

DATE 10th January 2024
TIME: 18:30 – 20:05
LOCATION: MS Teams

Attendee Initials	Position and Area
RM	Chair
EB	LPA Commander
SJ	Member
DA	Member
AL	Member
AA	Deputy LPA Commander
SY	Member
MB	Member
SK	Member
SA	Member
AMV	Member
Apologies/Did not attend	
HN	Member
SA	Member
DF	Member
HP	Member
BA	Member

1. Welcome, Introductions and apologies (IAG Chair)

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. RM announced that DA will be leaving the IAG and this is his last meeting.

2. Approval of previous Minutes and Actions (IAG Chair)

The minutes from the last meeting were approved by all in attendance. There are outstanding actions that will be covered throughout the meeting.

The IAG Minutes are published on the TVP Website and can be viewed here: [Local Policing Area Independent Advisory Groups | Thames Valley Police](#)

3. Stop Search Headlines (AA – TVP)

A PowerPoint demonstration is shared to display the breakdown of data between ethnic minorities against stop search data. The black community are a significant disproportionality of stop searches, they make up 13% but we are still conducting a significant number of other stop searches. This does however cause concern and give South Buckinghamshire reason to question whether these stop searches are completed for the right reason. Drugs are the main reason for these searches, followed by PACE (custody) searches and then weapons.

AL: What is the ethnicity of the officer conducting the stop search? Are white officers searching black youths? This could change the opinion of the community. Just a consideration to think about.

ACTION: AA to go back and look at whether this data can be collated. (Ethnicity of officers during stop searches)

4. Our Force in Numbers – April 23 – Sept 23 (EB – TVP)

A presentation is shared to give members an idea of the demand and figures South Buckinghamshire is facing. We want to balance out the negativity policing faces against some positivity.

Contact from the public has gone up 2% since 2022. Thames Valley Police has answered around 81,000 calls between 8,400 Officers.

An explanation was given of Op Grotto which was an operation that took place in South Buckinghamshire to tackle residential burglary.

It is pushed that TV Alerts need to be used in High Wycombe, lots of the community still use this application. It is decided that the NH Administrator should be able to get this information out to SJ. SJ is to meet the NH Administrator at High Wycombe.

Key Operations:

In the months of October and November the Force have really focused on E-Scooters. Lots of education has been put out there on who can ride them and what type can be ridden. Personal/private e-scooters cannot be ridden on public land, government owned e-scooters can be ridden but must abide by certain parts of the law.

The Operation around this was called Op Turbo. It is assured that officers have also been brought up to speed on what's legal and what isn't.

5. Resourcing levels in the Neighbourhood teams (AA – TVP)

TVP are

moving their Problem Solving Officers into the Neighbourhood teams. They are also creating a new department called Harm Reduction Unit. Numbers of officers are

definitely increasing. There has been a boost in numbers this week as we moved our Problem Solving team into the Neighbourhood geographical areas. We have seen a 50%

reduction in what our response teams have needed. This will create a huge uplift and visibility amongst our neighbourhoods. Across the whole LCU (Local Command Unit) this a significant resource.

It should be noted that although we have increased the staff numbers, they do need to be trained and there is still a way to go.

6. Op Tarlac – How TVP are managing Community tensions as a result of the war in the Middle East? (EB – TVP)

There was a National operation called Op Tarlac, this was driven centrally from the Home Office with clear guidance on what every Police Force should do.

A detailed account of how Thames Valley Police have policed around these protests is given to the group, including how a lot of work went into educating the officers. There was also an increase in preventative work from officers. TVP reached out to the leaders in the community to ask what they wanted from TVP as a police force, showing willing to support each community. Every police force then fed back to the Home Office on any issues that did arise and where they were.

South Buckinghamshire have received 30 reports since 10th October 2023. Some of these are protests (mostly peaceful), the displaying of flags, hate crime, etc.

TVP did provide mutual aid in London as it was a different picture in the capital.

SK: How have the Metropolitan Police liased with TVP around some of their own investigations in the Buckinghamshire area?

Other police forces do let us know when they are coming to our area, they also often liase with our intelligence department.

7. Members Feedback / Issues to raise

RM opened this up and invited SJ to start with his question.

SJ: A

problem in Wycombe is that customers are going elsewhere and retailers are closing down. There is a lot of shoplifting and aggressive begging – what are the police doing about begging?

AA: Some of the begging in the town has been a challenge in terms of prioritising over the last year, we did get a significant amount of feedback that the begging had got out of hand. There was also an encampment under the bridge by the University. TVP then worked with partner agencies to re-home those people. We are looking to work with the Council to provide a joint response to the problem. There are two sergeants working out of Wycombe

and one in particular will be specifically tasked with this problem specifically. Along with our town wardens, we should have a much more coordinated response.

AL: I am working with the MEAM (Making Every Adult Matter) team, and probably a couple of people very well known to TVP. Happy to get in touch and help in any way we can as a team.

AVL: How are PCSO's targeted to specific areas? Specifically the "Have your say" sessions and pop ups? We don't see them much in Chalfont St Peter. How do TVP allocate these sessions?

AA: It's all down to availability which has been a challenge for our PCSO's over the last year or so. They are often abstracted for Operational support. Where usually we would utilise Neighbourhood officers, they are assisting our response teams at the moment, therefore PCSO's have had to fill the void in some cases.

8. AOB (All)

RM asked the group if the meeting should be in person next time. It was decided this would be discussed in the WhatsApp group.

9. Agenda items requested for next meeting (All)

None raised.

10. Next meeting date, in person or on line? (All)

To be confirmed.

Meeting ends.