



Police and Crime Strategic Board

14 September 2015

Chief Constable's Report

1. National Issues

1.1 'A fair deal for the people of Lincolnshire'

1.1.1 Police Funding Formula Consultation – update

1.1.2 The Police Funding Formula Consultation is open until 15 September; a Force and PCC response has been formulated and circulated for comment.

1.1.3 Nationally, intelligence is being gathered on the views from the Home Office and also how some influential groups have responded to the consultation.

1.1.4 Officers have attended briefing sessions with the Home Office and some clear messages are coming out of these meetings. They are really interested in hearing views on the consultation and looking at alternative approaches. There is a clear policy direction for a simple transparent model to be implemented.

1.1.5 The Home Office is open to suggestions for improving the indicators, particularly in the areas of Council tax base and bars per hectare where it is recognised that the approach in the consultation does not address the issue that the indicator is trying to reflect. It is likely that Council Tax legacy grants will not be rolled up into the amount to be allocated. It is hoped that following the close of the consultation that the Home Office will issue some exemplifications to Forces.

1.1.6 In terms of national bodies responding, it is understood that comments are generally being made on the impact which the next settlement will potentially have with policing facing grant cuts of 25% to 40% and the proposals suggest that some forces could also stand to lose up to a further 20% of grant on top of this as well. There are also issues being raised about the short timescale of the consultation, the lack of exemplifications and an unclear methodology.

1.1.7 The consultation responses are also looking at the impact on Precepts in the light of changes in funding. It is understood that the principles in relation to the policing element are being examined to see if these can be treated as a separate case from the remainder of the tax.

1.2 Police Funding Formula – Home Affairs Select Committee

1.2.1 The Home Affairs Select Committee are conducting an inquiry into the police funding formula, and as part of that inquiry will be hearing from the Minister of Policing, the Rt Hon Mike Penning MP on 15 September.

1.2.2 In order to assist the inquiry the Committee Chairman, Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP, requested a response from the Chief Constable to a number of areas including force

budgets and officer numbers in comparison to 2012, whether the force prioritises crime types and collaboration.

- 1.2.3 Given the jointly held views of the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner regarding police funding it was considered appropriate for both to provide a detailed response to the points requested.
- 1.2.4 As well as covering the points raised the Committee Chairman was provided with copies of the Chief Constable's publication *The Structure of Police Finance – informing the debate* which contains analytical work that considers the relative costs of Forces.
- 1.2.5 The Force has offered to provide further evidence to the Committee should members consider it would add value but a response has yet to be received.

1.3 International Association of Women Police (IAWP)

- 1.3.1 The International Association of Women Police (IAWP) is an international organisation for women in criminal justice professions and has members in 60 countries.
- 1.3.2 This year's Annual Training Conference, marked the 100th anniversary of the first warranted female officer within the UK, was held in Cardiff in late August and was attended by DCC Heather Roach and ACO Nancie Shackleton.
- 1.3.3 As well as recognising the huge contribution that women make towards policing, the conference provided an opportunity to hear from global police leaders; sharing best practise and discussing cross-cutting, local and international issues such as Leadership, Victim Satisfaction, Domestic Violence and Sexual Exploitation.
- 1.3.4 DCC Roach and ACO Shackleton organise our own Women In Policing event with this year's conference being held on 16 September. It is aimed at all members of the Lincolnshire Police family and is very much about personal development and leadership within policing. This year's event has a number of delegates from other forces, the local authority and Royal Air Force attending.
- 1.3.5 The theme of the day will be Against the Odds, looking at people who have achieved either personally or professionally against significant challenge. A group of guest speakers have been invited from other forces and organisations to share their experiences and the range of speakers should offer learning for anyone who attends the event.

2 Regional Issues

2.1 Chief Officer and Strategic Firearms Commanders (SFCs) On Call Rota

- 2.1.1 On 4 September 2015, EMOpSS forces (Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire) moved to a regional on-call structure for Chief Officers and Strategic Firearms Commanders (SFCs).
- 2.1.2 This structure operates on a 'Hub' basis, with Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire forming the 'North Hub' and Leicestershire and Northamptonshire forming the 'South Hub'.

- 2.1.3 Daytime cover (7am – 6pm Mon - Fri) will be provided by individual forces, whilst out of hours cover (6pm – 7am Mon-Fri and weekend period) will be provided by Hub based on-call arrangements, co-ordinated by the East Midlands Regional Information and Co-ordination Centre (EMRICC).
- 2.1.4 The on-call officers should be immediately available for contact by telephone and where necessary Chief Officers should be able to take personal command of critical incidents within a maximum of two hours and SFCs to take personal command of firearms incidents within 90 minutes
- 2.1.5 This is the first on call rota of its kind in the country and has attracted significant media interest with the Chief Constable being asked to provide an article for publishing in Police Professional magazine.

2.2 East Midlands Video Link - update

- 2.2.1 The Leicester Virtual Court Pilot is moving forward and it is hoped that week commencing 7 September 2015, a 'dry run' of the process between a Police Station Custody Suite and the Magistrates' Court will take place. This will be without an actual detainee, but with all parties involved. A 'live test' scenario is also planned for later in September including using a full electronic file (or as close to that as current limitations allow).
- 2.2.2 The Project Board is due to meet on 10 September 2015 to consider and challenge progress, as well as looking towards the next stage. It is anticipated that there will be questions raised of all agencies as to what activity is being carried out to increase using the equipment.
- 2.2.3 Previously it was reported that a Spalding Remote Witness Link was being developed with HMCTS. Site surveys have been conducted at South Holland District Council and quotes have been obtained regarding the IT equipment and connections. However at this stage HMCTS consider that due to the low number of cases involved the financial investment and requirements of agencies would not be value for money. Should a remote link be installed there may be more appropriate alternative sites elsewhere in Lincolnshire. The HMCTS Head of Crime is producing a report for senior management and will provide feedback in due course.

2.3 Lincolnshire Criminal Justice Board (LCJB) – update

- 2.3.1 The introduction of an East Midlands Criminal Justice Board (EMCJB) is moving closer. Locally the recommendation to join a regional board has been agreed, but until final arrangements are made the local board meetings will remain in the diary. As previously reported there is the caveat that there are some elements of criminal justice multi-agency working that should remain local, those being victims and witnesses and reducing offending.
- 2.3.2 A second regional meeting was held and Derbyshire CJB has now confirmed they wish to be full members within a regional board, but intend to maintain their local board structure. Northamptonshire CJB is due to move shortly to formally make a decision as to their role within a regional board.
- 2.3.3 Availability is currently being sought to identify the first date of the EMCJB, at which a formal governance proposal will be submitted for discussion.

2.4 Niche – update

- 2.4.1 On 15 September the Victims Code of Practice (VCop) module will be available in the regional Niche domain. This will be trialled by Leicestershire officers, who have previous experience of managing victim contact via an automated system. The VCop module will be rolled out in Lincolnshire with an automated victim update system called Track My Crime early in the New Year. The two applications will assist officers and victims in providing and obtaining updates to their crimes.
- 2.4.2 EMSOU will go-live on the Regional Niche platform on 22 September. This will enable them to share information more effectively without the risk of exposing active operations.
- 2.4.3 On 6 October there will be a Niche upgrade in preparation for Northamptonshire's go-live. The upgrade will bring changes to Road Traffic Collisions, Intelligence management, public protection (stop abuse) and stop and search to enable the integration with our mobile data programme. Two sergeants have been released from district to assist the force through the change process ensuring minimal disruption to the operational users.
- 2.4.4 The regional Niche team, along with Lincolnshire staff and regional colleagues are redesigning how property is recorded and managed within Niche. This will include the introduction of scanners and printers to streamline the booking in and the movement of property items.
- 2.4.5 The regional Niche team plan for the design and development to be available to Lincolnshire during December 2015. This will include role out support through super users and the Niche project team being out at stations assisting staff during the transition.
- 2.4.6 The NICHE team have provided a significant amount of support and guidance to staff in the way that NICHE is being rolled out across the region and this can be found at http://intranet.lincspolice.local/Crime/Crime_Department/Niche-NC5/

3 Local issues

3.1 Policing Model Project

- 3.1.1 Since its inception, the Policing Model Project has been working in consultation with Process Evolution and both Local Policing and Crime SMTs to identify potential opportunities for releasing resources in order to provide the capacity to deal with the emergence of threats such as modern slavery, child sexual exploitation and cyber-crime for which our current provision of capability is inadequate.
- 3.1.2 The project has commissioned a number of packages to progress the work and, following a decisive Project Board on 26 August, these have been presented to the Chief Officer Group requesting approval to progress recommendations regarding the establishment changes required.
- 3.1.3 A presentation outlining the recommendations will be delivered to the Police and Crime Commissioner as soon as possible.

3.2 Out of Court Disposals (OCD) - update

- 3.2.1 A report on the findings made by the Out of Court Disposal Scrutiny Panel at its meeting in June was distributed to the Criminal Justice Board and PCC on 13 July 2015; this had been agreed as a standing action after each Panel meeting.
- 3.2.2 This report highlighted that of the fifteen cases examined the majority did not include the reasoning for an OCD being given and in a number of cases the views of the victims were not included. Some further examination of the June cases is expected to take place at the next meeting on 10 September.
- 3.2.3 Panel members will be allowed sufficient time prior to the commencement of the next meeting to review and consider the cases presented to them. This will also allow sufficient time in advance of the meeting to source additional information for the Panel if required.
- 3.2.4 The Police have undertaken to promote the Panel using internal media to raise its profile and to describe what is expected of officers when undertaking an OCD, such as seeking the views of victims and explaining the reasons within the documentation as to which OCD was used in line with national guidance and the gravity matrix.
- 3.2.5 Furthermore the Deputy Chief Constable has agreed to review the recommendations from the Joint Criminal Justice Inspection of the provision of Charging Decisions concerning recording of decisions. Progress will be reviewed at the meeting. A new senior officer representative will be in attendance and production of the papers will have been drafted by a new member of staff with guidance; it may be that the Panel makes further recommendations on improvements to the operation of the Panel.

3.3 Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) Project – update

- 3.3.1 In December 2014 the Lincolnshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Project Board were presented with an Outline Business Case by Detective Chief Inspector Nigel Storey that proposed various model options for implementing a MASH in the county.
- 3.3.2 The Project Board agreed that a Delivery Group chaired by DCI Storey should be tasked with developing a hub and spoke type model that would enhance and improve the current safeguarding processes across the county.
- 3.3.3 It was initially considered by the Delivery Group that referrals closed as requiring no further action (NFA) presented a potential risk of harm to individuals where information, held by other agencies, had not been requested or shared before closure and therefore may have affected the initial decision to NFA.
- 3.3.4 However following an examination of a dip sample of over 1400 referrals to Adult and Children's Services it was considered that in the majority of cases either no information was held by other agencies regarding the individuals subject of the referral, or where information was held, the Customer Service Centre (CSC) were already aware of the content.
- 3.3.5 The Delivery Group concluded that an investment of additional resources in to the suggested hub and spoke model would not significantly enhance current processes however it would identify areas where improvements could be made.

- 3.3.6 In order to enhance the effective multi agency relationships and working practices currently in place, and to ensure compliance with recommendations from various serious case reviews, a critical review of current processes adopted by agencies when sharing information and submitting referrals was undertaken to identify any knowledge gaps and areas of good practice that would enable agencies to safeguard vulnerable adults and children more effectively.
- 3.3.7 At the conclusion of the review DCI Storey presented an Improvement Plan to the Project Board suggesting a number of recommendations that included:
- All agencies review existing training packages delivered to front line staff to ensure they cover identifying safeguarding concerns involving adults, children and/or their families.
 - Consideration should be given to aligning the Adult referral process to that of Children Services.
 - Identify the level of multi-agency information concerning individuals that will be available when conducting assessments of risk.
 - Review the process of referral submissions from the police Central Referral Unit (CRU); including providing sufficient information to support the referral such as DASH pro-formas.
 - Establish how repeat Standard and Medium domestic incidents and repeat missing persons (especially those considered to be vulnerable or at risk of exploitation) are referred for assessment.
 - Conduct a 12 month trial of an Adult Safeguarding Practitioner operating within the CRU
 - Provide analytical support to identify trends and themes.
 - Review existing procedures for providing telephone safeguarding advice.
- 3.3.8 The Project Board agreed with the findings and recommendations of the Improvement Plan in full and tasked DCI Storey with exploring and dealing with all the recommendations.

3.4 Blue Light Collaboration Project – update

- 3.4.1 Work is ongoing to develop the full business case and an update will be presented to the next Steering Group on 1 October 2015. This will include details of the Innovation funding opportunities (following attendance at a meeting at the Home Office on 1 September), initial outcome of a county wide estates review (following a joint agency workshop on 12 August) and details of a feasibility study which has been commissioned to assess the opportunities for maximising the use of the existing HQ building and site to accommodate the co-location requirements.
- 3.4.2 Weekly meetings are now being planned with the Project Team and Chief Constable to ensure the momentum is maintained to deliver this ambitious project.