

**DATE** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**TIME:** 10:00-12:00

**LOCATION:** Online via Zoom

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Init</b>	<b>Position and Area</b>
MK		IAG Chair
SS		(IAG Vice Chair
JR		IAG Member
RM		IAG Member
PD		IAG Member
SC		IAG Member
SF		IAG Member
MP		IAG Member
GK		IAG Member
AC		IAG Member
Michael Loebenberg		Area Commander, Aylesbury Vale LPA, TVP
Hayley Holding		Admin Support, Aylesbury Vale LPA, TVP (Minutes)
<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Init</b>	<b>Position and Area</b>
James Davies		Neighbourhood Inspector, Aylesbury Vale LPA, TVP
CO		IAG Member
HW		IAG Member
PC		IAG Member
GE		IAG Member
CP		IAG Member
FF		IAG Member
HG		IAG Member
KR		IAG Member

**1. Welcome and Introductions:**

MK welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Action notes and matters arising:**

None raised.

### **3. Buckinghamshire Council Updates - AC:**

#### **Community Safety Restructure**

There has not been much change since last meeting. The new Service Director is expected to take over soon and that should kick start the restructure process.

#### **COVID-19**

A new BAME Community Engagement Officer is now in post. They are dedicated to linking in with ethnic minority communities and all those who are at higher risk to support the delivery of the Covid-19 agenda. The contact details are: Dr Saleema Burney 01494 475439. Saleema.Burney@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

#### **IAG Survey**

The results of the survey suggest that some IAG training is required. We are hoping to progress this in the summer.

#### **2021 Census**

As you may already know, Census Day is Sunday 21 March 2021. The census is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. Local councils, the government, charities, businesses and many other organisations use census information to decide how to spend billions of pounds on services every year.

The census is so important that it's compulsory for everyone to take part. Residents can complete the census questionnaire online as one household, or you might prefer the option to reply individually, which means your responses cannot be seen by each other.

If people do not respond to the census, we usually visit their address to remind them to fill it in. We do this after Census Day, so please fill in the census by then. This way, there's no risk of us causing any concerns.

We'd like to reassure you that the statistics we publish from the census are completely anonymous. We do not include any personal information, and individuals cannot be identified. All personally identifiable census information is held securely for 100 years and protected by law. It's a crime for anyone to share it.

You can also visit [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk) to find out more about the census. If you would like to discuss anything, you can email the Census Partnerships Team at [2021Census.Engagement@ons.gov.uk](mailto:2021Census.Engagement@ons.gov.uk). We're very happy to talk to you, but understand if you would prefer not to identify yourself.

Thank you for your support in making Census 2021 a success. By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you will help make sure as many people as possible are represented in decisions about the services they need.

***Peter Benton***

***Director of Census Operations, Office for National Statistics***

#### **4. LPA Commanders Updates (Superintendent Loebenberg):**

**\*Please see presentation for more information. Please note that some information has been redacted.**

In January we saw a notable increase in rural crime, which caused great concern in the community. We commissioned extra resources from the Joint Operations Unit and Aylesbury to patrol our Northern and Eastern borders. The result was five arrests over three days. We utilised social media and other forms of communication to get the word out and prompt reporting from our communities allowed us to get the right resources in the right place at the right time.

**[MK] Is there evidence to suggest that drug users are exploiting other means to support their habit?**

There have been a couple of incidents whereby persons with a history of substance abuse have taken advantage of another through fraud i.e. encouraged a vulnerable person to withdraw cash. There are many mechanisms used to fund drug habits and we have seen shifts to other crime types, however, in the main, crime figures are down over the last 18 months. One of the benefits of the COVID period is the faster and much more supportive multi-agency approach offered to those in need.

**[AC] The downward trends are very encouraging, are there any upward trends?**

Theft from non-dwellings has increased (sheds / garages). We have also seen more crime reports coming out of a single domestic incident call – we have attended fewer incidents but have recorded more crime.

#### **Serious Violence Strategy**

In 2019 the Home Office announced that 18 of the worst affected areas for violent crime would receive a share of £35m to establish Violence Reduction Units (VRU's), with a further £35m provided for 2020/21. Thames Valley Police has a VRU with £730,000 funding for next year.

**Schemes funded from the budget (see presentation for more details):**

- Hospital Navigator Scheme
- Divert
- Police Operations

**ACTION:** Report on Hate Crime statistics at next meeting (Supt.ML)

**[MK] What happened in TVP to get this money?**

Aylesbury's knife crime accounts for less than 5% of TVP's offences. Areas such as Reading and Milton Keynes carry the majority of knife crime offences. We have seen some serious incidents occur in both areas in the last 12 months.

**[AC] There is an issue with underreporting of crime – are TVP looking at ways to improve this? Can the RVU money be used to do this?**

You can now report crime online and 20% of crime reported to TVP is reported this way. The Hospital Navigator Scheme is funded by the VRU its aim is to improve reporting. Aylesbury are not expecting to receive a large proportion of the funding due to low offending in the area.

**[SS] People call and report crime to the Parishes all the time. Can we do anything to back up the efforts to get them to report to the Police?**

TVP regularly post advice on social media – this can be shared. We can also look at local communication pieces for Parishes to run. Supt. Loebenberg has a monthly slot with the local radio station and can readdress this subject during next interview.

**ACTION:** Explore local communications re: reporting crime with TVP Corporate Comms (James Davies)

**[SF] Should you report hate speech, even if low level?**

Yes this should be reported. Understanding what crimes are being reported where allows us to deploy officers to the correct areas. The Council will also use crime data to assess CCTV placement.

**[PD] In relation to COVID, what impact will the up-coming 2021 elections have on the community?**

[AC] This has been discussed in various meetings within the Council. Ideally it would be postponed but it will be going ahead. Adjustments will be put in place and communicated once finalised.

[Michael Loebenberg] There is an exception written in to the COVID-19 regulations with regards to campaigning. More information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-secure-election-campaigning-will-go-ahead>

#### **5. Members Feedback / Issues to raise:**

JR – Students at the University of Buckingham are carrying out in relation to threat and have an interest in PREVENT and Counter Terrorism. They will be available to assist with project work and are looking for volunteers to interview for a formal perspective on issues.

SF – Bucks Museum Trust will be hosting a series of virtual events over the next few weeks. More information can be found on their website.

MK – Street Angels are keen to get back out and meet people face-to-face. We have lost several volunteers from the service but are looking forward to providing a presence in the Town again.

#### **6. AOB**

None raised.

#### **7. Next Meeting Dates:**

9 <sup>th</sup> June	10:00-12:00
9 <sup>th</sup> September	10:00-12:00
9 <sup>th</sup> December	10:00-12:00