**Executive Board Minutes**

**Meeting Date:** 28th July 2022

**Duration:** 10:30am – 12:15 p.m.

**Location:** Dixon Room, Police HQ/Microsoft Teams

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| **Attendees** | | |
| **Durham Police and Crime Commissioner’s Office** | **Durham Constabulary** | |
| **Chair:** Joy Allen, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) | Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) - Ciaron Irvine | |
| Head of Governance and Finance – Charles Oakley (CO) | Detective Chief Superintendent - Paul Gray (PG) | |
| Scrutiny & Accountability Officer – James Atkinson (JA) |  | |
| Champion: Victims, Michael Banks (MB) |  | |
| Governance and Finance Manager – JoAnne Connor (JC) |  | |
| **Apologies** | | |
| Chief Executive – Stephen White (SW) | Chief Constable (CC) - Jo Farrell | |
| Head of Private Office – Sweety Sahani (SS) | Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) – Tonya Antonis | |
|  | Assistant Chief Officer (ACO) – Gary Ridley | |
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| 1. **Welcome and Introductions** | | **Action Owner** |
| PCC Joy Allen, as Chair, welcomed all members to the meeting. PCC informed the Board that the meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes only.  Apologies were received as documented above.  There were no declarations of interest shared. | | PCC |
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| 1. **Minutes from the meeting held on 30th June 2022** | |  |
| Minutes from the previous Executive Board meeting held on 30th June 2022 were accepted and recorded as true record.  A copy of the minutes is available on the PCC website. | | JC |
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| 1. **PCC Action Log Update** | |  |
| Chair updated the Executive Board on the PCC outstanding Action log as below:  **Reference 62 -** Force to provide update on Demand (Control Room) to September meeting – ongoing.  **Reference 63 -** Annual Governance Statement - Victim Impact Assessment information to be added – completed. | |  |
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| 1. **Thematic Report – Safer People – Hate Crime** | |  |
| DCC Irvine provided an overview of the Constabulary’s self-assessment of the activities under Prevent, Protect, Deter, and Pursue in relation to Safer People majoring on Hate Crime.  DCC highlighted the work of the Cohesion team who have been looking at avenues to increase reporting from the wider community as the national survey suggests that at least 50% of all hate crime goes unreported.  The underlying issues of policing and crime are inherently through trust and confidence, policing by consent. If the police are not aware of incidents occurring in the community and wider society, there is very little that the police and colleagues in connected services can do to resolve the issue and prevent further harm occurring. Increased reporting may be considered counter-intuitive where statistics are concerned however, without increased reports to be aware of what problems people and communities are facing in the short term, the long-term aim of reducing these types of crimes will never occur.  Durham Constabulary are currently promoting a third-party reporting centre within the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). This was considered as a good starting point due to the central location, accessibility, professionalism, and is a trusted mechanism with trained staff. DCC said that trust and confidence are paramount to achieving reports, and this concept of third-party reporting is simply another avenue to achieving this and then preventing further harm in the long term.  The CAB have been very receptive to the idea of adding this to the list of services they offer the public, and Durham Constabulary have rolled out several training sessions to their volunteer staff members and opened channels of communication to allow staff to contact team directly.    The push has been to use the national reporting mechanism of True Vision, which is available in over 100 different languages again, to increase useability and accessibility for people who do not speak English as a primary language, again people who may be more likely to be victims of hate crimes.  Durham Constabulary have also started work with the NHS and established links with the Equality Diversion and Inclusion (EDI) team within Tees, Esk & Wear Valley NHS trust which is the mental health service provider that covers County Durham and Darlington.  Durham University Unity Group had its first meeting which was focused on supporting protected characteristics, creating awareness of initiatives that Durham Constabulary provide whilst improving hate crime reporting.  Durham Constabulary also continue to work with established groups such as Darlington Unity Group, IAG and Joint Hate Crime Action Group which look at improving hate crime work and reporting. This year Durham Constabulary will also sign off on a piece of work which enables the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) colleagues to scrutinise unresolved crimes.  Temp Chief Superintendent Gray said following on from the work within the Citizens Advice Bureau, Durham Constabulary aim to produce the same scheme within Durham’s CAB to further enhance their third-party reporting and awareness of the positive work done within the hate crime arena. Discussions are ongoing to work with Durham County Council and their data analysts to use their internal system which maps out hate crime and gives a visual representation of where hate crime is occurring and equally where hate crime is not being reported. This is expected to be complete later this year.  PCC said it was extremely useful to have the updated EDI document to provide extra context around the thematic report. PCC asked if this could be brought back to an Executive Board. Action 64 refers  PCC requested a presentation on the new structure and its potential impact to be shared with the OPCC. Action 65 refers  After the report was presented to the Board, the PCC and her office asked a series of questions which were then answered by the DCC and Temp Chief Superintendent Gray. | |  |
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| 1. **Accountability Report** | |  |
| Mr Atkinson (JA) presented the accountability report and highlighted the following.  Details of the caseworker system will be reviewed and brought to the next meeting.  Other items of note were that in the coming month the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) will refine the topics for the next two Public Accountability Meetings and relay this to the Force.  JA also shared organisational learning and good news specifically that the OPCC funding has been provided for two RASSO First Contact Navigators. It was also positive to see the force and OPCC working together to agree and implement the changes proposed under the new guidance aiming to support victims of anti-social behaviour.  The Executive Board noted and agreed the content of the PCC Accountability Report. | |  |
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| 1. **Final Annual Governance Statement** | |  |
| Mrs Connor (JC) presented the Board with the Final Annual Governance Statement.  The purpose of this report is to allow the Executive Board to review and comment on the latest versions of the proposed Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2021/22 for the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).  This report had previously been presented to the Executive Board at the last meeting with a recommendation to add details around the appointment of community champions in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Abuse and Victims.  The PCC and Executive Board agreed the amendments made to the PCC Annual Governance Statement.  PCC thanked Internal Audit and the Assistant Chief Officer, Mr Gary Ridley for this inclusion in the Annual Governance Statement. | |  |
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| 1. **Any Other Business** | |  |
| PCC thanked all members of the Executive Team and the PCC staff and all who have contributed to this meeting.  Next Executive Board to be held on 25th August at 9am. | |  |