

# Independent Advisory Group

## Meeting Minutes



### Berkshire East Local Command Unit

**DATE**            **17<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

**TIME:**           **18:30**

**LOCATION:** **York House, Windsor**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Position and Area</b>
Stuart Bosley	SB	LCU Commander
Stewart Codling	SC	CI NH
Arshad Jarral	AJ	IAG Chair
	PD	IAG member
	RH	IAG member
	PD	IAG member
	LS	IAG member
	SA	IAG member
	FM	IAG member
	AN	IAG member
Neeta Mistry-Patel	NMP	Cado TVP
	JH	IAG member
	RB	IAG member
	MK	IAG member
	CF	IAG member
	MB	IAG member
Nick Macchia	NM	NH Sgt TVP
	JS	IAG member
	MS	IAG member
	DL	IAG member
	SB	ASO TVP
<b>Apologies</b>		
	LME	IAG member
	JJ	IAG member

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	LW	IAG member
	SA	IAG member
	HH	IAG member

### Agenda Item: Critical Updates – SB

#### 1. Summer Demand Period

- Anticipated increase in demand due to major planned events, including Royal Ascot, Royal Windsor Horse Show (RWHS), and Henley Regatta.

#### 2. Policing Operations and Incidents

- **Oxford Student Union Event:**
- **Bracknell Homicide (25 April):**
- **Royal Windsor Horse Show Incident:**
- **Operation California – Cippenham Shooting (5 June):**
- **Terrorism Case (Slough):**
- **Trial – Child Murder (November 2024):**

#### 3. Wider Policing Context

- **National Incidents:**
  - Recent murders in Southampton and Belfast highlight the unpredictable and fast-moving nature of policing, particularly during summer months.
  - The Southampton case is subject to an independent investigation.
  - Officers deployed to Hampshire experienced violence, including one officer sustaining injury after being struck by a brick.
  - Local policing plan established to ensure public confidence and to avoid discouraging reporting.

#### 4. Policing Priorities

- Knife crime
  - Anti-social behaviour (ASB)
  - Violence against women and girls (VAWG) / sexual offending
  - Shoplifting
  - Domestic abuse (DA)
  - Violent crime
- (No prioritisation hierarchy specified.)*

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### Agenda Item: Section 60 (S60) Powers

- Section 60 powers are utilised to prevent serious violence and enable officers to conduct stop and search without reasonable suspicion.
- **Eton Incident (15 June 2026):**
- **Cabbage Hill, Bracknell (22 May 2026)**

### Neighbourhood Policing (NH) Updates – SC

- **1. Daler Rowney Fire (25 May 2026):**
  - Significant fire incident requiring a response from Fire and Rescue services and resulting in multiple evacuations.
  - No injuries were reported.
  - Some communication issues were identified on the day; however, agencies are now working collaboratively to address these and improve coordination moving forward.
- **2. Cabbage Hill S60 (22 May 2026):**
  - Intelligence from schools indicated a potential large gathering at the end of half term, with concerns that knives may be present.
  - Neighbourhood officers were initially deployed to monitor the situation rather than immediately implement S60 powers.
  - Observations and intelligence corroborated the potential for weapon-related activity.
  - A vehicle stop led to the recovery of a knife, prompting the enactment of Section 60 powers.
  - A total of 11 individuals were stopped and searched, with no further weapons identified and no additional incidents reported that evening.
- **3. Bracknell Town Centre Priorities: NM**
  - The town centre attracts visitors from outside the area and has a relatively small but growing residential population.
  - Policing priorities are shaped by multiple sources, with strong emphasis on feedback from local residents and communities.
  - Engagement approaches include proactive outreach and public communication; however, it is acknowledged that some groups (e.g., retail workers) may be harder to reach.
  - Priorities are reviewed quarterly, with monthly updates on progress.
  - Information is published online: [Your area | Thames Valley Police](#), including local officer details and contact information.
  - Policing activity remains flexible to address emerging issues as required.
- **4. Proactive Policing Activity:**
  - Test purchasing operations conducted with police cadets to tackle:
    - Underage alcohol sales
    - Illegal knife sales
    - Hotel bookings involving underage individuals
- **5. Community Tensions and Engagement:**

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- Ongoing monitoring of national and international developments and their impact on local communities.
- Engagement work includes outreach and reassurance activity across Muslim and Jewish communities.
- Positive feedback reported from visits, including engagement at gurdwaras.
- Regular meetings are held between Assistant Chief Constable Dennis Murray and Muslim community leaders across Thames Valley Police to understand concerns and provide reassurance.
- Engagement with Jewish communities includes synagogue visits, Q&A sessions, and reassurance patrols.
- Both in-person and online monitoring of community tensions is ongoing.
- Current assessment indicates relatively low tension levels within the Local Command Unit (LCU).
- Strong and effective relationships have been established between neighbourhood teams and local communities, including the Grange Hotel.
- Universities are also recognised as key communities, and engagement activity has taken place accordingly.
- **6. Community Engagement Opportunities:**
  - Invitation extended for panel members to visit neighbourhood policing offices and engage directly with officers.
- **7. Community Events and Operations:**
  - A recent day of action in Chalvey involved mounted officers, drone support, and community engagement, resulting in positive feedback.
- **8. Upcoming Events:**
  - Forthcoming events expected to impact policing demand include:
    - World Cup
    - Royal Ascot
    - Garter Ceremony
    - Bracknell and Windsor Pride
    - "Rock the Rec" (Windsor)
  - Some events receive central government funding, while others are managed through standard policing resources.
- **9. Social Cohesion:**
  - Social cohesion remains a key focus for policing, with efforts directed at strengthening community relationships.
  - Work is ongoing with the Home Office and partner agencies, although it is recognised that sustained progress often requires additional funding.
  - The issue is receiving increasing national attention from both government and policing bodies.
  - 
  - **Discussion Points**
  - **MB:**

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- Highlighted concerns regarding the recording and communication of race in arrest reporting, noting the importance of consistency across all cases.
- Emphasised that media coverage can undermine long-term trust-building efforts.
- Noted the growing influence of social media, particularly among younger people, as a primary news source, presenting ongoing challenges for policing communications.

Slough area to be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Agenda Item: Community Cohesion – NMP**

- Presentation slides to be circulated to members following the meeting.
- Daily management meetings are held to review reported racial incidents, ensuring appropriate oversight and resourcing.
  - These meetings also monitor trends and patterns of behaviour, including assessing any emerging tensions within specific communities (e.g. Jewish communities).
- There is a continued focus on swift investigation and progression of cases to ensure timely justice, supported by alignment with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and Courts.
- **Impact of National Incidents:**
  - Events involving Tommy Robinson, and recent incidents in Belfast and Southampton, have had a noticeable impact locally, with trends and community sentiment being closely monitored.
  - Police maintain a state of readiness to respond proportionately to any potential disorder.
  - It was noted that public discourse surrounding incidents (e.g. the death of an Afghan male) can generate tension regardless of the circumstances reported.
- There is typically an increase in reported incidents and tensions in areas where Tommy Robinson is present, involving both supporters and opposing groups.

### **Discussion and Questions**

- **AJ:**
  - Raised the question of whether recorded figures accurately reflect the true scale of incidents, suggesting that some matters (particularly online abuse) may go unreported.
  - Members were encouraged to review the circulated data and provide feedback on community sentiment.
- **NMP (Response):**
  - Acknowledged a shift in community feeling.
  - Noted that underreporting remains an issue, often due to individuals perceiving incidents as insufficiently serious or not wishing to be formally identified.
  - Emphasised the importance of encouraging reporting in all cases.

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### Community Cohesion - NMP

- **Knife Crime**
  - Delivery of a comprehensive knife crime action plan, with a strong emphasis on prevention.
  - Regular “weeks of action” targeting knife crime.
  - Additional Home Office funding has been sought to support preventative initiatives in Slough.
- **Domestic Abuse:**
  - Recognised as a largely hidden and underreported crime type.
  - Multi-Agency Tasking and Coordination (MATAC) and Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) are utilised to manage risk.
  - Focus remains on prevention and safeguarding.
- **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG):**
  - Measures include increased CCTV coverage and targeted work to build public trust and confidence.
  - Internal governance groups analyse problem profiles and drive targeted responses.
- **Operational Enhancements:**
  - Domestic Abuse advisors are embedded within the control room to provide immediate specialist support and inform response strategies.
  - Rapid Video Call technology is used to enable early engagement with victims, helping to build trust and provide reassurance at the first point of contact.
- **Workforce and Culture:**
  - Internal staff networks, including men’s networks and the Thames Valley Women’s Network (TVWN), promote accountability and professional standards among officers.
  - Awareness events and days of action have been delivered to highlight issues such as domestic abuse.

### Additional Contributions

- **RH:**
  - Highlighted the importance of contextualising data, noting that statistics alone do not provide a complete understanding without supporting narrative.
- **MK:**
  - Sought clarification regarding gang activity in Cippenham.
  - It was confirmed that gangs are present in both Cippenham and Britwell, with indications of a potential resurgence in tensions that have existed over time.
  - A full understanding of recent incidents is being developed, alongside ongoing investigative and reassurance activity.
- **Local Authority Partnership:**

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- Slough Borough Council continues to work closely with Thames Valley Police to safeguard children and young people in the area.

### Section 60 (Scrutiny Update)

- The Cabbage Hill Section 60 authorisation was referred to the scrutiny panel within two days, with no issues raised.
- The Eton Section 60 authorisation has not yet been reviewed by the panel due to its recent implementation.

### Agenda Item: Members' Matters - AJ

- AJ welcomed all attendees and noted the positive diversity of the group in terms of age and demographics.
- Members were encouraged to review their participation, with a request that individuals reconsider their membership if they are unable to attend more than two consecutive meetings.
- The Annual Report (previous year) has now been published online, and the link has been circulated.
  - The report provides an overview of the group's activity and achievements over the past 12 months and supports transparency with the wider community.
- A public engagement event is planned for later in the year.
  - It was noted that, with Stuart Bosley now settled into his role, the group is well-positioned to deliver a successful event.
- Stuart Bosley expressed his thanks to members for their ongoing contribution, engagement, and attendance.

### Any Other Business (AOB)

- **DL:**
  - Expressed appreciation for the openness and honesty of discussions, particularly regarding the pressures faced by police officers.
- **PD:**
  - Provided positive feedback following attendance at the Duck Derby event.
  - Noted the professionalism and efforts of officers present, with feedback from the public described as highly positive.

### Key Messages

- Strong support was expressed for the policing priorities outlined by SB.
- Members raised concerns regarding the divisive nature of current political rhetoric, including recent commentary and reporting in relation to grooming gang enquiries by a Member of Parliament.
- It was reaffirmed that the police are part of the community and represent all members of the public at all times.

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## Date of Next Meeting

- **9 September 2026**
- **Location:** Observatory House