Milton Keynes LCU IAG Meeting

Minutes

DATE: Wednesday 2nd April 2025

TIME: 6pm-7.30pm

LOCATION: Reform Synagogue, Giffard Park, Milton Keynes

Initials	**Position**
AK	IAG Chair
EB	LCU Commander, TVP
GB	Staff Officer, TVP
NS	CADO, TVP
MS	C/Insp, TVP
KM	IAG Member
JH	IAG Member
ZM	IAG Member
TR	IAG Member
PS	IAG Member
HS	IAG Member
NR	IAG Member
RRK	IAG Member
SMB	IAG Member
LP	IAG Member
AA	IAG Member
TG	IAG Member
DH	IAG Member
JW	IAG Member
JSS	IAG Member
AHu	IAG Member
NSU	Guest
AHa	Guest
LT	Guest
EY	Guest
AKe	Admin Support, TVP (Minutes)
Apologies	
SS	IAG Member
TV	IAG Member
AKh	IAG Member
SBo	IAG Member

1. **Welcome and short briefing** **MS**

   MS gave a short briefing regarding an incident that occurred in Milton Keynes on 1st April 2025. EB also mentioned a significant operation that ocurred this week around human trafficking. Some questions were also taken.

   Introductions were made post-briefing and ahead of the vote to elect a Chair for 2025-2027.

2. **Previous minutes** **All**

   The IAG Minutes are published on the TVP Website and can be viewed here: Milton Keynes Independent Advisory Group | Thames Valley Police

3. Vote to elect Chair for 2025-2027 **All**

Two expressions of interest were received from AK and TG. TVP staff are unable to vote and so escorted the candidates away for a few minutes whilst voting took place.
EB read out the expressions of interest and they were shared with everyone present in writing.
Those eligible received a ballot paper, marked their choice and posted their vote into the ballot box.
Candidates returned and the meeting continued.
Six further IAG members were contacted on 3rd April to cast their vote remotely as they were unable to be present at the meeting on 2nd.

4. Chair's Update

AK thanked the host LT for her hospitality and mentioned that Ramadan had now ended. It was heartening to see how the number of Iftar events had increased since last year across Milton Keynes with many people taking part in fasting to show allyship with the Muslim Community.
AH remarked how a large Iftar event at MK Dons Stadium had attracted 1300 people, bringing communities together.
AK told how Police presence at late-night prayers had brought about a sense of community cohesion.
NR requested that as we are such a diverse group, perhaps we can make more of other cultural events and festivals, not necessarily by holding events but by celebrating, talking and educating each other in some way.
EB asked how many IAG Members felt that they knew their Neighbourhood Team members by name and could have a conversation with them. Five members raised their hands. The plan is for each of the Neighbourhood teams to get to know you all.
NS to make arrangements to increase opportunities for face to face meetings so members can get to know the neighbourhood policing team better.

5. AOB **All**

JH spoke about how there is still fear of Police connected to past events in the LGBTQ+ community but shared that people from MK College had helped decorate the new Q:Alliance space.
JW shared the event that took place at MK College on 1st April
NR reported on how MK MHS had attended AGE UK for a social describing day. The next one is on 20th May. Meanwhile MKMHS were meeting with the Hong Kong community for an information sharing day about available services in Mental Health.
LT reminded everyone that she can be contacted at any time for hall hire or to see the room where the Scrolls are kept.
ZM said that at the Abrahamic Women's Group, fewer Muslim women were attending due to tensions in Gaza. Although we are not in control of world events, we can contribute in a positive way locally.
LT reminded everyone of a meeting nearly two years ago when representatives from the TVP, the Muslim and Jewish Communities met to try and develop trust and confidence between all ref: Gaza.
HS spoke about Iranian New Year and how celebrations this year were busier due to the population of the Iranian community in MK increasing.
DH reported that 12 students from MK College had taken part in park tidies at the Blue Lagoon and Granby.
The meeting was made aware of a series of crime prevention roadshows taking place in MK locations in April, which will be shared with these minutes and on TV Alerts.
RRK raised the farmer's protests and the reasons why. We were all asked to consider the impact on farmer's mental health as the risk of suicide under the new rules had increased, with one reported suicide already and more expected.
LP spoke about a meeting with the elderly Hong Kong community and Age UK to share information about available services. The meeting was shocked to learn the age threshold to be classed as an 'older person' by Age UK is 55!
AK said he was trying to expand representation to include the Chinese community and the Travellers.
TR happy to speak to ZM and LT going forward regarding cohesion between the Muslim and Jewish communities.

Baisakhi (New Year) Event at the Kiln Farm Gurdwara coming up on 11-13 April, to which all are welcome.
JS informed the meeting there was also a Prostate Cancer awareness presentation at 11am on 12th April at the Gurdwara. A flyer regarding this will be circulated.
ZM spoke about collecting donations for Baby Basics and Unity MK. Many items have been handed over as a result. Many meals were also cooked for needy families that were delivered. This initiative will happen again in the summer.
AH said at 10am – 2pm on 13th May, there is a Hospital Community Day at the Kings Community Centre in Wolverton. Flyer to be shared.

6. **Next Meeting at 6pm on Wednesday 21st May 2025** **All**
   Location: TBC