proud of the Force's low sickness rate. A recent internal health and wellbeing event had been very successful and would be rolled out across the Force.

The POCA (Proceeds of Crime Act) seizures target was on track and a more detailed paper would be brought to the next meeting which would provide information on where POCA funds had been spent in line with the People's Priorities.

The DCC explained that the Force had struggled previously with answering calls to the non-emergency 101 telephone number within the 60 second target time. One reason for this was the introduction a new computer system, Niche, which required operators to enter more information during a call. Performance had steadily improved to approximately 80% and the DCC was confident that this rate would be maintained. Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) were having a significant impact on this increased rate as officers were able to enter data direct without the need to call the Contact Centre.

The DCC was determined to reduce court attrition rates (the percentage of cases that resulted in an unsuccessful outcome at court). It wasn't solely in the police's gift to do this but could be done in partnership. The Force was improving the quality and timeliness of their submissions to the CPS. The result of this improvement work has seen the attrition rate move from 20% to 14% which was closer to the 12% national average.

The CC explained that victim satisfaction rates had seen some fluctuations. There had been an uplift in ASB satisfaction but a dip in crime satisfaction. The CC wanted to look at the survey that related to these results as the focus on crime types was shifting and the survey may not be focussed in the appropriate areas. The CC proposed the survey should consider victims of domestic abuse over victims of vehicle crime. Representations would be made to the Home Office to this effect. The CC would seek support from the PCC for this proposal and would discuss it further outside the meeting.

CC/ PCC

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The Local Policing Boards were still taking place across the county. Those held via social media were proving very successful. The Force would also be supporting the PCC at his upcoming Crime Summits.

ACC Stephens was currently reviewing police attendance at community meetings and how the Force could address attendance in a different way. It was important that officers served the community but their attendance at meetings would need to be based on other priorities and whether there was a significant police issue to be discussed. ACC Stephens is currently drawing up a protocol which will be shared with the OPCC.

ACC Steph ens/ OPCC

Public confidence in police was high and the CC continued to feel proud of that.

The report contained an updated table of conduct issues. The Force had recorded a total of 129 complaints in between April – June which was a 12% reduction on the same time last year. The introduction of the Service Recovery Team had rid PSD of a backlog of complaints. There were currently 12 officers on restricted duties due to misconduct, nine as a result of Op Ovid which related to a death in custody and three others for separate incidents. Op Ovid was subject to an IPCC investigation and they had recommended these restrictions be placed on the officers. The CC had received a total of 49 letters and emails of appreciation between 24th May and 31st July 2015.

The DPCC expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by Surrey Police in relation to the Shoreham air crash. The DPCC had also asked for his appreciation to be formally recorded.

Item 3 Update on Strategic Policing Requirement

The CC gave an update on the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR). She explained that the SPR was set by the Home Secretary and reviewed annually and considered the threats and harm to public safety on a national basis. Child sexual abuse was added in March 2015 – this was a challenging area.

The Force delivered the SPR against; Capacity and Contribution, Capability, Consistency, Connectivity. All of these were delivered with Sussex and some regionally and some in partnership.

The DCC explained that capability under child sexual abuse was a challenge not least because of the increase in reporting/recording. There were mechanisms in place under the current structure but there had been additional investment to increase capacity and resilience. Further investment would be necessary.

The CC explained that the NCA (National Crime Agency) delegated some cases to the SEROCU (South East Regional Organised Crime Unit) but if they had no capacity then it would come to the local force to investigate. There were currently a growing number of referrals to POLIT (Paedophile Online Investigation Team).