

**BARNSELY INDEPENDENT ADVISORY GROUP**

**THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2019 - 7.00 PM**

**BARNSELY POLICE STATION**

**Attendees:** Beverley White (Chair)  
Nell Stockton  
T/Chief Supt. Sarah Poolman  
Graham Murdin  
Jacob Barnett  
Harshad Patel  
Florentine Bootha-King  
Kitty Rose  
Rowena Hunt

**Apologies:** T/Chief Inspector Julie Mitchell  
Freddy Ponce  
Jane Wynne

**Copy to:** Mike Mallinson  
T/Supt. Mark James

**1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES**

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING/MATTERS ARISING**

2.1 The minutes of the last meeting dated 23 July 2019 were agreed as an accurate record.

**3. ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING**

3.1 **IAG Membership.** *Diversity Representation.* Jane Wynne progressing. **Discharged.**

*Jane Wynne to pursue potential representation from IDAS and the Women's Centre. Member recruitment will continue as and when Jane can attend the groups. **Ongoing.***

3.2 **Online Meetings.** *Potential telephone conference call being reviewed. **Ongoing.***

3.3 **PCCs Crime Plan.** *Harshad Patel to summarise and highlight how the plan affects community concerns. See item 7. **Discharged.***

3.4 **Memorandum of Understanding.** *Further discussion to take place around proposals as to what should be included. All agreed the refreshed MoU changes were for the better. The document was therefore ratified and will be circulated to members.*

**Post Meeting Update:** MoU circulated. **Discharged.**

3.5 **Community Challenge Board.** *Bev. White to circulate the date of the next Challenge Board meeting. The next Challenge Board will take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 4 pm, Barnsley Town Hall, Room 3. The remit of the group is to discuss cases relating to hate, vulnerability, anti-social behaviour and stop/search. At their last meeting Bev. asked whether IAG members could listen into discussions in order to talk about some of the cases within the IAG meetings. The CCB agreed to this suggestion. **Discharged.***

- 3.6 **Facebook.** *Members to think about the options for a Facebook page for discussion at the next meeting.* T/CI Julie Mitchell has requested comments in respect of a circulated Avon and Somerset IAG leaflet which will be adapted in order to produce a South Yorkshire version. Similarly feedback was requested regarding a draft IAG webpage on the South Yorkshire Police website.

Suggested items to be included on the webpage are:

An overview of discussions following the meeting.  
Contact details should a person be interested in joining.  
Generic email address.

The Facebook page will be put on hold until the website is up and running.

Thanks were given to Julie Mitchell for her input into the update of the documents. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

- 3.7 **Web Chat.** *Web chat to be set up for the next meeting – T/CI Mitchell to arrange.* Proposal for a live feed over Twitter in order to broaden the scope of the meeting. This should be achievable once Jane Wynne and Julie Mitchell are present. **Ongoing.**

- 3.8 **Media Coverage.** The Barnsley Chronicle has reported on issues within the Cudworth area concerning youths and a recent rape in the park. The Chair questioned what police action was taking place. **Action: T/CI Mitchell to discuss with the Cudworth Neighbourhood Team.**

**Post Meeting Update:** Youth nuisance at Cudworth Park and Valley Park has been a PACT priority for the last 6 months. A patrol plan is in place and a number of youths have been dealt with through ASB letters, stop/searches and Youth Offending Team referrals. The parks are an appropriate place for young people to congregate and socialise, however ensuring they are well-behaved whilst doing so remains a priority for the Neighbourhood Team. The sexual offence reported earlier this year was an isolated incident and is not connected to the youth nuisance issue. **Discharged.**

**Mini Police Scheme.** *Jane Wynne to determine the details of the scheme.* **Post Meeting Update:** The scheme is running in Sheffield and Doncaster as a pilot. It is aimed at Year 5 students and is running in 12 primary schools across both areas. Uniform is provided, funded by the volunteer police cadets and the children's responsibilities are setting out good behaviour in school and litter picking within the community. It is running well with potential for it to be rolled out to other Districts. **Discharged.**

**Action: Jane Wynne to link in with the Cadet Co-ordinator to determine whether a cadet wants to attend the IAG. Rowena Hunt and Kitty Rose to speak to a student from their school who is a cadet in order to determine her interest in attending the IAG. Jane Wynne to also link in.**

**Domestic Abuse Data.** *Staff Officer to pull together data around domestic abuse relating to crimes, incidents, arrests and outcomes.* See item 8. **Discharged.**

**IDAS.** *T/CI Mitchell to provide an update on the work undertaken with IDAS in order to improve our response.* To be incorporated in the above update. **Discharged.**

- 3.9 **Crime & Safety Mtgs.** *T/CI Mitchell to progress.* Julie has been in contact with Graham in order to update him. Graham advised that the minutes are not circulated until around 5 weeks following the meeting meaning that by the time the Tasking Officer receives them, she is reading old actions. He is also unsure what action is taken by the Tasking Officer once she receives the minutes. Chief Supt. Poolman advised the Tasking Officer is a Council employee and the meeting BMBC led, however the Tasking Officer will convey any police related tasks to SYP. Graham was advised to contact T/CI Mitchell in order for her to further clarify if necessary. **Discharged.**

#### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 4.1 Beverley White declared a conflict of interest as she is now employed by West Yorkshire Police. As such she will stand down as Chair of this meeting. Chief Supt. Poolman agreed that Bev. would remain on the board. Following discussion, Nell Stockton was happy to step up as Chair of the IAG. Nell thanked Bev. for her input.
- 4.2 Sarah Poolman reported that she has been appointed as the District Commander at Barnsley by way of a temporary promotion. As such, Temporary Superintendent Mark James will take her place on the IAG board. Sarah will attend the next IAG meeting to introduce Mark.

#### **5. FEEDBACK FROM THE LIFEWISE FRAUD EVENT**

- 5.1 Jacob Barnett attended the above event in July 2019. Presentations were delivered around:
- Cyber crime such as credit card, telephone fraud and scams.
  - Advice was provided around what to do if you were the victim of a scam.
  - The Fire Service was also present advising on how to prevent fires in the kitchen and offered free smoke alarm safety checks.
  - UV pens were circulated in order to property mark.
  - Bells are useful for purses as a deterrent for pickpockets.
  - The SYP Alerts system was advertised.
- 5.2 By registering with SYP Alerts, members of the public can choose to receive news and appeals, local crime information and/or prevention advice direct via email, text or voice message. The link to sign up for Alerts is:  
[www.sypalerts.co.uk](http://www.sypalerts.co.uk)

#### **6. DEBRIEF FROM OP. DUXFORD ATTENDANCE**

- 6.1 Op. Duxford is a day-long police operation which took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Graham Murdin attended as a lay observer, reporting on his activities during the day.
- Warrants were carried out in respect of drugs and a burglary suspect.
  - Leaflets were distributed through doors.
  - Graham was interviewed by ITV in respect of his role as an observer which was later shown on Calendar.
  - He was given a tour of the Custody Suite at Barnsley, impressing that all needs are catered for in respect of religion, food or disability.
- 6.2 **Feedback**
- 6.2.1 Following an email from an Inspector, Graham was advised he would be provided with a high viz tabard and introduced as a police observer at incidents. He was subsequently not introduced to anyone at the initial briefing and was not allocated any visible identification, which led to him feeling vulnerable on one occasion.
- 6.2.2 One Sergeant within the Custody Suite seemed taken aback on his arrival with a PCSO and Graham can only assume he had not been briefed of their attendance. He also wasn't wearing a tabard. The Chair felt officers needed to be aware of Graham's attendance. Chief Supt. Poolman advised Duxford is a big day with around 150 officers present so Graham did not need to be introduced to everybody just to a number of people and key individuals.
- 6.2.3 In relation to the ITV interview, Graham stated to the reporter that he should run this past the police media support, however the reporter said it would be fine and Graham was not clear if this was the case. Further, the SYP Media Support officer did not contact him to discuss. Chief Supt. Poolman advised the IAG MoU sets out good practice and Graham wasn't commenting on the police but as a lay observer.

6.2.4 When asked by police officers which group Graham represented, their expressions suggested they had no knowledge of the IAG, equally he was unable to briefly describe what the IAG was about to which he felt disappointed as to his lack of clarity. Chief Supt. Poolman responded by saying that not all officers would know about the IAG but once the leaflet is produced this will probably help Graham in respect of how he felt.

6.3 Following on from the above, Chief Supt. Poolman advised new members that Op Duxford is run every quarter with officers committed from around the Force who are used primarily to execute warrants which mainly tend to be drug related. All Barnsley's Neighbourhood Teams are also utilised to engage with the community. An invite was extended to IAG members to attend the next Duxford which will take place in January or February 2020. **Action: T/CI Mitchell to circulate the next set of Duxford dates.**

6.4 Op Voyager is a mini Duxford and much more localised with just the Neighbourhood Teams taking part. **Action: T/CI Mitchell to also circulate these dates.**

**Post Meeting Update:** The next Operation Duxford has yet to be set. Once identified this will be circulated.

The Operation Voyager dates will take place as follows:

Penistone – 15 January 2020

Town Centre – 12 February 2020

Cudworth – 12 March 2020

Please contact T/CI Julie Mitchell if you wish to attend.

## **7. PCCs CRIME PLAN**

7.1 Harshad Patel presented in detail the above plan, a copy of which will be circulated to members.

## **8. DOMESTIC ABUSE STATISTICS**

8.1 A DA increase was seen from 2017 to 2018 and figures will probably be slightly under the 2018 rate by the end of this calendar year. Non crime is also recorded where verbal altercations have taken place but there is no offence. A reduction in non crimes due to Home Office crime recording changing has been seen. There are also changes at a national level around arrest powers. Lots of victims have been the victim of domestic abuse over 30+ times before they pick up the phone and seek help.

8.2 In 2014, Domestic Violence Protection Notices were introduced. If there is no evidence to prosecute or charge, this power can inhibit the behaviour of an offender which can last for up to 28 days. The order basically prohibits contact with a victim in which time it is hoped that victim will seek the support of IDAS (Independent Advocates) who can work with the victim.

8.3 From September 2019 an IDAS officer has worked within the Police Station in order to speed up time and support for victims. This support has to be with the victim's consent.

A question was raised about what training officers have in respect of domestic violence. Although officers have initial training, domestic abuse experiences are being built up with each incident. SYP are just about to embark on Safer Lives Domestic Abuse training across the Force.

8.4 Clair's Law. This law is as a result of a historic domestic homicide where the family of the victim campaigned for the rights of victims to be able to ask the police for further information, i.e. if someone starts a new relationship and they are worried about a potential domestic violence background, the police can be asked whether there is anything relevant in a person's history.

The police will then make a decision as to whether to disclose. This is called the Right to Ask under Claire's Law, but there is also an obligation on the police which is called the Right to Know where the police will proactively go out and give the victim disclosure.

## **9. HATE CRIME CASE STUDY**

- 9.1 Linked to item 3.5 within these minutes. A report was received from a third party that youths were swinging metal bars, being rowdy, blocking the path of an Asian youth and shouting racist language at him. Concerns were raised that no-one had immediately attended and that crimes coming through the Crime Recording Bureau can take up to 2 weeks to allocate.

Chief Supt. Poolman advised this process had been challenged and allocation is down to 2-3 days. Sarah is the Hate Lead for the Force, the caller should have been advised that an officer could not immediately attend but contact would be made the next day in order to obtain further details. Our default now is to schedule an appointment within 24 hours around any form of hate crime.

Bev. advised the victim did not re-contact the police due to the possibility of the 2 week time frame and will probably not feel her call was valued due to no contact.

## **10. SYP ALERTS/GENERIC MEDIA COVERAGE FEEDBACK**

- 10.1 An alert advertising Neighbourhood Watch had been received by Graham who felt this did not blend in with the SYP Alerts. Attendees within the meeting disagreed and felt this should be circulated.
- 10.2 A Twitter update had been circulated advising that the Barnsley Council Cabinet had approved a multi agency initiative aimed at addressing Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE). Bev requested clarification of this. Chief Supt. Poolman reported that Doncaster, Rotherham and Barnsley had all submitted a bid for a funding stream around CCE and monies had been secured. Work is ongoing around interventions to divert young people from crime. **Action: CCE funding update to take place at the next meeting.**

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 11.1 Beverley proposed that a future agenda item should review rape victims from reporting to prosecution.
- 11.2 An officer within SYP has offered to attend an IAG meeting in order to raise an awareness of Prevent. The presentation will focus on individuals who are subject to or susceptible to radicalisation. This was agreed.
- 11.3 The Citizens Advice Bureau are holding an event on Wednesday 27 November at Priority Campus around mental health.

## **12. DETAILS OF THE NEXT MEETING**

- 12.1 The next meeting will take place on **Thursday 30 January 2020**, 7.00 – 8.30 pm, Barnsley Police HQ.

## BARNSELY INDEPENDENT ADVISORY GROUP

### ACTION SCHEDULE – 21 NOVEMBER 2019

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>IAG Membership</b>	Jane Wynne to pursue potential representation from IDAS and the Women's Centre.  Jane Wynne to link in with the Cadet Co-ordinator in order to determine IAG representation.  Rowena Hunt and Kitty Rose to speak to a student from their school who is a cadet to determine her interest. Jane Wynne to also link in.
<b>Online Meetings</b>	Potential telephone conference call being reviewed (for Freddy Ponce).
<b>Facebook</b>	Further discussion within the January meeting.
<b>Web Chat</b>	Proposal for live feed over Twitter – T/CI Mitchell to arrange.
<b>Media Coverage</b>	CCE funding update to take place within the January meeting.