

DATE Wednesday 23th March 2022

TIME: 17:00 pm

LOCATION: Slough Briefing Room

Attendees	Init	Position and Area
	NS	Chair
	LB	
	SA	
	EH	
	JG	
	KB	
	Loz	Minutes
Apologies	RD	
	MM	
	AB	
	KM	
	EP	
Non Attendance	CK	

1. Welcome and Introductions: IAG Chair

NS welcomed all, introductions were made and all apologies noted. NS introduced herself as the new chair and LB introduced himself as the new Area Commander for Slough as GW moved on to Head of Firearms.

2. Previous notes/actions: All

Minutes were approved by all present and the only amendment was to note JG's apologies for that meeting. We postponed the two previous meetings scheduled for September and December.

All present agreed and signed the Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest.

3. Chairs Report: IAG Chair

Identification of Deputy Chair

NS is very keen to ensure this meeting goes ahead regularly so made a suggestion to have a nominated deputy and would like this in place by the next meeting in June.

Action 1: Loz to email for volunteers for the deputy chair role. Completed.

Strategic IAG Sub Groups

NS attended the Strategic IAG on 2nd February 2022 and attendance was made up of all IAG's across Thames Valley. NS felt like she learnt so much from attending and things that

can be brought to Slough IAG. NS has registered to attend the IAG Conference on 25th May presented by the National Association of Independent IAGs. There are many good initiatives shared and a list of sub groups such as Legitimacy, Training & Recruitment, VAWG, Complaints that members can get involved in if they are interested and it would be good to get Slough represented on. LB went on to say that it would be a benefit if there are specific theme interests to help shape what TVP do in those areas and LB would love to have Slough's voice in those groups.

Action 2: NS to send through list of sub groups from the Strategic IAG. Completed.

4. LPA Commanders Updates: LPA Commander

LB reviewed the performance dashboard and updated.

Four priority areas in TVP strategic plan:

1. Reduce crime and incident through problem solving
2. Bring more offenders to justice
3. Protect the vulnerable
4. Improve satisfaction among victims of crime

It has been hard to measure performance against the last couple of years due to COVID and our demand changed to COVID rule breaking and dispersing gatherings. A couple of years ago there were concerns about young people using knives leading to serious assault and homicide so this became our priority and our centre area of focus so we got to grips with knife crime. The good news is that we have not had any knife related homicides since January 2020. We have a good partner approach with the Council and we needed the message that you don't need to carry a knife to be safe. There were a number of initiatives that we put into place which were:

1. Knifecrime campaign run by young people for young people
2. Talks at schools by police – education operations, displaying anti knife crime posters, enforcement operations which involved knife arches.
3. Wexham Park Hospital Navigator Scheme – if someone came in with a stab injury they would have a navigator allocated to them to try to move them away from offending.
4. Problem Solving Team responsible to combat knife crime and proactive policing around knife arbitrary, divert with education/advice.

A discussion took place around stop and search and a number of incidents that have been reported in the news and on social media. LB informed that a section 60 is the power to stop and search anyone at a specified time and area i.e. this was used in Langley under very specific circumstances and the reason to believe violence may happen. JG raised the incident around strip search and LB expressed that officers are taught to do so with dignity and work from the top to bottom systematically replacing the top before removing the bottom etc. When it is a child being strip searched then there needs to be serious consideration as to whether the power is proportionate and necessary and the law dictates that an appropriate adult needs to be present and there is also guidance around whether the smell of cannabis constitutes reasonable grounds for a search. SA raised a stop and search incident involving

Slough officers and a member of public with a disability which has caused potential friction in the community. SA and KB and LB will discuss further outside of the meeting (subsequently it has been established this is a matter under investigation by Professional Standards). KB suggested that a 'go wisely' input to the IAG would be useful.

Action 3: Loz to arrange for Stop & Search lead to present at a future meeting. 26/04 – emailed S&S lead to arrange.

1. Reduce crime and incident through problem solving

22% reduction in serious violence including knife crime (excluding possession)

33% reduction in robberies

45% reduction in burglaries

2. Bring more offenders to justice

There is an audit of a small no. of crime investigations marked against HMIC framework to determine a grading of good/outstanding, adequate or inadequate. In Slough 53% graded good/outstanding and a small number inadequate. LB informed that one of his top 3 focuses for this coming year is to improve the quality of our investigations and the challenges are that there are so many young inexperienced in service and processes are a lot different now.

Knife crime enabled offences result in formal action taken (FAT) – 20% (target is 30%). LB expressed that our biggest challenge is drug dealing and no victim engagement and have to seek prosecution without victim support. LB asked that IAG members encourage their residents to support police in giving statements.

Knife crime possession 75% result in formal action taken.

Down 3% in increase in the volume of non-DA violence with injury that result in FAT but doing ok.

Assaults against police 93% result in FAT

Increase in volume of sexual offences that result in a charge – numbers are so low that the percentage seems high. LB informed that this is his second of the 3 areas of focus for the coming year.

3. Protect the vulnerable

56% of domestic abuse incidents are attended within four hours – Slough are top of the Force for this measure.

50% target of attended domestic abuse crimes result in arrest and Slough are just hovering at 49%. There are some difficult circumstances around DA which are working in arresting perpetrators and there are some that don't. DA has been going up for years and we hope this reflects increased confidence in reporting.

4. Improve satisfaction among victims of crime

The LPA have really struggled with improving victim satisfaction which is based on the text survey measure which unfortunately is only in the English language and only a small percentage respond. However we need to listen to the feedback that is being given and the key themes are not keeping people updated or not being informed of the case so therefore LB informed that this is his third focus for the coming year. It is really important as if we can get this right then it will improve the trust and confidence in the police. LB summarised that by doing the right thing we will focus our effort on:

1. Tackling violence against women and girls in Slough, particularly rape and sexual assault as well as Domestic Abuse.
2. Improving the overall quality of crime investigation.
3. Delivering a quality of service to victims of crime in Slough that we can be proud of.

LGBT+ Liaison

LB informed that he has taken on the Force lead for LGBT+ which is made up of a group officers/staff who understand the challenges in LGBT+ community. It is LB's job to co-ordinate action around what to do to support the LGBT+ community. The group are currently ensuring that anyone that goes through the crime management are contacted within 7 days by LGBT+ and can speak about what's happened and give advice to officer on investigating the crime.

Action 4: LB to feedback on progress on LGBT+ Liaison.

COVID-19

There is no role at present for police in enforcing legislation.

Ride Alongs for IAG Members

LB offered for all IAG members to go out on a ride along with our officers so they can get to see what our officers deal with. LB is keen to have more people from Slough wanting to join the police.

Action 6: Loz to include offer of ride alongs in email. Completed.

5. Stop and Search Data and Discussion: All

LB reviewed some Stop & Search data.

We are currently moving from paper function to Pronto app and so will be able to get some better data. Numbers of Stop & Searches are generally lower during the summer months due to holidays and reduced staffing numbers and numbers are high during section 60.

Ethnicity - most people stopped in Slough are White then Asian then Black but over 50% of our population are BAME.

Disproportionality – White 1 which is about right, Asian 0.81 times (so less likely to be searched than White), Black 1.66 times more likely and 3.18 mixed (but number of searches is smaller). This was quite interesting for all in attendance as the perception is different in the community. NS and AS asked why this fact is not being communicated in a positive way.

Action 5: KB to liaise with Neighbourhood Inspectors to see how we can get this message into the community.

LB informed that we building towards having community scrutiny panel that will be viewing Body Worn Video (BWV) and scrutinising giving feedback. LB asked for members to give KB any names of anyone with negative perceptions to sit on the panel. The Chief Constable has expressed the important and ordered that officers must put on BWV. LB is happy to arrange to come to speak to the PWA around Stop & Search.

Ages – under 18 years old 182 searches, 18-24 year olds 545 searches and over 25 year olds 1010 searches. 25 & over are searched the most.

6. AOB: IAG Chair

Nil

7. Agenda items requested for next meeting: All

Please let NS know two weeks prior to the meeting if there is anything the members would like to talk about at future meetings.

NS suggested having someone from Slough Borough Council along to discuss their future plan to understand demand being put on police.

SA suggested setting a project for the IAG to show and promote outcomes outside of the group.

Action 7: All to come up with some projects ideas by the next meeting i.e. youth, women/girls.

8. Next Meeting Dates:

Wednesday 6th July 2022

Wednesday 28th September 2022

Wednesday 14th December 2022

All taking place at 1700hrs at Slough Police Station.