

Reading LPA IAG Meeting



Minutes

DATE 13 January 2021

TIME: 1400

LOCATION: MS Teams Only

Attendees		Position and Area
Sulayman Munir		Chair
Supt. Nick John		LPA Commander
Josh Wilson		Member
Nick Harborne		Member
PC James Morgan		Positive Action Team
Sally Leonard		Member
Francesca Yates		Member
Errol Masters		Member
Victor Koroma		Member
Trip Pannu		CaDO
Maria Saltrese		Admin support
Apologies		
Lorraine Briffitt		Member
Mustafa Choudhury		Member

Item One

Welcome and Introductions

Sulayman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Notes from the meeting held 4 November 2020 reviewed and approved. Action update below.

Action: Victor, Trip and Sulayman to meet and put a plan in place to progress the Committee.

13 January 2021: action to be done asap advised Sulayman.

Status: ongoing.

Acid Crime Incident: Sulayman asked for an update from Trip. It was the incident in Croydon and Trip will obtain update and update IAG members.

Item Two

Overview of Positive Action and Engagement Team

James Morgan provided an update. Points included:

Team working on increasing representation

Recent opening in December

28 out of 304 application BAME and looking to improve
Change how we recruit and going to a more regular schedule of openings
Marketing and advertising being reviewed
Would like any information on publications, social media that could be considered for advertising
More events – we are planning, virtual for the moment
Seminars – we will/have been holding
Missing some more ‘old school’ style of print publications – would like any recommendations from members
Podcasts and radio stations consider – Victor advised
Two intakes this year and 25% BAME
Supporting our officers in a mentor scheme
Engagement projects being developed as well
COVID 19 impact on recruitment as a whole?
It has been broad – less people have left the organisation
Maintained people coming in but would prefer more BAME members and that is why we want to see what options we can use to reach more
James will meet with Nick Harborne and Trip Pannu outside this meeting (as discussed in November)
Victor advised he can help with regard to promoting suggestions
Looking at new technology with regard to promotion as well advised James
James will send everyone details of recruitment information
James asked if he could attend this IAG on a regular basis. Sulayman agreed.

Item Three

Operational Update and Local Priorities

Supt. Nick John provided an update. Points included:

IAG is set up to support and challenge and offer views to the LPA Commander on issues local to the Area. A direction towards under represented groups is included and want to make sure the representation is across the board, making sure that the membership reflects the community.

Operational update –

Hearing concluded Monday on incident in Forbury Gardens last June. Confirmed it was a terrorist incident recorded by the Judge.

Anniversary – working with Local Authority

Conversations that were held with IAG shortly after the incident were very helpful and provided policing with good support to manage community impact, victims, etc. Nick Harborne advised, while he does acknowledge the official findings, on behalf of Reading Refugee, it does remain our position that it was a mental health issue. Concerned about the wider refugee community being ‘tarded with the same brush’ and possible impact including hate crime. We need to support our refugee community so they do not feel this way. Supt. John confirmed he will not tolerate any racist behaviour and would encourage members to report any issues should they arise. Discussion held regarding the refugee community and support in relation to the ruling as well as future prevention. We would like to light a candle at

the anniversary if possible, which we were not able to do last time advised Nick Harborne. Sulayman asked for support, including police, to help prevent something like this happening in the future. Ongoing support on the hotel – we are going to work with the local inspector advised Nick Harborne. Victor – we must look at/address the cause and authorities must do more to manage early on. Supt. John advised there will be Reviews but not police led ones as Nick Harbone asked if he could be part of them. Supt. John advised, if he is approached, he will provide Nick Harborne's details.

Knife Crime – murder on 3rd January 2021 reviewed by Supt. John. Three children were charged and there has been a lot of police community engagement. We continue to monitor any community tensions. Increased patrols in Caversham. Any issues in the community, please let Supt. John.

Sulayman advised it was a tragic incident especially with children of this age. There was a lot of information on Social Media. Is there anything we can do in schools? Maybe speakers – into schools/teams.

Supt. John advised the Violence Reduction Unit has some preventative and diversionary work which is being done throughout Thames Valley, including Reading. And we are more robust with regard to enforcement.

Trip also does the daily reviews and reports on Hate Crime to ensure we do not miss out on any matters we can address advised Supt. John. Trip confirmed both the investigation and support are being reviewed every day.

Item Four

Stop and Search

James Tribe reviewed Stop and Search data for the last three months. The way recording is done will change soon so the data is more accurate. This will help us to identify trends, offences and demographics. 540 stop searches with 20% that we found something on them. 60% of the time, in Reading, we have found a knife or bladed object on the person. Disproportionally – information to be sent out by James Tribe in the next day or so as the system is down today and he cannot provide it for this meeting. Sulayman advised it does help a lot to have the information given to the IAG when there is a section 60 put in place so community communications and tension can be supported/managed. Supt. John advised we use intelligence led policing to lead us to our stop and search action.

Item Seven

AOB

Reading Jail: putting a proposal in is open now with regard to possible use of the building advised Lorraine.

Christmas Eve: a concerned citizen called in and Victor passed the information on to Trip who provided great support for this individual.

Community: if there are any concerns regarding the incidents discussed today, or any others please let Supt. John, or Trip know so they can be addressed.

Interviews: Nick Harborne advised he has done a number of them regarding the Forbury incident and sometimes the editing changes the meaning – to be aware as now we have a clear understanding of each other's roles.

Meeting concluded at 3:02pm.

Next Proposed Meetings:

23rd March 2021 at 2pm

15 June 2021 at 2pm

14 September 2021 at 2pm

16 November at 2pm