

DATE Monday 7th December 2020

TIME: 4pm – 6pm

LOCATION: MS Teams Only

Attendees	Initial	Position and Area
Supt Lis Knight – Acting Chair	LK	LPA Commander for TVP South and Vale
	DO	S&V IAG
	DC	S&V IAG
	RA	S&V IAG hair
	GF	S&V IAG
	VK	S&V IAG
	DI	Team 4 ICR Inspector
	AL	Problem Solving Inspector
	JW	ASO/Minute Taker
	MD	South and Vale Schools Officer
	NC	Neighbourhood Inspector
Apologies	RE	S&V IAG

1. Action from the last meeting - LK

1. JW to organise a meeting between LK and DC to discuss new applicants. This was completed and we have welcomed VK, CS and GF onto the IAG.
2. JW to find out more information on applying for a grant from the violence reduction money for RA. Probably via the CSP. Update JW has put RA in contact with our contact from the CSP. However RA is still not sure about what funding is available so LK has suggested that RA speaks to AL away from this meeting for more information.
3. LK to speak find out what figures we can present on stop and search – DI has joined us today to talk about this in more detail.
4. NC to speak to RA about the Black Lives Matter Youth IAG, this was briefly touched upon in this meeting and will form part of the legitimacy of policing. RA and NC will still talk about how they can progress this as it is felt an important topic to young people at the moment.

2. Introductions

Everyone briefly introduced themselves that were in the meeting and what their roles and interests are. We have this documented in the first IAG minutes for the existing members so kept this brief.

3. Vetting

JW will be in contact to help you through the vetting process. ID needs to be photocopied and then signed by a TVP employee to say that the original has been seen so we need to make appointments to briefly meet if possible. JW is happy to meet you at the police station or at some where more convenient to you for 5 minutes.

4. Youth Engagement

In the last IAG TVP outlined plans for Youth IAG subject areas. Covid has made this difficult but we are still dedicated on getting young people's perspective on various subject matters.

There will be further work with partners for example Damascas and there will be structured and unstructured meetings.

It is important that the young people talk about what it is important to them. There has been outreach with Damascas (Abingdon area) and Sweatbox (Wantage area). These are going to be extended further. Other groups will also be brought in for example farming communities and travelling communities. The plans for 2020 with the young farmers were put on hold but will be revisiting in 2021.

MD and NC were asked what questions they were asking the young people to help break down the barriers with the police? MD suggested that the questions were simple and open to prompt conversation especially to start with.

It was suggested that the Cadets would be a useful resource and a young people's group that is easily accessible to the police. Cadets has been paused through Covid and the question whether something can be done online?

Action 1 – AL and MD to discuss how they can utilise the Cadets?

GF suggested that his experience means that he can help with the collation of any results in the future if needed.

Didcot girls and Fitzharrys schools have been on board to meet with the police around (find out more) and once the process has been finalised other local secondary schools will be approached.

Action 2 – MD to update the IAG at the next meeting on the progress with young projects.

BLM was discussed and RA was keen to have a topic around racism and the police and hear from the young people about their thoughts around this. Taser, Use of Force and Stop & Search are areas of policing that negatively affect BAME males disproportionately on a national level.

Action 3 – RA to discuss the legitimacy of policing with Inspector Nick Cain and PC Mike Dix. This is a very relevant topic at the moment as ACC Christian Bunt is setting up a Legitimacy Board.

Action 4 – NC and MD to think about and suggest the ways in which the IAG can help support the work with young people.

5. Stop and Search

It was highlighted in the meeting dated the 19th August that Stop & Search was an important topic and should be on the agenda going forward.

Just to re-cap what was said at the last meeting:

- Stop and Search is a vital power that allows police to combat street crime, ASB and prevent more serious crimes taking place.
- When used inappropriately, however, it has the potential to damage community confidence in policing.
- There was a fear factor around it about 18 months ago. It was in the press quite a lot and officers felt unsupported using it.
- Stop searches have increased in TVP and across the force the data shows that black people were more likely to be stop and searched but less likely to have something found on them, but also more likely to be arrested.
- One long term solution to this is the reason TVP have a team of BAME officers whose job is to try and encourage more BAME people to join the police. At the moment the South and Vale is low on BAME officers and therefore the majority of stop searches would be carried out by white officers.
- Our data for the South and Vale shows that 24% of stop searches result in the officer/s finding what they were looking for. This is a good number when you take into account that an officer will usually have to search a group of people knowing that only one of them might have what they are looking for.

DI is the South & Vale lead on Stop and Search and joined us for the meeting. DI checks all stop searches and makes sure they are all ethical.

Stop Search points raised:

- South & Vale stop searched the least amount of people.
- We have a 26% positive outcome rate which shows that they are evidence based. We are working on increasing the numbers of Stop Searches.

- There are anomalies in the figures – for example if have evidence to stop a car of four people as one may be carrying a weapon, all four would be searched even though only one is thought to be carrying the weapon. The other three would look like negative outcomes even though there is one positive outcome. However, a record is kept on each individual but not shown in our positive outcome figures.
- The Met police publishes all outcomes which is something that we are also working on.
- The data on ethnicity is based on the 2011 census which is out of date.
- The data does not take into account town vs rural locations.
- TVP are working with the London School of Economics to try and get our own up to date data.
- South & Vale have a good complaint rate from Stop and Search at 1%
- Stop and Search is intelligence led and is a safeguarding measure.
- More training needs to be given to officers on a continual basis. Officers need confidence and can be worried by 'trial by media' as they are often filmed on phones when they stop young people.
- South & Vale have increased Stop Searches this year which is excellent progress considering the pandemic and that assaults on officers have also increased. We are heading in the right direction and just need the quality of our data to also improve (misleading figures and new demographics.)

Action 5 – RA suggested that the IAG could help with the perception of Stop & Search to the young people and can include this as a subject for youth engagement. To discuss further next time.

Action 6 – DI to get some examples of stop searches to show the IAG next time.

6. Rural crime

Supt Lis Knight has taken over as the Strategic Force Lead on rural crime.

The South and Vale Policing team is made up of the following:

Incident Response Teams (ICR). There are five of these teams working on different shift through the LPA. Each shift has 20-30 officers who may not all be deployable for various reasons. Each team has one Inspector and three Sergeants based at locations across the LPA (Local policing area – South and Vale).

There are Neighbourhood Policing Teams based at Abingdon, Faringdon, Wantage, Thame, Henley and Didcot which are made up of a Sergeant, PCs and PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers). Inspector Nick Cain heads this team.

The Tasking Team is a small team based at Abingdon who primarily concentrate on County Drug Lines which sits under the Detective Inspector of the Priority Crime Team and includes a Sergeant and six PCs.

Priority Crime Team (PCT) – also based at Abingdon is the burglary team and made up of detectives, officers and civilian investigators.

Problem Solving Team (PST) – AL has two teams of a Sergeant and 5/6 officers. PC Mike Dix also sits in this team. They work on solving problems using an OSARA (Objective, Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment) process and the officers have dedicated roles within the team, including Youth Engagement, CSE risk etc.

Criminal Investigation Department (CID) – based at Abingdon – detectives who work on more serious violent crime.

Having a dedicated rural team is not possible at the moment due to the minimal flexibility we have for safety reasons amongst the teams and having to deploy staff on minimal levels.

However, each Neighbourhood Team has rural crime specialists which consists of one warranted officer and one or two PCSOs who have enhanced training. They will also feed into the new NH Problem Solving Officer PC Louise Russell who has just started on the Problem Solving Team. She will be responsible for the rural crime operations targeting people and places. We have also created a new temp/pilot position with PC Ian Kent as the Rural Crime Co-ordinator. Ian's role is to ensure emerging themes and crime series are spotted at the earliest opportunity, the management and deployment of WhatsApp phones, accuracy of crime recording to enhance data and intel links with other local policing areas in TVP and other forces.

Action 7 – for next meeting DO asked for a % of our officers who are operational. Is staff retention also an issue?

7. Operation Moonbox update

In the last IAG we briefly discuss Operation Moonbox which was the South and Vale's response to intelligence that Didcot was a hotspot for children being exposed to criminal exploitation and drug dealing. Violent Crime and carrying knives were also linked to the exploitation in the Didcot area.

The update from Moonbox from the last meeting:

- There was an 80% raise in ASB in Didcot before Operation Moonbox was started
- Massively reduced – down to 26%
- Concluded that the young people were not carrying knives
- Local officers learnt how to deal with it through increased visibility and engagement
- Increased Partnership working and therefore increased relationships with partners
- Response teams more proactive
- Best practice – what we have learnt will be used in other towns if appropriate.

8. AOB

1. ANPR – NC updated the group that we have the go ahead to have ANPR installed at the services at junction 8 where we have a lot of vehicle crime. We are currently working on getting ANPR fitted into fleet cars, to update the group next time.
2. WhatsApp – officers now have new work phones and WhatsApp is not supported. We are getting 12 stand-alone phones for WhatsApp use to be given to the Rural Crime specialists. WhatsApp has proven to be a valuable tool to help communication between land owners and the police.
3. What 3 Words App is now available on personal issue work phones. A useful app to help identify where a person is.