

NORTHUMBRIA POLICE MINUTES

Title EXECUTIVE BOARD	Meeting Number 4/2024
---------------------------------	---------------------------------

Date 16 April 2024	Location Executive Team Meeting Room, Middle Engine Lane / TEAMS	Duration 09:00 – 11:14
------------------------------	---	----------------------------------

Present:

Jayne Meir	Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) (<i>Chair</i>)
Deborah Alderson	T/Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) (Force Coordination)
Kevin Laing	Head of Finance (CFO)
Joscelin Lawson	Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) Corporate Services
Alastair Simpson	Assistant Chief Constable (Crime and Safeguarding)
Sara Purvis	Governance and Planning Adviser (<i>Secretary</i>)

Invitees:

Sarah Robson	Chief Inspector, Staff Office
--------------	-------------------------------

Apologies:

Vanessa Jardine	Chief Constable
Andy Hill	Assistant Chief Constable (Communities)

OPEN SESSION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

1. OPENING

2. MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON 19 MARCH 2024

Agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Action list updated.

4. PERFORMANCE

a. PERFORMANCE UPDATE

DCC introduced the performance update, highlighting concerns regarding 101 abandonment rates, which increased to 28% in March 2024, a 9% increase on February. T/ACC (Force Coordination) noted there are sometimes positive reasons for abandoned calls e.g., directing people to use alternative methods of contact, however advised work had been commissioned to further understand the increase.

Work is continuing with Communications to improve use of grade 3, 4 and 5 calls due to inconsistency in allocation of these appointments.

ACC (Crime and Safeguarding) referred to concerns around offender management within MOSOVO and noted Safeguarding department are developing a strategy to address backlogs with visits. DCC suggested an update be provided at the next Strategic Performance Board (SPB) in terms of plans to address the current issues and how this will be measured going forward.

DCC advised the Chief Constable has requested a focus upon acting duties, and specifically a reduction in the number of officers and staff acting in roles, therefore this would be included in future performance updates.

ACO, Corporate Services, advised the Performance & Development Review tool would be relaunched following the forthcoming Senior Leaders meeting, encouraging focus upon meaningful, role-related objectives and reiterating requirements around compliance. There is also an opportunity to have mandatory, functional objectives to ensure performance is aligned to specific force performance targets i.e., raising investigative standards. DCC noted performance around compliance would be monitored within SPB.

Update *noted*.

b. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN 2023/24 - KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

DCC introduced the report which provides a summary of performance against the three commitments in the Police and Crime Plan 2022-2025: Fighting Crime; Improving Lives; and Preventing Crime.

ACC (Crime and Safeguarding) referenced the continuing decrease in levels of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) victim satisfaction, despite the number of reported ASB incidents remaining largely static. Specifically, fewer victims are satisfied with the actions taken by police and only 47% of ASB victims that wanted to receive updates said they were satisfied with how they were kept informed. Victims that were dissatisfied said they had not received the updates or further contact they had expected from the police. T/ACC (Force Coordination) suggested further discussion at Trust and Confidence Board to consider how to report Force activity targeting ASB, to the public, to assist with perceptions and satisfaction levels. DCC also commented on the requirement upon officers to ensure victims are provided with timely updates and appropriate follow-up activity.

Update *noted*.

5. HMICFRS UPDATE

DCC provided an update in support of the closure of nine recommendation identified by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) in the report 'An inspection of vetting, misconduct and misogyny in the police service' published on 2 November 2022.

Agreed: To approve the submission of closure letters of evidence for nine Level 3 recommendations to HMICFRS by upload to the Monitoring Portal.

6. FORCE STRATEGIC RISK

DCC presented the current force strategic risk register (FSSR). Following discussion, points to note included:

- Risk 1 – Digital Policing - DCC noted that within the summary of controls, there is reference to a ‘Digital Strategy supported by key underlying strategies’. They advised that the force digital strategy is under development and therefore the wording should be revised to reflect this i.e., ‘Force Digital Strategy is in development supported by key underlying strategies.’ In addition, within the controls there is a statement regarding a full network topology being supplied to the NMC. DCC advised the Force was working towards this position and requested this be queried with Digital Policing to ensure it is accurate.
- Risk 6 – Infrastructure and Assets - DCC queried whether access control issues, including the current project, were adequately documented. Comments were also made as to whether the Health and Safety maintenance and inspection regime was reflected. It was further suggested an additional control be added around PEN testing. ACO, Corporate Services, advised they would review and consider the suggestions.
- Risk 7 – Operational – It was noted the risk focusses heavily on Civil Contingencies but should also be reflective of the Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR). It was agreed this risk should be wholly reviewed to determine whether an additional Operational risk (solely focussed upon SPR) should be included or whether the current risk could be adapted appropriately. DCC also queried whether the LRF weekly situation reporting meeting (as mentioned in the summary of controls) was still in place; and queried whether COVID / pandemic in general should still be referenced within the FSRR.

DCC raised a concern regarding the impact of FOM changes on TL2 resources, namely the distribution across area commands. T/ACC (Force Coordination) advised this was currently being reviewed and an update would be provided at the next meeting.

Action:

- ***T/ACC (Force Coordination) to provide an update on the impact of FOM changes on TL2 resources at the next Executive Board.***
- ***Force Strategic Risk Register to be reviewed and updated as per the comments provided.***

7. MANCHESTER ARENA INQUIRY UPDATE

T/ACC (Force Coordination) provided an update in respect of ongoing activity to ensure compliance against the Manchester Arena Inquiry recommendations.

Update ***noted.***

8. EXECUTIVE BOARD FORWARD PLAN (OPEN SESSION)

Action: Governance and Planning Adviser to update forward plan to include:

- ***Force Change Board update (June)***
- ***Strategic Resourcing Board update (including Priority Based Budgeting) (May)***
- ***Crime and Safeguarding Resourcing (June)***

- *Replacement of Northumbria Connected (Date to be confirmed)*

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

10. DATE, TIME, AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

21 May 2024, 09:00, Executive Team Meeting Room, Middle Engine Lane / Teams