

# Cherwell and West Oxfordshire LPA



## IAG Meeting

**DATE** Wednesday 6 July 2022

**TIME:** 17.00 hours

**LOCATION:** MS Teams

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Init</b>	<b>Position and Area</b>
Emma Garside	EG	Superintendent – LPA Commander
Joanne Hutchings	JH	Chief Inspector – Deputy LPA Commander
Iain Roberts	IR	Neighbourhood Inspector – Cherwell
Chris Ball	CB	Neighbourhood Inspector – West Oxon
Neal Templey	NT	ICR Inspector
	SK	IAG chair
	RB	IAG member
	MT	IAG member
	KT	IAG member
	MG	IAG member
	GW	Admin Support Officer, note taker
<b>No contact made</b>		
	AB	IAG member
	AA	IAG member

### Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were made..

Visitors to the meeting PB, AB, B McC on behalf of my life, my choice.

### Previous notes/actions:

Minutes from the last meeting were agreed to be accurate.

Action 41 – Close

Action 42 – carry forward

Action 43 – carry forward

Action log updated.

**My Life My Choice**

EG explained that she had recently met some members of the above charity and thought it would be a good opportunity to invite them to this meeting to hear about their work.

Received a list of pledges (attached) of how the Police can better engage with people who have a learning disability. The police understand that they serve different people in different communities and need to tailor the service provided so it meets everyone's needs.

Explained that the charity was set up in 1998 and is run by and for people with learning disabilities.

Pledges were run through.

In Banbury a group is run at the Ruscote Community centre and they would like an officer to come to the group to build up a better relationship. **ACTION : IR to make contact and arrange for one of his team to visit the group.**

EG said that she is very supportive to sign-up to this and would like the police to work differently in line with the feedback which is received. We will take this seriously and work with you.

It was asked if Autism awareness training is still running, it was confirmed that it is and is part of the new recruits package.

EG explained that there are also internal staff associations and there is a specific one set up for Autism so police and staff are supported internally.

It was noted that this group also covers mental health as well as learning disabilities.

One member shared an experience where they felt that Banbury Police did not act with respect in the custody suite. EG offered the opportunity to discuss the particular circumstances outside of this meeting.

**Unauthorised Encampments**

JH explained that as an additional portfolio she is responsible for Unauthorised Encampments across the force. Under the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Court Act additional new legislation has come in and one of these is around Unauthorised Encampments.

This came in on 28 June and has made some Unauthorised Encampments a criminal offence.

It will remain that Local Authorities (LA) and the Police will continue joint working as some cases may not meet the criteria for the new legislation to be used.

External communications have been put in place to make people aware and manage their expectations. Internally there is a substantial training requirement to ensure that staff are up to date with the changes.

Following on from this it was asked about a mechanic operating on a Roadway. Specifics were passed to Inspector Iain Roberts to look into. If it is a dangerous obstruction to the road

then the police would deal. However, if it was just the nuisance factor then this would fall under the Local Authority.

### **Commander Update**

National Strategy – Violence Against Women and Girls – increasing focus covers various strands of work. There are set expectations for police forces and covers area such as Domestic Abuse, Harassment, Stalking, Night time Economy, Personal Safety (where people don't feel safe).

Internally – own culture is being looked into to ensure we are not complacent

Race Action Plan – looking at how police engage with communities, particularly, black communities. See attached document with more details on the work going on in this area.

Force Structure Review – Currently there are 11 Local Police Areas, of which we are one. Looking at how we provide service and this should have no impact on the quality of service to the public. Also, looking at how to reduce demand, working better with partners and reviewing internal processes.

On average 1 officer has 12-14 live investigations which range in complexity and number of actions which need to be taken. If the officer cannot progress the investigation any further then they have to be honest and end the live investigation. Investigations and actions need to be timely and proportionate.

Complaints against police – continue to monitor. Some of the keys themes for this LPA include public not having updates in a timely manner, incivility and property which has been seized not being returned in a timely manner once case concluded.

Census Data – 2021 date recently published.

Nationally there was a 6% increase in population. Cherwell saw a 13% increase. The LPA has a population of 275,000 and is now the most heavily populated LPA of the 11. Policing numbers have not matched that increase and this is something which will also be covered in the Force Structure review.

### **Serious Incidents**

Attempted murder – People's park, Banbury involved a stabbing, luckily the victim survived. 5 people have been arrested and 3 are on remand. The perpetrators were aged 15-16 and as this is a live case no other details can be passed.

Non-fatal strangulation is new legislation (under the VAWG strategy) and we were one of the first LPA's to use this new power and arrested and charged an individual.

Sexual offending – male individual hired an Air BnB in this LPA and invited male victims back where he then sexually abused them. Due for sentencing at Crown Court next week.

Potential that Oxford United FC may move from the Kassam stadium in Oxford and bids have been put in for Kidlington. This has not been confirmed as yet but there will be an impact if it does go ahead.

Community Safety Partnerships – chairs of these groups are elected and both have new chairs due to the recent elections. Met with new chairs and raise any partnership issues with them.

Inspector Iain Roberts is leaving to go on a secondment for a minimum of 12 months. EG thanked him for his work and will let you know who his replacement is when appointed.

It was asked about Specials to assist with Resourcing.

EG explained that we currently have 20 specials and all are engaged and give lots of time. She would rather have this scenario rather than larger numbers who weren't as committed.

Recruitment of Police officers is continuing with the Uplift funds given to Forces.

It was asked about the RAF police and Garrisons at Bicester and Brize Norton.

JH explained that we work closely with the RAF police especially on the Night Time Economy. A weekly meeting is held and they attend. A number of Anti-Social behaviour operations are planned in West Oxfordshire and the RAF police will be assisting with these.

### **Immigration Removal Centre**

It has been reported in the national media that a procurement process is underway to look at renovating Campsfield House in Kidlington to house 400 males with the status that they should not be in this country. The facility would be used to house the males until they can be moved elsewhere.

Historically, generated a significant amount of protest activity.

### **Rural Crime**

CB gave an overview of Rural Crime – presentation attached.

Since April there have been 68 offences. This has included Hare Coursing in West Oxfordshire and power tools being stolen from garages.

Engagement events have included Glympton, Ploughing Championships in Ducklington and the Young Farmers Ball.

Planning on holding a Rural Crime meeting in October when there is going to be new legislation on Hare Coursing.

EG said that at the last meeting the cost of oil had been discussed. We had not seen any incidents of oil theft until this morning when 15000 litres of oil had been stolen in a well-planned theft.

Networking was appreciated and it was asked whether the Regional National Farmers Union rep's are included. Confirmed that they are.

In early stages of shooting season and last year saw thefts from vehicles during shoots. Also, this year there is a shortage of game birds so need to protect them from poaching.

CB explained that the main suspect of beauty theft hotspots including South and Vale and West Berkshire had recently been caught.

Thefts of beehives was also raised as a concern.

**Community Mapping**

JH had explained at a previous meeting about the work that had gone into community mapping covering Bretch Hill, looking at meeting area, support groups etc. in the area.

It is important to know who our communities are so we can understand their needs and know how best to serve them

Census figures recently published will be useful in this work.

Want to particularly understand the communities – elderly, disabled, LGBTQ+, Black and ethnic minority, Foreign Nationals and GRT.

Ukraine refugees – approximately 150 families have come to live across the LPA.

Looking to update and refresh KIN list (Key Individual Networks)

MG asked if it would be possible for the police to visit the Ukraine Community across Banbury and Bicester.

**ACTION : MG to share details with Gill, in order that the Neighbourhood team can attend one of their meetings.**

**Stop and Search**

NT reported that there have been a significant improvement in the use of Body Worn Video.

BWV clips were watched to look at how searches were conducted.

During one of the searches handcuffs were used – it was asked if this was right. NT explained that this is an option available to the officer. This officer was a student and was probably one of the first searches he had done. Things such as the item that they are searching for, persons demeanour etc.. are taken into account when assessing if handcuffs could be used.

**ACTION : NT to liaise with Gill on how best to get a random sample of clips ready for the meeting.**

**Feedback**

EG said that social media is being used more to publicise the work. It was asked if the level was right.

It was felt that the level was about right. If an increase is seen then it might alarm people.

Armed Forces Day – good to see police on patrol at this event but would have been better if they had a dedicated tent.

**Agenda Items**

Financial Hardship

Date of next meeting – to be arranged

**Action Log**

Action 41	GR to add to the agenda for 6 months time an Update on Community Mapping (June 2022 meeting) 6/7 on agenda - close	GR
Action 42	IAG members to complete and return Body Worn video confidentiality agreement. 8/12 GR to chase outstanding forms 5/4 Forms completed by those present – some still required from members not present at this meeting 6/7 one form outstanding – GR to chase	IAG members    GR
Action 43	Firearms licensing to be invited back to meeting once Plymouth incident has completed investigation 5/4 carry forward 6/7 carry forward	GR
Action 46	IR to make contact and arrange for one of his team to My life my choice community group held at Ruscote Community centre	IR
Action 47	Ukraine groups - MG to share details with GR, in order that the Neighbourhood team can attend one of their meetings.	MG
Action 48	Stop and Search NT to liaise with Gill on how best to get a random sample of clips ready for the meeting.	NT/ GR