

WILTSHIRE POLICE

with Inspector Pete Sparrow where he was able to answer further questions and is keen for this to continue. Whilst September is not unfeasible it does seem a long way off. BH will touch base with IAG chair to see what support can be given.

ACTION: BH is link in with each IAG chair to ascertain what support can be given in terms of the battle rhythm. BH is also to speak to members in terms of the website,

SP feels September is the right time to get back to a quarterly meeting and echoes the support with technology.

NW does communicate by newsletters and emails and are meeting next week attempting a virtual meeting where the CPT inspectors will help. NW echoes LP's point of the loss of members dropping off or not responding. BH may be able to offer virtual support.

AA agrees with the next meeting being in September where it can be quarterly thereafter.

Development of the IAG website. BH asked the meeting if they could consider photographs and contact details of IAGs on the website. He went on to explain that other forces do this. LP has no problem in principle. KH has no problem with a photograph but is less inclined for her personal email address to be placed on the public domain. Once there, it is difficult to remove and members could find a whole range of messages being sent through.

There is a second action in the round of conversations to be held offline where BH can assist.

HOW WE ARE DELIVERING OUR SERVICES

101 calls sees demand increasing week on week but is still a relatively stable picture. There organisation is seeing 999 calls increasing significantly. In terms of ability to respond to calls, immediate calls are still within target. Over the course of the week there has been some early warning signs it is starting to get busier in the run up to the summer. KP reiterated the importance of communicating with the public as restrictions start to ease. It is still important that guidelines are followed.

CHANGES TO OUR DEMAND

The increase in 999 calls and when talking about impact, at the height there was 27% reduction in crime, this has gone down to 11%. Last week saw an increase of 22% taking it back to normal levels. There is a lot of partnership work going on to deal with under-reporting of hidden abuse in communities. Hate Crime sees a 63% increase with PM explaining it is linked to responses around Black Lives Matter (BLM); with analysis being carried out around that.

In relation to slide 10 and the average time, MS asked if this sometimes goes outside parameters, if so, how many times? PM explained these are reviewed on a daily basis by the Contact Centre throughout the COVID-19 period in addition to other governance where the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) look at exceptions. PM went on to explain these tend to be in the more rural areas in terms of location or weekends when resource are really stretched. Average times were set centrally and mandated to the Central Policing Pledge. The organisation have kept with those, they are self-imposed.

AA asked the type of hate crime being seen. PS explained it is primarily to the BLM protest and matters around that, explaining an isolated incidence of graffiti in support of those issues. PS has tasked CPT to find out if there are any trends and patterns along with ongoing work with Business Intelligence teams that will report back into ELT. LC stated a similar approach; they know the vulnerable areas and are ensuring patrols are keeping an eye on patterns. PM explained there may be confidence issues with reporting hate crime.

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Public Order/Anti-social Behaviour (ASB). LC explained the country has been in a position where no one has been out and now they are allowed to gather in bigger groups, officers try to disperse in line with guidelines. PS explained the dynamics around COVID-19 saw the reporting of neighbourhood disputes reporting those in breach, did increase in Public Order and ASB. Local policing teams are aware of hot spots and patrol strategies reflect those.

SP sought clarity around hate crime and figures and was it standard hate crime being reported. PM explained analysis is being done around the rise for the last week to understand what that looks like and do not have that information to hand.

NW asked if it were possible to get information on specific IAG basis. PM explained an App called QlikSense that gives a breakdown of strategic view of trends. BH will speak to Sector and CPT Inspectors to get that granular overview and re-affirm in a letter.

For IAGs not aware, JH explained CPT produce reports on a 6 weekly basis for Area Boards that do include data on local crime issues; these are published on both the Force and PCC website. BH will signpost members to those reports.

MS asked which category suicide falls in to. PM explained the organisation is monitoring the impact of mental health, from COVID-19, on a weekly basis. Section 136 is the power to bring people in under the Mental Health Act and sudden deaths fall within that; there has been no massive increase. All predictive work says this is likely to increase 30%. KP has just come from a Clinician group that is connected to the aftermath of the first phase of COVID-19 where large companies are starting with announcements of mass unemployment. There is statistical evidence that will correlate we are expecting to see a significant rise of concern in our communities. The Local Resilience Forum are monitoring and are expecting to see in the next 6-12 months that increase. There has been a marginal increase in the level of drug related deaths and that is being monitored through the Health and Wellbeing board.

WORKING WITH THE PUBLIC TO KEEP YOU SAFE

The policing role in terms COVID-19 and Regulations is continuing to reduce but there are still blatant breaches. The organisation has not issued a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) since the start of June which is very much in parallel with lockdown seeing officers engaging and explaining. All FPNs have been checked by an Independent Scrutiny Panel. JH sits on the panel where he explained, it does throw up one or 2 trends – this has allowed him to asked questions. JH went on to say it has been a useful process providing that level of oversight to the Force.

Licensed premises - super Saturday where all licensed premises were allowed to open as long as the COVID Secure processes were in place for the safe running of the establishment. Since this was announced work has been going on with local authorities and PHE partners around establishments opening. Additional resources were put in place in the event of disorder to ensure the Force were well placed to deal with anything. Urban pubs opened this weekend and rural areas may be taking a little longer opening.

NW - in relation to pub opening there have been comments from local councillors concerned around the number of pubs in market areas with no outdoor space proposing to operate on pavements which creates public order and H&S issues. Discussions have been held with with partnership licensing authorities around planning and local authorities do have that responsibility. PS has got licensing staff working alongside, with local council, and everything is in place. There is also a Public Order cohort in place to manage any disorder. LC has attended a pub watch meeting along with other Inspectors where they were reassured that licensees have put measures in place and is confident police will identify any of these issues. PM explained they will be carrying out a review of how that has gone.

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NW highlighted the revised legislation earlier this week where it does require licensees to have tables, and those tables can act as a barrier for people proceeding along the pavements. LC said this specific Intel is key for hubs in the local areas to ensure in-depth patrol plans.

HOW WE ARE ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

Communications. AG explained the key position has not changed in terms of the way the Force do things, ie the 4E's model of policing and encouraging working with communities. Examples of campaign work and wider with the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) as well as local activities. First were examples of Ramadan messaging working with THE LRF centred around the guidance from the Muslim Council and ensuring appropriate guidance supporting Ramadan in a different way. A local example is business as usual being exacerbated by COVID-19, saw nationally, a rise in speeding. Normally Community Speed Watch (CSW) would be operating in normal circumstances, but they have not been able to operate. Operational activity was stepped up to ensure the organisation was addressing the issue. All CPT and Specialist Ops teams have been supporting the campaign messaging around the national guidance of speed limits have not been changed.

Public engagement. There was a need to get a feel of how members of the public perceive policing in terms of visibility, trust and confidence. A short survey was commissioned with the PCC and Force to carry out a temperature check and there were 3,000 responses to the survey. This is being packaged into one summary and will be supported by media activity to give context around the stats and what has been done off the back of it – it is due out in a couple of weeks.

Areas of the wider campaign plan illustrate what the organisation are dealing with over the next couple of months by allocating resource proportionally using the GOLD/SILVER/BRONZE system.

MS asked why Burglary was SILVER and why it is ahead of suicide. AG explained it is part of the work supporting a wider campaign a non-police campaign. The ongoing campaign is supporting as an LRF group.

UPDATE FROM OUR COMMUNITY POLICING TEAMS

PS explained the impact of COVID-19 is coming out as low. There are good successes working in partnership with Swindon Borough Council around rough sleepers and looking to ensure they manage the risks to them and others and working to re-home those individuals. Adult/Child exploitation where they have been to a number of homes with partners. Modern slavery and crime with operations linked to car washes has been successful with one arrest. They have also been covering the shooting Rivermead, BLM protests where they were able to facilitate a proportionate policing response and were able to connect early with the community and as a result there were no arrests or disorder. PS has also focussed on the Citizens in Policing team and update on the contribution of the Special Constabulary (SPC) across the Force. Since being in lockdown SPC have given 22.5K hrs to the Force benefitting the local communities.

LC explained there has been an uplift to the Rural Crime Team for the county and is aware of the impact crime has on rural communities. There is a new structure with clear geographics and a Rural Crime Strategy in consultation rural communities. PM explained it was right to invest in that, the impact on the rural community was linked to organised criminality and working with the key partners, the national farmers.

YOUR VOICE – YOUR COMMUNITY – YOUR CONCERNS

KP explained the Swindon shooting was a rare event of police using a firearm and has not seen one in many years. Having responded to a report of an armed robbery to business premises, following a rapid police response, were able to quickly take control of situation. Despite numerous warnings to drop the weapon, the man holding the weapon was shot. It was not a

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fatal wound, he had been shot in the leg and first aid was rendered. In the interest of complete transparency this was mandatorily referred to the office of police complaints who will investigate the Force to ensure any learning comes through to the Force and nationally.

There was also the tragic double murder in Salisbury on 1 June. This related to a Polish family of both mother and her 18 year old daughter were tragically killed by their husband/father. Incredible bravery was shown from members of the public who intervened and safeguard 2 young children and chased and held the offender until police arrived.

JH is keen to understand the issues on the mind of IAGs and communities.

LP explained it has stalled in terms of their particular group and does not know what to go back to them with and asked for guidance on direct action with the group. This time last year they were looking at the internal document on hate crime.

MS – praise efforts of Salisbury police in response to the double murder and other incidents. MS had a conversation with a colleague whose mother died in A&E and was attended by police in PPE to an unexplained death on a COVID-19 ward. MS' query is the delay in her mother passing and policing arriving. LC will pick this up offline with MS.

KH has had high levels of disengagement with members. The one concern is the speeding traffic.

AJ has not had a meeting with North Swindon since lockdown, is reluctant to use SKYPE but has been using email which has worked well. A number of burglaries no have been reported on Facebook and AJ has told Inspector Carly Nesbitt and has seen a good response with patrols going around at night. There has also been speeding in North Swindon and AJ is not sure how to deal with that one. JH will speak to CSW and ask them to get in touch with AJ.

The IAG Chairs were keen to take something back to their members for discussion. KP outlined below:

*As the Chief Constable I am interested in our IAG's helping to answer this:
"Set against the likely societal, harm and crime impacts that the country is expected to experience in the aftermath of C-19, what advice do you have for the force to enable us to deliver outstanding policing with our communities"?*

It was right to hold the meetings on a monthly basis and it is important the meeting is re-set and remember where the meeting was before they entered this period. September will see the meeting getting back to being handed topics for a deeper dive.

PM and KP expressed their thanks and support of this group.

End 20.00 hrs