

Wokingham IAG Meeting minutes

DATE Monday 13th November 2023
TIME: 19:00 pm
LOCATION: Loddon Valley Police Station

Attendees

Init	Position and Area
ET	Wokingham IAG Chair – B & W LPA
AC	TVP - Bracknell & Wokingham LPA Commander
LH	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
RK	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
MM	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA and Community Partner Agency
SA	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
US	Wokingham IAG Deputy Chair – B & W LPA
IJ	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
RM	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
MJP	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
JG	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
JF	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
SW	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
SRK	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA – Attended but unable to access the meeting
PA	Community Partner Agency
JLS	TVP – Wokingham Neighbourhood Inspector
SG	TVP – Incident Response (ICR) Sergeant
KC	TVP – Bracknell & Wokingham LPA Neighbourhood Administrator

Apologies

Init	Position and Area
JW	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
AK	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
MP	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
NN	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA

PC	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
MWS	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
JD	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA and Community Organisation
TW	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
AP	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA

Others

Init	Position and Area
RS	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA and Community Organisation
SK	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA and Community Organisation
WS	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA
DM	Wokingham IAG – B & W LPA and Community Organisation

1. Welcome and Apologies:

IAG Chair

ET welcomed everyone and asked the attendees to introduce themselves. The list of apologies / attendees is above.

2. Introduction:

IAG Chair

ET advised that the role of IAG is changing.

Over the last 12 months I have spoken extensively to Snr TVP Officers & IAG Chairs. There is a broad agreement that the current format of IAG is no longer fit for purpose. The current format is too reactive – it relies too much on the Area Commander bringing topics to the IAG to discuss. The requirement for now and in the future is for the IAG to be more proactive and for Members as well as the Commander to bring issues to the IAG Forum.

The primary role of a Member is to be a “critical friend” to TVP, with the emphasis on both critical and friend. Where a Member believes TVP has not performed as appropriately as it could, this should be highlighted, BUT with some ‘friendly’ suggestions how any shortfall can be avoided in the future. When an Officer has exceeded expectations, give praise. This is important as front-line Officers face abuse and violence on a daily basis. Praise, shows that their efforts are appreciated.

To be effective, a Member needs to listen to their ‘Community’ (the group of people they regularly interact with in the Bracknell area) and provide feedback to their Community. This 2-way communication is hugely important to ensure that the type of misconceptions that abound in all forms of media do not find traction in your Community AND also that TVP is made aware of the real concerns of your Community.

In addition to listening to your Community, Members are expected to attend most of the formal meetings, undertaking any agreed actions. Unless otherwise stated, all actions should be completed within (and before if possible) 6 weeks after the meeting. To avoid 'mission creep', it is requested that Members ensure they are in agreement with the Minuted actions as soon as possible after the minutes are distributed. If there is any issue with the reported action, revert to the IAG Administrator for clarification. Ideally, all updates to the Minutes/Actions should be completed within 1 week of the Minutes being distributed, so that actions can be completed within the 6 week window. This will also ensure that the subsequent meeting keeps the action/minute review to a minimum.

Particularly for New Members: As you become more understanding of your role as an IAG Member you will be expected to assume more responsibility for your own 'areas of interest' and hopefully working closely with Members who have similar 'areas of interest'. This cooperation will enable better advice to be given to TVP on these areas.

Other points

- Members are all volunteers including the Chair. It is your decision as to how much time you want to commit to your IAG role. However, if you find yourself restricted to just attending the meetings you must question the value you are adding to the group AND more importantly, what value you (and your Community) are gaining from being a Member.
- IAG Members are Advisors, just Advisors – TVP do NOT have to take action on our advice. The better advice, backed up with evidence, we can give – the more likely TVP will take action.
- Being Proactive – Can be simply providing advice to people in your Community, such as: if a crime has been committed, advise them to contact the police rather than just talk about it on social media. For the more experienced Member, other proactive opportunities will present themselves.
- Apologies: These need to be provided in writing at least 48hrs before any meeting, if possible, to TVP Administration.
- Special Interest: This is your own 'special interest'. Something that you care passionately about/the reason why you joined the IAG. Seek out other Members with a similar 'special interest' to look for opportunities where you as IAG Members can make a difference to your Community.

3. Election of Deputy Chair

IAG Chair

One member had responded to the Chair's request for volunteers for the role. No further volunteers came forward during the meeting. US was unanimously voted in as the new Deputy Chair.

4. Overview of crime and policing issues

LPA Commander

Force Review

TVP Priorities for next 12 months

Draft Bracknell and Wokingham LPA Race Action Plan 2023-26

Critical Incident review (if any)

Key Local Concerns

AC advised that following the Force Review, a decision had been reached to move from eleven Local Policing Areas (LPAs) to a five area Local Command Unit (LCU) model. The LCUs will be Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, East Berkshire and West Berkshire. The first area to switch over to the new model will be Buckinghamshire and TVP anticipate Bracknell and Wokingham will be the last to switch over in approximately eighteen months due to the complexities involved with splitting the LPA between East and West Berkshire. The need for the Force to save twenty million pounds over the next two years was one of the factors in the review. The new structure will deliver an increase in neighbourhood policing officers, which is a positive thing for engagement, being visible on the streets, and problem solving.

Inspector TC has now become the Stop Search SPOC and members can assist by reviewing stop searches recorded on Body Worn Video (BWV). Members may also be able to review incidents where the use of Taser was deployed. If anyone is interested in this, please let KC know.

ACTION: Members to advise KC if they are interested in viewing BWV for Stop Searches and/or Taser.

A copy of the Bracknell and Wokingham LPA Race Action Plan 2023-26 was circulated to the members with the meeting invite. AC would like to get the member's views from a local perspective - are we getting this right? What does it mean? Where do we think we need to do some work? AC asked the members to review the plan and send any comments or thoughts to KC, AC or ET. LH mentioned she had used a diversity book when speaking to students and would be happy to send the details to AC.

ACTION: LH to send details of diversity book to AC

ACTION: KC to resend a copy of the Race Action Plan out to members

ACTION: Members to send feedback on the Bracknell & Wokingham Race Action Plan 2023-26 to KC, AC or ET before Christmas if possible.

AC provided a brief overview of the policing response to the current Palestine/Israel conflict. The Police are taking a proportionate response, remaining unbiased with all vigils and protests assessed and managed as required. IAG members can feed back any concerns they hear from their communities.

5. Issues in your Community

All

- Petty Crime/ASB – NN

This item was deferred to the next meeting

6. Minutes and Actions from Previous Meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting on 25th July 2023 were reviewed and accepted. Updates were provided with the following actions either completed, amended or ongoing:

ACTION: AC to bring Domestic Abuse figures to IAG Meetings. **Ongoing**

ACTION - AC to speak to the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) manager regarding Strut Safe and similar initiatives Meeting with CSP manager 23/08 included Strut Safe. **Completed**

ACTION – SK, AK, JD and RS to consider and feedback their opinions on how to reach out

to and engage with our local communities. **Ongoing – update received from JD prior to the meeting that no decision had been made. ET will discuss this further with US.**

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ACTION - AC to compile a list of areas from a policing perspective where IAG members can liaise with LPA leads (SPOCS). List to be available in 3 weeks. The SPOC list has been sent to ET. **Completed**

ACTION - AC to take the issue of Visitor parking at Loddon away and review. Parking at stations has been reviewed and staff are not allowed to park there. Hopefully will ease situation. **Completed**

ACTION - AC to review process of Policing visiting at night.

Email requesting officers to identify themselves sent out. **Completed**

ACTION – New members meeting to be organised. **All to be aware – no specific feedback needed.** Meeting organised for 05.09.23. **Completed**

ACTION - AC to review request for Police attendance at community BBQ in Finchampstead. Officers will attend. **Completed**

Update from SB 23.08.23: Three members of the Force turned up at the BBQ on Monday and spend quite some time talking to the community and it went very well. So many thanks to AC.

ACTION – KC to send copies of burglary postcards to JW. **Completed**

ACTION – Reporting Electric scooters via 101 or online. **All to be aware – no specific feedback needed.** **Completed**

7. Any Other Business

- Masjid Open Day 7th October – **Feedback from attendees** - This item was deferred to a future meeting.

- Circle working where Special Interest Areas are clubbed into 1-3 topics lead by members liaising with the Chair - **RM**

RM explained the process of circle working and how it could assist in covering the multiple SIA topics.

- How TVP communicates with schools. Non-attendance of 999 and Blue Light Events – **JF**

JF advised he felt TVP could make better use of Blue Light and 999 events to help improve respect and community engagement. This can be resource hungry but unless TVP can be seen, levels of trust and respect will not improve. He was informed at the TVP Open Day that too many community members had attended the previous one hence this years was not widely communicated to reduce the numbers. JF's view was this approach was counter-productive as TVP have a willing audience wanting to engage, this should be seen as a positive - perhaps looking at a 'ticketed' event so that numbers could be controlled or shared events with other emergency services. There is an opportunity to build trust and respect to large numbers of our community, and in his view TVP should be looking at how to take advantage of this - not seeing it as a chore.

Inspector JLJ gave an overview of how the Neighbourhood Teams engage with local schools.

Inspector JLJ asked the members to suggest and feedback ideas on where and how to engage with the community.

ACTION:
to suggest and
ideas on where and how to engage with the community.

Members
feedback

8. Next Meeting Dates:

09.01.24

18.04.24

18.07.24

17.10.24