



## West Berkshire LPA IAG Meeting Agenda

DATE: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022 TIME: 6pm

LOCATION: MS Teams Only

Attendees	Position and Area
SG	Vice IAG Chair
LM	IAG member
MP	IAG member
JG	IAG member
RL	IAG member
ZA	Thames Valley Police
CW	Thames Valley Police
Apologies	
AK-C	IAG Chair
SP	West Berkshire Council
NB	IAG Member
KP	IAG Member
NH	IAG Member
UB	IAG member

**1. Welcome and Introductions:** **IAG Chair**

**2. Previous notes/actions:** **All**

Advertise IAG membership vacancies out in the community - Ongoing.

Feedback from VAWG week of action – EE not present. Will discuss VAWG later on.

BWV – Plans from comms regarding communicating this out to the public, schools and colleges – 1<sup>st</sup> April date has passed and all communications has been sent out.

To check we are using data against the latest census - Unclear if the latest census has been released.

**3. Members Feedback / Issues to raise:** **All**

MP - We have nearly 200 Ukrainians arriving in West Berkshire, which is about average for the national.

MP – Last week we had nearly 30 Ukrainians at the hub. This is open every Wednesday afternoon, 2pm – 5pm at Newbury Baptist Church.

LM – SupportU will be giving domestic abuse and sexual violence support for the LGBT community from the 15<sup>th</sup> June. **IAG members to communicate this out to their communities.**

MG addressed some concerns that some of the outer areas do not see police presence. There are slightly more officers in Newbury, because of licencing and the town centre. The rest of the officers are equally spread between the different areas. The issue with the outer areas is that it is such a vast area to cover.

MP mentioned some vandalism around the church in Donnington and some drug dealings going on in the car park area by St Mary's Church in Shaw. MG to look into this to see if it has been reported.

**4. LPA Commanders Updates:** **Deputy LPA Commander**

Hate Crime incidents have gone up. At this time last year we had 188 and so far this year we have 209. In terms of specific categories, most of them have seen a drop, with disabled down 27%, homophobic incidents down 18% and transphobic down 44% compared to last year. The reporting and good outcomes, mirror similar LPA's.

We are showing disproportionality in the black stop and search area, but the numbers are low in percentage difference. We often find this is due to people coming into the area, supplying drugs in the local area and they tend to be from the black community. We are confident that the reasons and justifications are there for that disproportionality.

ZA showed the group a video from the Chief showing the achievements of TVP in the last year. The group agreed it was good to see and thanked officers for their hard work. **ZA to send out to the group so it can be shared out to their communities.**

Domestic violence is the number one priority for the LPA and force. We are working with our partners in the prevention, support for victims and alternative accommodation etc. The police are really focused on domestic violence offenders being convicted and if they cannot be prosecuted then other alternatives such as domestic violence prevention orders are given to witnesses to try and give them the best opportunity to not become victims of domestic violence again.

Hate crime numbers are still rising although the numbers are slower compared to last year. The West Berkshire Hate Action Team is set up and they monitor and review such crimes.

Violence against Woman and Girls – We are making sure that we are doing all we can on sexual offending. If someone is exhibiting particular trends such as public indecency or sexual touching, there are dedicated officers who will pick these priorities up and look at offender management, court investigations and support for the victims.

Rural Crime – We have a sizable rural community on the LPA. We have the second highest rural crime on the force. We have a strong rural connection with our neighbourhood teams and they are well connected with the local farmers and local community. We have had positive feedback from some of the rural landowners.

#### **5. Neighbourhood Policing Team Updates:**

We have had a lot of staffing changes and are advertising for a couple of new staff. Two PCSO's are joining up and we have managed to retain them in Newbury so we are not losing that knowledge. We have some issues now around antisocial behaviour around the town centre and around McDonald's. We are targeting these individuals and working alongside partners. We have the PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) for Thatcham, which has just finished the consultation period and will hopefully get a decision whether it is going to be granted. We have had some positive feedback from Thatcham Town Council and lots of people commenting about how crime had dropped when we had an exclusion order a couple of years ago.

We have had some problems around Burghfield, mainly around youths and some antisocial behaviour.

SG mentioned anti-social behaviour at the Newbury racecourse estate but MG said that the police are not aware of any reports. MG will have a look into this.

#### **6. Policing legitimacy**

Hate Crime

**CW**

Now that Coronavirus is easing and with the summer coming up, there is a lot more events going on and the hate crime group are looking to have stall at these events to give out leaflets, advice and support.

#### **7. Communications/Social media**

**AK**

No further forward due to capacity but still keen to increase the IAG awareness to the community through the resident's newsletter.

## 8. AOB

IAG Chair

Youth IAG

Alice

Alice is looking forward to having a conversation with MG, SG and NB as how we can take this forward. **MG to approach Newbury College to see if they have any students willing to volunteer.**

Violence information booklet

Alice

No feedback have been received.

Rainbow car

Zahid

We did pause this due to some negative feedback. A review was completed and we are happy to go ahead in the next couple of weeks. We will monitor the feedback from the public, social media and also the officers who will be driving the car. If the pilot is successful, then it will be rolled out across the force.

Ex PC

Zahid

This officer was found to have accessed police information, identified domestic violence victims, struck up friendships and had consensual sex with them. The officer breached data protection and code of ethics and has been sentenced to 3.5 years for those offences. As soon as we identified what was happening, there was immediate action by the police who suspended the officer. The IOPC carried out the investigation. Nothing has come to our attention that would suggest that it is significant concern from the community or that the confidence in the police locally has diminished. There was one post on social media that was positive in the sense that the police dealt with one of our own. The group agreed that they had not heard anything from their communities.

SupportU is recruiting for an administrator should anyone know of someone who may be interested.

JG mentioned a couple of incidents locally. MG said that the rural crime task force is up and running. MG to look into this.

Newbury Pride is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July – **Please can IAG members let their communities know.**

## 9. Takeaways

Each IAG member was asked what he or she are going to 'takeaway' from the meeting to share with his or her communities.

**10. Next Meeting Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022 at 6pm via TEAMS**

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to RL for their support to the IAG and the community of West Berkshire. You have been a great asset to us at the IAG, which we truly appreciate, and your presence will be missed. We wish you the very best in all your future undertakings.