

APCC – General Meeting Minutes – 22 May 2019

Venue: 30 Euston Square

Item No.	Title
1.0	<p>Item Title: Welcome & Previous Minutes: APCC Chair PCC Mark Burns-Williamson (MBW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MBW welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed. ▪ The issue of the national 101 number arose and Alun Michael suggested that the Vodafone contract should be an item for further discussion given that local connectivity was a vital issue – MBW noted that there was work taking place on this through the local policing portfolio. ▪ MBW reported that the Modern Slavery Programme Annual Report was launched yesterday.
2.0	<p>Item Title: Serious Violence Update</p> <p>Key Speaker: Nick Hunt (NH), Head of Home Office Serious Violence Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The APCC was updated on the Government’s Serious Violence Strategy and Serious Violence Fund which was a top Home Office priority. PCCs were thanked for supporting regional events which were well attended. £65M surge policing funding is shortly being allocated to 18 police forces which will fit strategically with £35M prevention funding that will fund Violence Reduction Units (VRUs) to tackle serious violence. Presentations on establishing VRUs in the West Midlands and South Wales are being made to the Home Office later today. ▪ PCCs were also updated on a package of measures that government have put in place to address this issue including the Youth Endowment Fund; the Early Intervention Youth Fund; the National County Lines Coordination Centre; legislation addressing firearms, knives and corrosive substances through the Offensive Weapons Act 2019; a high level independent review of drugs; the knife crime media campaign ‘#knifefree’; and consultation on a new legal duty to underpin a ‘public health’ approach to tackling serious violence. ▪ Members were then updated on the next steps following the Prime Minister’s Serious Youth Violence Summit in April 2019. A new Ministerial Taskforce supported by the Cabinet Office now meets regularly to ensure cross government ownership of this issue and address the key drivers of serious violence such as the impact of domestic violence and the influence of social media. <p>Key points raised by PCCs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MBW stated that PCCs welcomed the Home Office funding to address serious violence. However, the APCC Serious Violence Working Group felt one-year funding for VRUs was problematic and have requested 3 years of funding so that longer term early intervention and prevention work addressing ACEs can be sustained. PCCs across England and Wales have expressed the need for a solution that included work in schools and youth centres rather than financing police overtime especially as police resources are already stretched. NH replied that the Home Office also have the long term very much in mind and the short term is about creating the space for this strategy. The Home Office is also keen to make serious violence a Spending Review priority. ▪ PCCs highlighted that the serious violence problem had been a long time in the making and will take a long time to solve and that there was also a link with serious and organised crime. PCCs would appreciate engagement with colleagues in the Home Office on this issue and PCCs wish to set out their policy view on the legal duty to collaborate to tackle serious violence. Some PCCs highlighted that there was already a local statutory duty to cooperate on all crime issues including serious violence through Community Safety Partnerships and that the YJB role and that

	<p>of YOTs was also not being adequately recognised. NH said he wants to encourage and ensure more Community Safety Partnership and YOT involvement on this issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PCCs across England and Wales were also concerned that funding allocation decisions had only been based on hospital admission data. PCCs asked to what extent the Home Office have estimated where serious violence victims and offenders have come from as well as where they are treated? NH replied that the Home Office had sense checked health data against police force data to identify a core set of police forces where funding impact would be highest. ▪ Some PCCs were concerned they were not getting serious violence funding even though serious violence is an issue for most forces not just the metropolitan ones. Some PCCs urged a formula allocation of funding in the future as all forces are playing a role in prevention rather than prioritising surge funding to specific police forces. NH replied that a range of other funding streams such as County Lines funding and the Early Youth Intervention Fund does provide national funding. Some PCCs also highlighted that a lack of coordination of 5 different funding streams addressing this issue meant their officials were having to spend too long submitting bids rather than developing programmes. ▪ PCCs also want the Home Office to facilitate good practice exchange on tackling serious violence including on drug use and school exclusion. NH stated testing of ideas is being encouraged via a Home Office Unit just set up to share best practice on this issue and requested PCCs get in touch to showcase their local approaches. ▪ Some PCCs were also concerned at the media reporting of serious violence which is raising the fear of violent crime in rural and affluent areas that are not greatly affected by this issue.
3.0	<p>Item Title: Finance and Spending Review Portfolio: Key Updates: PFCC Roger Hirst (Finance Lead) (RH); PCC Paddy Tipping (Finance Deputy Lead) (PT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The APCC was updated on recent Spending Review workstream meetings, all of which had included an APCC and/or PACCTS representative. The APCC have pushed to make prevention a key part of the Spending Review submission. The Home Office wants a first submission by June and believe the Treasury will seek the submission ahead of the Summer Recess for an October decision pending Brexit upheaval. The official line remains there will be a 3 year Spending Review beginning April 2020, but in practice a 1 year Review is anticipated. <p>Key points raised by PCCs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some PCCs felt that police services are doing more work in the CJS and that consequently the MoJ should fund some of their work which supports the CJS and victims' services. ▪ Some PCCs also believed there should be a greater contribution to policing from business rates. RH reported that it had been made clear to the Home Office that there had been two steep increases in council tax policing precepts and careful thought needed to be given to any further increases especially as in some areas local taxpayers are paying more for their police force than the national exchequer.
4.0	<p>Item Title: Delivery of National Capabilities and Services: Key Updates: PCC Paddy Tipping (Chair of PRTB) (PT); Susannah Hancock APCC CEO (SH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PT introduced this session which discussed how we might deliver national capabilities and services in the future. There were two main areas on which PCC views have been invited: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The need for a national policing board to cover our future policing strategy including how PCCs would make decisions on national matters and engage the government with a collective voice 2. How policing can deliver and host national capabilities such as the NPAS or Transforming Forensics given the lead force model has ownership, governance and funding challenges ▪ SH raised what a national governance structure might look like and explained that PCC national policing board ideas would feed into thinking that was taking place as part of the 'Smarter Systems' workstream of Spending Review discussions. PCCs were asked for their views on what a national body might look like, who might be represented on it and how it could also share best practice.

	<p>Key points raised by PCCs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The need for a National Policing Board was essential and we should take this work forward collectively together so that it can be included in our Spending Review submission. The PRTB had enabled the APCC, the NPCC and the Home Office to work together and ensure the PCC voice is being heard, but we now need to be clear what can be delivered at a local, regional and national level as this issue is not settled, and we do not want fragmentation of the policing family or the Home Office stepping into this space. ▪ PCCs need to grasp how to commission national services as well as local services. Can the APCC become a nationally commissioning body? In developing this model we should build on what we already have and use the Police ICT Company as an initial template. However, we should be careful not to assume a one size fits all solution as there may be a need for different types of models for delivering different capabilities. ▪ There were concerns that responsibility for governance for the whole system must remain with PCCs and not lead forces or the NCA, as their objectives are not about delivering policing. We need a national policing board going forward that is a development of the PRTB but we must get the structure right. We must also secure national policing funding which PCCs can commission and prevent money going into the black hole of operational policing. Modern slavery also needs to be recognised and included as a national capability that must be delivered somewhere post PRTB. ▪ Approved / Agreed Action: National capabilities and services should be discussed at the PRTB meeting on 6 June. A sub-group should also be set up to consider governance issues and a Terms of Reference and scope out, cost and present options to a future General Meeting.
5.0	<p>Item Title: Disclosure and Access to Victims’ Digital Data: Key Updates: PCC Vera Baird, DBE, QC (VB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VB as the APCC Victims’ Portfolio Lead updated members on recent developments in relation to the form and guidance recently published by the NPCC and the CPS on access to victims’ digital data in sexual offence cases. The APCC had asked the NPCC to withdraw the form and guidance and consult on it further with victims’ stakeholders. Context was that current practice that allowed police unfettered access to victims’ data in sexual offence cases had led significant number of victims of victims to withdraw from the process. ▪ Also of relevance is the 27% drop in rape prosecutions which had led to the government recently announcing a review of the CJS response to serious sexual violence. Regarding the Sexual Offences Review there is also a need for the APCC to be represented on the sub-group as well on the stakeholder group ▪ VB reported that the NPCC should also have consulted the APCC at the start of the process when developing their approach to disclosure of victims’ data. ▪ VB also reported that the MoJ is committed to working closely with PCC offices and getting feedback on VCOP Compliance. <p>Key points raised by PCCs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PCCs discussed the need for a balance in the use of digital data as evidence. PCCs were assured that the APCC was taking a balanced view on the issue and was fully aware of the need to ensure appropriate disclosure to ensure a defendant’s right to a fair trial but noted the concern that the approach to disclosure of victims’ digital data was potentially a blanket approach that could lead to disproportionate and unnecessary access to a victims digital data.
6.0	<p>Item Title: Chair & Portfolio Updates: 6.1 Police ICT Company Portfolio: PCC Katy Bourne (KB):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ KB reported that all PCCs will shortly receive a benefits statement which will outline how the Police ICT Company has saved police forces money nationally and locally. The ICT Company delivered total benefits to policing nationally of £12.6M in 2017/2018 which then more than

doubled to £28.8M in 2018/2019. The Company has now been commissioned by the National Commercial Board to support the Spending Review submission.

- KB also reported that as a Small to Medium Enterprise the ICT Company is dependent on PCC subscription cashflow being paid in a timely way. Unfortunately, a substantial number of force areas have not yet paid and KB urged PCCs to ensure that subscriptions are honoured given that Members agreed to underwrite the Company.
- KB expressed gratitude to all the PCCs who sent signed letters of intent to continue to support the Company. The 7 police forces who have not yet sent these letters will be chased up shortly.
- The Company is also helping to develop a national data strategy which will enable forces to align priorities with the Policing Vision 2025. At the Chief Constables' Information Management and Operational Requirements Coordination Committee (IMORCC) meeting in January 2019, it was noted that the Company can provide greater value for money in providing consultancy on programmes such as the National Enabling Programmes than large consultancy firms. The Company CEO Ian Bell is always happy to discuss this and answer questions on this from PCCs.

6.2 Performance Portfolio: PCC Matthew Scott (MS):

- MS has met Sir Thomas Winsor and the new Chief Operating Officer of HMICFRS. Key issues discussed included: Inspection programme for 2019/20, FMS progress and next steps, progress with recommendations register, PEEL Inspections. MS noted the first round of new integrated PEEL inspections reports has been published, and MS congratulated the number of forces who have shown substantial improvement. The meeting also touched on leadership issues and HMIC's role in this context. Separately, work is ongoing with regard to contributing to LGA/Centre for Public Scrutiny guidance on Police and Crime Panels.

6.3 Mental Health Portfolio: PCC MS:

- MS congratulated Scheme Coordinators who were recognised in the Independent Custody Visitors Association compliance awards. MS also reported that following the independent review of the Mental Health Act, an advisory group has been established to oversee implementation of the report's recommendations. This group which includes MS will provide PCCs with a voice on potential reforms to the Mental Health Act.

6.4 Brexit Portfolio: PCC MS:

- MS fed back that he was impressed by his visit to the International Crime Coordination Centre and presentation given by the central team there to APCC Leads on contingency arrangements in March and hoped that the government continued providing funding to this body. MS also underlined work the Brexit Working Group were doing through engagement with the DCHLG and the DfE to allow officers and staff greater flexibility in terms of taking their families away on holiday during work time without being fined. Sophie Linden, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime in London, asked if further information could be circulated on this.

6.5 Workforce Portfolio: PCC Ron Hogg (RH):

- RH reported that the unions made a claim for a 5% pay award, the deletion of two points at the bottom of the pay spine and a claim for an annual leave entitlement increase on April 23rd. RH wanted to check that PCCs were content with a 2.1% pay offer to the unions which was in line with what the APCC has already proposed to the Police Remuneration Review Body for police officer pay. PCCs confirmed they were content with the proposed pay increase.

6.6 Finance Portfolio: PCC Roger Hirst (RH):

- RH reminded PCCs about completing and returning the Spending Review Precept Survey as a number of PCCs have not yet responded. RH also encouraged PCCs to respond to the original finance email from Steve Hickman.

6.7 Chair Updates: PCC MBW:

- MBW reported that the new NPCC Chair Martin Hewitt attended the APCC Board meeting on May 21st yesterday and will address the General Meeting later today.
- The following issues are currently under discussion at the Board:
 - APCC resourcing beyond 2020 and PRTB funded posts
 - The role of APACE and PACCTS in relation to the APCC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exploring how services between the APCC and NPCC can be shared where appropriate to facilitate greater collaboration - Planning in terms of scenarios regarding subscription levels and potential uplifts which may be needed in light of inflation and the event that future funding regarding the PRTB is not secured - Merseyside Local Government Pension Fund have recently required the APCC to provide a bond of around £917,000, to cover the unlikely eventuality that the APCC will leave the Merseyside Pension Fund (MPF) and at that point would need to provide this sum to cover future staff pensions. It has been suggested that a way forward would be for a single OPCC to become the guarantor of this sum, with other OPCCs providing a letter to the lead OPCC, based on the principle of notional underwriting. This would only involve contributing approximately £20k per police force area in terms of liability, if this eventuality were ever to arise. This is similar to the model agreed by members for underwriting the Police ICT Co. <p>Agreed: Members indicated support for this proposal in principle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MB updated members on the Deep Dive on May 21st. This had focused on the strategic responses to fraud and had been well attended. This session looked at the recent HMICFRS report on fraud; how victims are treated; what more can be done through commissioned victims' services to support victims of fraud; and potential future work with the private sector. ▪ The APCC is running a You Have a Voice campaign one year ahead of the May 2020 PCC elections. This campaign reiterates the PCC's role to the public, highlights the difference between PCCs and Chief Constables and emphasises that PCCs are answerable to their local electorates. PCCs are being encouraged to use these resources locally. ▪ Tim Passmore, PCC for Suffolk, wrote to PCCs updating them about an APPG Policing and Security Event on 20 May, which explored the policing of football and the stark difference in terms of policing costs for Premier League games compared to lower level League games. MBW also observed there appears to be worrying trends of racism creeping back into crowd activity and hooliganism. ▪ Since the papers were sent out for the General Meeting, the government has made an announcement on the future reinstatement of the National Probation Service. MBW thanked PCC colleagues for their work on this area, especially the APCC CJS Leads David Lloyd and Sue Mountstevens and emphasised the need for PCCs to continue to be active partners in the dialogue surrounding this. The government has proposed that there is still a role for the private and voluntary sectors within 20% of the service. ▪ MBW noted that the National Anti-Trafficking and Modern Slavery Network Annual Report had been launched on 21 May. This celebrated the work of stakeholders and indicated what could be achieved through collaboration. MBW thanked PCCs for their continued support on this issue and underlined the links between modern slavery and current issues such as County Lines. ▪ MBW announced that Dame Vera Baird would shortly be stepping down as PCC for Northumbria. MBW commended Vera for her work as the APCC Lead on Victims and wished her well on behalf of the APCC in her future role as the new Victims' Commissioner. ▪ MBW also noted that Oliver Shaw was stepping down as the Director of Policy and Strategy at the APCC to pursue new career interests. MBW thanked Oliver for his hard work over the last 11 years at the APCC.
7.0	<p>Item Title: NPCC Update: Martin Hewitt QPM, Chair NPCC (MH):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MH updated the APCC on his vision for the NPCC having just started as its new Chair. MH had taken the role as he recognised the huge challenges currently facing the policing service. His role is about national coordination, collaboration, leadership and communication and he stated that his relationship with the APCC will be one of the most fundamental he has to manage for the NPCC going forward alongside those with the Home Office, HMICFRS and the College of Policing. ▪ MH explained that the NPCC is relatively new and was only created 4 years ago following the closure of ACPO. As its second chair he is keen to review the NPCC role in terms of what business the organisation delivers from the centre. MH recognised the importance of working with Most

Similar Force groupings as well as Regional groups. He is also keen on improving decision making through a monthly regional conference call with the chair of each of his regional groups which will also allow his Chief Constable Group to discuss more strategic issues.

- MH believed a big issue is how we move forward with local, regional and national structures. MH recognised that PCCs are addressing local policing issues which is of paramount importance to him, but he also recognised that we need national capabilities too. Serious violence, the Spending Review, EU exit and EU Elections are very big current issues too.

Key points raised by PCCs:

- PCCs welcomed MH's update and identified common priority issues around future Spending Review funding; neighbourhood policing funding; IT concerns; protocols around communication coordination on policing matters between NPCC and APCC; as well as projected milestones that we can work through. PCCs appreciated being seen as a key partner by the NPCC and feel this is an opportunity to start a fresh positive relationship covering all elements of policing.
- PCCs would also like a steer on regional and national partners as well as local policing partners they can work alongside with the NPCC if possible. They would also like to discuss where local, regional and national decisions need to be made and consequently where resources need to go.
- MBW thanked MH for his update, reiterated the importance of a good working relationship and an open honest approach between the NPCC/APCC, and wished him the very best for his role. MH responded by saying that it was a time of significant challenges in policing but also a time for shape change and he looks forward to working with the APCC to achieve shared outcomes as effectively and efficiently as possible.