



South and Vale IAG

12th October 2021, 5pm – 7pm
MS Teams meeting

Attendance

DO	IAG Chairman
Supt Lis Knight	LPA Commander for TVP South and Vale
CS	IAG Member
RA	IAG Member
GF	IAG Member
RE	IAG Member
RA	IAG Member
AJ	IAG Member
Inspector Damien Isherwood	Team 4 Inspector
Julia Williams	ASO/Minute Taker
Apologies:	
DC	IAG Member
VK	IAG Member

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Youth Issues/Youth IAG
3. Stop and Search – Inspector Damien Isherwood (*Example of Body Warn Video*)
4. Rural Crime Task Force – Supt Lis Knight
5. Update on South and Vale issues – Supt Lis Knight (*including violence against women*)
6. AOB

1. Introductions

The Chairman opened the meeting and introductions were made by everyone attending. The Chairman welcomed AJ who is a new member of the IAG.

2. Youth issues/Youth IAG

The IAG had a discussion around youth representation in the IAG. Even though some of our members work with young people there was a strong consensus that we need to build relationships with young people and parents. The group recognised that we need to break down the barriers and help change some of the young people’s perception of the police.

Action 1 – all IAG members to think of constructive ideas on how we can conduct and support the above. Ideas to be brought to the meeting January.

3. Stop and Search

- South and Vale are down by 9% on Stop and Searches in the last 12 months (rolling). Last year there was a total of 921 and this year 835.
- All Local Policing Areas (LPAs) in TVP have seen a reduction in the last year.
- However, we need to look at positive outcomes from the Stop and Searches and not just the numbers. For example West Berkshire LPA has had more Stop and Searches but the outcome rate was lower.

- We are confident that the South and Vale are Stop and Searching ethically – when there are grounds to do so.
- The South and Vale is the third best in the Force.
- 83% of our Stop and Searches have Body Warn Video compliance. They are not warn in all circumstances for example if officers are on a plain clothed operation.
- There is a small disproportionate Stop and Search rate in ethnic minorities.

The IAG were shown an example of a Stop and Search which was captured on the officer's body warn video. The video shown was a good example of a Stop and Search where minimum force was used after the public has reported seeing someone in a local park with what they thought was a knife. Following the events at Thornbury Gardens reports like this need to be taken very seriously. The member of the public denied carrying a weapon but was searched and found to be in the possession of an extendable baton (not a knife but still classes as a weapon which could seriously harm someone). As the public had called this in, it was an intelligence led Stop and Search.

The IAG asked if this usual presentation of a Stop and Search so it was agreed more would be shown to give varied examples.

Action 2 – The IAG will be asked to choose random examples of Body Warn Videos at the next meeting so that they can see different examples.

4. Rural Crime Task Force (RCTF)

Superintendent Knight (the RCTF lead) updated the group on the progress of setting up the TVP rural crime task force. The Task Force will be intelligence led, focussing on serious organised crime and criminal offences that happen in a rural setting. The Inspector, two Sergeants and some PCs are now recruited and the interviews are taking place for the further PCs. Half of the team will be in place for November 21, and will be at full capacity in Spring 22. Vehicles and equipment are on order and specialist training will be provided to the team.

5. Update on South and Vale issues

It has been a difficult summer coming out of restrictions and many people (especially the young people) being bored and just wanting to get out as lock-down has eased. The demand on police resourcing had gone back up but we have still dealing with Covid enforcements and our own officers isolating as well as policing some larger events like Henley Regatta and Ascot.

There has been some resourcing issues due to the changes in training. TVP currently has less ICR (Incident Crime Response) Officers that we did a year ago because of the new College of Policing entry routes and mandatory university learning.

The members had a general discussion about violence against women following the murder of Sarah Everard. Operation Vigilant has been set up nationally and TVP is the lead force. Op Vigilant Officers are trained in behavioural science and look for sexual perpetrators concentrating on the night time economy (pubs, nightclubs etc). TVP are looking into their operational response to domestic, sexual, harassment crimes and have appointed Superintendent leads for both Domestic Abuse and Rape & Sexual Assaults.

6. AOB

- Next meeting proposed date: mid-January 2022 – date and time tbc.
- To add to the agenda for January about how we can communicate what the Police do?