

APCC General Meeting Minutes: Day 1:

Wednesday January 25 2023

1. Welcome and Introductions – APCC Chair PCC Marc Jones

- PCC Marc Jones, Chair of the APCC, welcomed PCCs to Day 1 of the General Meeting.

2. Local Policing Portfolio: CSP Review and ASB Update

- PCC Jeff Cuthbert, Joint Lead of the APCC Local Policing Portfolio, provided a brief update on Part1 of the forthcoming CSP Review consultation and wider portfolio work tackling ASB. In particular the APCC will be organising workshops and roundtables throughout February to gather views from PCCs on the CSP Review and ASB.
- Jeff Cuthbert referred to the questionnaire from the Home Office on anti-social behaviour which has been driven by Downing Street in establishing an ASB Action Plan which is expected to be concluded in March. The questionnaire deadline was originally Friday 27 January 2023. The APCC have been successful in securing an extension to the questionnaire for Friday 3 February. The APCC is working closely with officials in the Home Office and Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on the review of ASB and development of the ASB Action Plan.
- The Local Policing Portfolio will be consulting with the APCC, NPCC, the LGA and the Welsh LGA on the CSP Review. The current approach will seek PCCs to have a leading role on the accountability and governance of CSPs and have a stronger role within CSPs as a whole, including potential direction of work on CSPs. This will include legislative changes.
- Phase One is expected to be launched mid-February and will include a six week consultation and focus on the potential legislative changes required to improve the relationship between CSPs and PCCs, and how accountability and transparency can be improved.
- Phase Two is expected to begin in the Spring, and will focus on the non-legislative changes, including the structure, role and function of CSPs.
- The APCC will create a Wales Working Group to review the approach for Community Safety Partnerships there.
- A clear direction of travel from CSPs currently is to favour the use of the community trigger, which is not currently well used, and this is also contained within the CSP Review.
- PCCs were encouraged to share experiences with the APCC on challenges in relation to prevention and responses to dealing with anti-social behaviour, challenges when working with CSPs and collaboration with partner agencies, and what is working well and not working well in force areas on these issues.
- Jeff Cuthbert reminded PCCs to look out for communication on the CSP Review and ASB work and to liaise with Will Pryce on any questions or further considerations they may have on the CSP Review and ASB Action Plan progression.

3. Keynote speaker, Rt Hon Chris Philp MP, Policing Minister

- Policing Minister, the Rt Hon Chris Philp MP, began by thanking PCCs for their work, noting the recent anniversary marking ten years since the role was first introduced.
- He remarked on the need for policing to stay relentlessly focused on the basics: protecting the public, preventing offences from taking place, and prosecuting crimes.
- On the Police Uplift Programme, he noted the publication of recent figures showing that 16,753 officers have been recruited out of the 20,000 target ahead of the deadline on 31 March. He said once completed there will be more officers in England and Wales than ever before, adding that 19 forces already have record numbers. In addition, he reiterated the importance of thorough selection processes to ensure good conduct.
- He further discussed police misconduct, referencing recent high profile cases and stressed the importance of addressing the underlying issues. He outlined ongoing work with the College of Policing, as well as the Home Office's review into the police dismissal process. He additionally encouraged PCCs and colleagues to support the implementation of HMICFRS's 43 recommendations following their thematic report into vetting and misconduct procedures.
- On funding, he acknowledged constraints from HM Treasury regarding the total grant but made clear he will work with them closely to get more money for PCCs to put into frontline policing. He additionally noted the increase in precept flexibility up to 15%, which has the potential to increase funding for PCCs' local budgets.
- On resourcing, he said police officer time must be spent in the best possible way, acknowledging too much time is taken up on unnecessary areas. He referenced the ongoing review into productivity led by Sir Stephen House. He

additionally raised 3 areas of focus for the Home Office: mental health; crime recording; and CPS processes:

- On mental health, the Home Office is working with the DHSC on a new approach to reduce the amount of time officers spend dealing with people experiencing mental health crises – this has been modelled on good practice from Humberside and the aim is to have national guidelines in place in the coming months.
- On crime recording, he flagged the issue of non-crime incidents and suggested Home Office counter rules will be updated to deal with the bureaucratic burden on policing.
- On CPS processes, he highlighted a need to reduce bureaucracy, including around the evidential burden, as well as DG 6 guidelines, working with CPS colleagues and the Solicitor General to make progress.
- The Minister reaffirmed the Prime Minister's desire to clamp down on anti-social behaviour recognising the seriousness of these crimes and their impact on public safety – the Prime Minister's Taskforce is working with the Home Secretary and the DLUHC Secretary of State to draw in resources from local government on this. He encouraged PCCs to feed in and share examples of best practice from their local areas. He also said the Home Office will be looking more closely at nitrous oxide misuse and the associated harms, as well as continued work on violent crime, and referenced the recently published serious and organised crime strategy.
- On VAWG, he praised a promising start to the national rollout of Operation Soteria, although he acknowledged that rape prosecutions are still lower than desired.
- On drugs, he reiterated the importance of the Government's 10 Year Drug Strategy, noting that 30-50% of low level offending is associated with drug addiction. He added that only 2-3% of sentences entail a treatment order, suggesting that those with drug addictions are dramatically undertreated. He encouraged closer working with the judiciary to urge further use of treatment orders alongside other forms of sentencing.
- More broadly on the role of PCCs, he supported strengthening the powers available to PCCs to make them even more central to their local areas, particularly in relation to LCJBs. He said data sharing with the probation service has been a welcome first step, but this role could be stronger. He referenced a Police Reform Bill to be introduced in Parliament later this year, which would be used to put these measures into law. He additionally encouraged PCCs to feed in more suggestions for stronger PCC powers that could be included in this Bill via the APCC.
- In conclusion, he commented that he has so far enjoyed working with PCCs in his new role and is keen to work together more closely going forwards.

Q & A

- A number of questions and comments were put to the Minister, including:
 - James Thomson, Chair of the City of London Policing Authority, asked whether fraud is a priority, noting it had not been mentioned yet. To this, the Minister responded that fraud technically sits under the Security Minister's portfolio but he encouraged meetings and offered to make progress around disclosure issues with the Solicitor General. He also indicated that a fraud strategy is imminent.
 - PCC Alun Michael said there had been little mention of prevention, calling for more joined up working with local police and local authorities with regards to Community Safety Partnerships.
 - PCC Philip Wilkinson stated that the IOPC has made slow progress in investigating misconduct cases. While the Minister reiterated the need for independence, he pledged to look into this further.
 - PCC Chris Nelson asked for assurances regarding the next round of the Safer Streets Fund, to which the Minister said it is his intention to protect it. He suggested priorities for the next fund could be ASB or VAWG.
 - PCC Mark Shelford expressed his support for a joint staff college. Separately, he raised concerns that Chief Constables do not have the appropriate powers to be able to sack officers to which the Minister replied that the review into dismissals was designed to address this point.
 - PFCC Stephen Mold also agreed with the concept of a staff college. Additionally, he asked the Minister to meet with PFCCs to which the Minister said he was supportive of further PCCs assuming fire governance powers.
 - PCC Emily Spurrell raised concerns that matched funding for Project ADDER is being reduced. As part of his response to this, the Minister referenced the review of the Police Funding Formula, which he said will seek to reflect geographical disparities.
- PCCs were encouraged to share any further questions for the Minister via the APCC.

4. NPAS Strategic Options: Strategic Plan priority: Supporting our members to deliver safer communities

- PCC Lisa Townsend, Chair of the NPAS National Strategic Board, introduced this item and referenced the forthcoming annual budget setting at the National Strategic Board (NSB) on 30 January. PCC Ben Adams, Chair of the NPAS Transition Programme Board, then updated PCCs on NPAS transition work.
- Rod Brown, the NPAS Programme Manager, then talked about the recommendations going to the 30 January NSB in relation to NPAS transition and the transformation and the timescales involved. This presentation outlined the NSB recommendations, an options roadmap, a structure map and noted dependencies and responsibilities.
- It was made clear that all options of how to transform remain on the table.
- PCCs were then provided with an opportunity to discuss and ask questions. Various questions from PCCs concerning evidence gathering, external collaboration, VfM and operational engagement were received and answered.

5. Deep Dive on Fraud: Strategic Plan priority: Have a Persistent Focus on Crime Prevention

- PCC Mark Shelford, James Thomson, Chair of the City of London Police Authority, and PCC Andy Dunbobbin, APCC Economic Crime and Cyber Crime Leads, introduced this item which focussed on fraud prevention and best practice through breakout groups and a panel for Q and A.
- James Thompson began by making the following key points:
 - That we have seen recently that fraud has risen up the agenda with the Government having identified a number of measures to protect people from harm including the upcoming Economic Crime Bill and Online Safety Bill.
 - It is important these opportunities are utilised to increase the protection of individuals and businesses and raise awareness. There is a desire to see the Government introduce a duty of care, with it being considered a corporate failure to prevent fraud. The Home Office is due to publish the Fraud Strategy soon which will be based around 3 key areas – Protect, Prevent and Pursue.
 - Last year the City of London launched and hosted Cyber Resilience Centres which is the last piece in the jigsaw to ensure we have regional coverage of this issue.
 - Noted success from the dedicated card payment crime unit which is estimated to have saved £750m so far.
 - Looking forward the City of London is looking to continue the roll out of Police Cyber Alarms and the National Cyber Crime Victim Unit.
 - Reminded PCCs that the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau provides monthly updates on how forces are performing and that this is a key tool in holding forces to account in this area.
 - Updated that the replacement for Action Fraud is on time and on budget with improvements also having been made to the existing service through investment in greater call handling capabilities.
- Mark Shelford, APCC Lead for Fraud, then made the following statement:
 - He reminded PCCs that fraud is the crime type most experienced by people in their communities and accounts for 40% of all crime. The cost of fraud to individuals and businesses each year is £4.5 billion.
 - The increasing use of technology allows for offenders to target high volumes of victims. Many of these victims are already classed as vulnerable.
 - Requested that PCCs and Deputy Mayors let the APCC Fraud portfolio know of any positive work they are doing in their area that can be shared more widely.
 - Also asked for colleagues to support him in writing to MPs to drive a private members bill that brings a manslaughter charge for cyber/fraud criminals where it has contributed to the suicide of the victim.
- The session then broke out into 2 breakout sessions which covered the following 3 topics:
 - Local initiatives and sharing of solutions hosted by Avon and Somerset PCC with input from their Fraud Protect Officers
 - Partnership working and the public health approach to fraud hosted by West Midlands PCC
 - Prevention and support provided to local forces by the City of London hosted by City of London Police Authority Board
- There was then a Q & A panel with Pete O'Doherty, AC of City of London Police, PCC Mark Shelford, PCC Simon Foster and James Thomson, facilitated by the Chair. This covered the role of the POCA, the Online Safety Bill and the prioritisation of fraud.
- PCC Mark Shelford then closed the session and highlighted that he and his Deputy Leads will write out after the General Meeting with an outline of these priorities, a resource pack with all the materials shared during the breakouts, and details of the initiatives discussed.

6. PCC Scrutiny of Police Legitimacy: Strategic Plan priority: Supporting our members in their statutory responsibilities

- PCC Giles Orpen-Smellie, APCC Lead for Transparency and Integrity, introduced this item which discussed how to increase public confidence in policing following recent high profile cases in this area. This discussion included HMICFRS being recommissioned to examine the response of forces to their report in November on Vetting and Counter- Corruption; the Home Office Police Dismissal Review, launched on 17 January, with stakeholders being asked to provide evidence; and the Angiolini Inquiry Part 2, launched on 18 January; followed by a Q & A with a PCC Panel.
- Giles felt all recent cases are symptomatic of policing culture. Officers are recruited from the public they serve, and such behaviours should be unacceptable across society, not just across policing. We must ensure that policing must be held, and holds itself, to a higher standard. PCCs were asked to please share their ideas for tougher scrutiny but also about the culture in forces and how to change this.
- Giles felt we must also look at the following interrelated governance issues:
 1. Comments from the IOPC that the public has lost confidence in the complaints process.
 2. The impact on police morale and retention.
 3. Whether conditions are being created for a destructive exodus of officers.
- Regarding the HMICFRS review of misconduct and vetting, the Home Secretary has commissioned forces to review responses to implementation of these recommendations. PCCs should be ensuring Chiefs are doing this. PCC's offices must have the resource to be able to review complaints also.
- On the Dismissal Review issued last week, which is to be completed within 4 months, PCCs must provide objective evidence to this. It is considering restoring decisions to Chiefs or keeping PMPs but tightening it up but it could also consider adding officers dismissed under s13 to the barred list. The deadline for responses is 10 February. This is a leadership issue. Chiefs need the levers to use to root out those who do not uphold standards.
- We must also make sure that LQCs are following strengthened guidance issued in August 2022.
- The Angiolini Inquiry has been extended to cover the Carrick case looking at recruitment and vetting.
- PCC Katy Bourne noted that all PCCs undertake scrutiny differently and hold chiefs to account differently. In Sussex, monthly performance meetings with the Chief are held which allows for flexibility and prioritisation of issues. It also provides a full record and an audit trail of what has been achieved on key issues.
- PCC Alun Michael felt institutional memory is important and governance is key. PCCs need a balance across security and support. The importance of a dismissal review is key but so is scrutiny, this is why we have independent chairing as the objectivity of panels was in question when Chiefs held this function. We do not want to undermine the message that those who behave badly must be removed but we must balance the process to ensure objectivity.

APCC General Meeting Minutes: Day 2: Thursday January 26 2023

1. Welcome and Introductions – APCC Chair PCC Marc Jones

- PCC Marc Jones welcomed PCCs to Day 2 of the General Meeting. The minutes of the last General Meeting on October 12 and October 13 2022 were agreed as a true record. An overview of APCC activity this quarter was provided.
- Resolution: Marc opened the item with observations as Chair:
- Important that the APCC is forward looking, rather than picking over previous decisions, some of which predate the 2021 elections.
- Basic history, however, is that, in response to feedback from members, the APCC board decided to expand the membership offer to cover increased media, parliamentary, CJS and performance capability, and utilise excess reserves to fund these changes, with an intention that membership fees would then need to increase.
- Reserves have now reached the point where we need to increase fees to match our outgoings.
- Our new CEO to take a proper look at the scope for efficiencies.
- We need to be clear that even in the last few years we have seen significant challenges across the system as a whole regarding VAWG, CJS and victims which has seen the APCC undertake work on a scale to support us all that simply could not have been achieved without the staff currently in role, something that we can all point to the benefits of.
- In addition to this, we have been successful with programmes worth millions to almost all PCCs in the form of the Safer Streets fund and we will all further benefit from the work being delivered around new burdens arriving as a result of new victims legislation.
- These achievements alone provide evidence of the value of our collective membership of our organisation.
- It is our intention to get a small group of PCCs together to help the CEO to review the governance and approach of the APCC and this will include identifying additional savings where possible.

- At a strategic level, the Board would take the view that now is not the time to reduce our influence. Refine and refocus, but there's so much going on that not maximising our voice at a national level would be counterproductive.
- We also have a Home Secretary who is supportive of the PCC model and Home Office officials who want to work with us.
- The Board's view is that we must ensure the APCC is on a firm footing, for the next year, and the minimum viable increase in fees proposed needs to happen to bring that about.
- Thereafter, we can all focus on the future and trying to support the CEO to make sure that, as a group, the APCC is delivering for us.
- Marc opened up to comments, in which Andrew Snowden, Emily Spurrell, Alison Lowe, Mark Shelford, Festus Akinbusoye and Jeff Cuthbert endorsed the fee increase; Giles Orpen-Smellie endorsed the increase subject to a review and Dafydd Llewelyn praised the APCC but could not support an increase due to financial pressures.
- The vote passed in favour of the fee increase. (Please see the final vote numbers attached at Annex A).

2. Delivery Landscape Reform Strategy: Strategic Plan priority: Supporting our members to work in partnership and to collaborate effectively across policing and criminal justice

- PCC Andrew Snowden, APCC Lead for the Policing Technology and Digital Portfolio, introduced this item and welcomed Bethan Page-Jones from the Capability Reform Unit in the Home Office who was providing an update on the Delivery Landscape Reform Strategy (DLRS), which was about the transfer of IT delivery from the Home Office to policing. He was pleased to say that there had been a significant improvement in transparency and openness in the Digital, Data and Technology space as a whole and there were robust discussions that ensured that PCC voices were heard.
- Bethan Page-Jones noted that she had attended the last General Meeting in October 2022 to explain the background and context of this work. This work was initiated in response to the Major Law Enforcement Programme Review and was looking into the future ownership and management of national policing IT systems once in steady state.
- Bethan explained that the issue of where these systems should sit had been looked at several times since the abolition of the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) when these systems were moved into the Home Office until policing had the capability to take them back. The difference now was that the Police Digital Service (PDS), which was the likely home for many of the systems if moved, was now much larger in terms of capacity and capability and had experience delivering national programmes on behalf of policing.
- The plan was for there to be a risk based coherent programme of change that would see 24/7 live services transferred to the PDS. There would be many benefits to this, including bringing services closer to the front line, providing policing with greater decision rights, and driving efficiencies in the cost of running the systems. The PDS had already taken on an increasing amount of delivery responsibility and built up its capacity and capability.
- Bethan said that all were alive to the risks including the need for policing to be a coherent commissioner of services, PDS needing to be capable of taking on new services, risk of moving unstable systems, and costs of change etc. They were all being addressed and mitigated and, if agreed, transfer of services would only take place at a pace that the PDS could manage and when systems were stable. It would start with stable systems that were heavily outsourced so as to minimise any TUPE issues.
- Consultation was taking place with the sector and Chief Constables had been consulted too. The plan was to take the proposals to the Strategic Change and Investment Board (SCIB) on 13 March and get them agreed. Further engagement with the APCC/PCCs would take place ahead of that.

Q & A

- PCC Matthew Scott hoped that the DLRS took account of the transfer of commercial work from the PDS to BlueLight Commercial (BLC). There needed to be a strong commitment from the Home Office to the funding of both organisations. PCC Stephen Mold recognised that the commercial activity would transfer and Andrew Snowden that BLC should be central to discussions. Bethan said that the provisional settlement had been agreed for the PDS and discussions were taking place with BLC. Andrew said that good commercial skills would be crucial. Bethan agreed and noted that there needed to be a single voice with suppliers.
- PCC Jeff Cuthbert asked whether two companies were needed. Stephen recognised that it might, in the future, be better to have a group structure with the two companies as subsidiaries. Matthew agreed. PCC Alun Michael reminded the meeting that the problem of where best to house IT systems was one that previous Governments were responsible for when they did away with the NPIA. Bethan commented that the national landscape had evolved in a strange way and the Home Office would welcome a constructive dialogue on what the optimal configuration might be.
- PCC Festus Akinbusoye was concerned that the roll out of IT took so long that it was already out of date when it arrived. Stephen noted that was always a risk but having a more dynamic organisation that could move more quickly would help. Bethan recognised that policing was wrestling with a lot of technical debt and aging systems needed to

be replaced. It was likely to happen more effectively if it were closer to policing. Andrew and Bethan both mentioned that getting data joined up and its use right was critical.

- PCC Tim Passmore noted the risk of reliance on Chinese products. Matthew said that the BLC were very aware of the issue and the need to address but it could be difficult to work out who was behind some companies.

3. Securing Justice for Victims of Rape - Operation Soteria: Strategic Plan priority: Supporting and Speaking Up for Victims of Crime

- Chaired by PCC Festus Akinbusoye, this session focussed on Operation Soteria following its Year 1 report in advance of its national rollout. It contained a pre-recorded speech from Sarah Dines MP, Minister for Safeguarding, and contributions from Professors Betsy Stanko, Academic Programme Lead at Operation Soteria.
- Festus noted it is vital that policing improve its response to victims and stop dangerous offenders from perpetrating further offences. Operation Soteria seeks to transform the policing response to rape through a unique collaboration between police and academics. This national programme is funded by the Home Office, led by the NPCC through Sarah Crew, Chief Constable, and is hosted by MOPAC.
- Operation Soteria started in Avon and Somerset, was followed by 4 other Forces, who took the courageous decision to open their doors and give around 40 academic researchers pretty unfettered access to how they responded to rape and serious sexual offences. Now 14 other forces are going through the expansion phase.
- Professor Betsy Stanko then reflected on Year One of Operation Soteria and its national operating model making the following points:
 - Use Op Soteria as your 'burning platform' i.e. to demonstrate the importance of good data and digital services.
 - This project has the potential for transforming the way policing works on rape but also for working with vulnerable people. It has worked with 19 forces and there are really good and committed officers, despite all the discussions on misconduct and abuse.
 - The programme is informed by a deep evidence base.
 - Repeat suspects are common but the systems to identify and deal with them are not in place.
 - Officers are burnt out and exhausted.
 - There has been de-professionalisation of the RASSO role.
 - There has not been enough learning and development on this issue.
 - There are cultural issues in the police. There is a strong and committed group of people but researchers also met resistant officers. New officers must be led by good officers.
 - There were 43 ways of storing and collecting data.
- In developing the National Operating Model the team:
 - Consulted extensively, produced practical products for officers and will also be producing practical products for PCCs including KPIs for Chiefs.
 - Looked to PCCs to support ISVAs - improvements cannot happen without this.
 - Considered the role of independent legal advice research.
- Claire Hiscott, Deputy PCC for Avon and Somerset, where Op Soteria began, made the following further comments. She felt that Op Soteria has been transformational. Key learnings for success were:
 - Providing a safe space for open and trusting conversation.
 - Communicating the opportunity in a positive way, while acknowledging the challenge.
 - Creating a strong environment for challenge and an environment which supports uncomfortable conversations.
 - Involving key partners.
 - Investing in and using scrutiny to challenge.

4. Police Digital Service update: Strategic Plan priority: Securing investment and supporting innovation

- PFCC Stephen Mold, Chair of the PDS, provided an update on this item. PFCC Stephen Mold acknowledged that this was a key moment for policing with the opportunity to take on ownership of policing systems over what was likely to be 5-6 years, during which risks would be carefully managed. Several programmes had been transferred to the PDS already and it had built up its capacity.
- Discussion would be needed with the PDS Board on its future role and representation to help ensure that there was a firm foundation. Ultimately policing would commission, own and pay for its systems and to do that there would need to be a greater level of maturity around where best IT was done, nationally or locally, to drive efficiencies.

5. Mental Health Calls for Service: Strategic Plan priority: Safer Communities; Supporting our members to work in Partnership and to collaborate effectively across policing

- Introduced by PCC Lisa Townsend, APCC Mental Health and Custody Joint Lead, this session initially summarised the progress and recommendations from the Home Secretary commissioned House Review on productivity in policing, into mental health demand, including its initial findings and recommendations.
- In Autumn 2021, the Home Secretary commissioned Sir Stephen House to deliver a 2 month sprint, looking at mental health demand facing police forces in England and Wales. This was part of a wider Police Productivity Review.
- The Review was tasked with:
 - Identifying what good looks like, and how police and the NHS can best work together to support vulnerable people in distress;
 - Developing informed and specific recommendations that will reduce inappropriate mental ill health demand on policing; and
 - Bringing representatives from the Department for Health and Social Care and the healthcare sector into this conversation.
- The Review drew on a range of data, reports and included a 24 hour snapshot exercise, in which all forces took part. The House Review submitted several recommendations to the Home Secretary. Initial recommendations included:
 - The need for better data: Whilst the review provided some indication of the types of demand, there were significant gaps and variations between forces.
 - 24/7 Support: Roll out of the 24-hour telephone service or NHS 111 Option 2.
 - A dedicated mental health response: Health trusts must urgently resource dedicated staff to attend incidents relating to mental ill health.
 - Dedicated health resources to safeguard patients awaiting assessment.
 - Implementation of the national framework for missing adults (England).
 - A Review of Section 136 legislation and codes of practice should also be undertaken.
 - Patients being detained in custody.
 - Wider implementation of the principles of the Right Person, Right Care approach as delivered in Humberside.
- The House report and findings are not in the public domain and the work is ongoing to obtain further data and evidence.
- The Department for Health & Social Care announced on Monday 23 January a boost for mental health services by £150m. PCCs were encouraged to raise this funding announcement with their local Integrated Care Boards or Mental Health Trusts.
- A presentation from PCC Jonathan Evison and Superintendent Tracy Bradley on the Right Care, Right Person approach to managing mental health demand then set out useful information for PCCs on a model that has been identified as best practice in Humberside.
- Superintendent Bradley provided a detailed overview of the Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) approach to managing mental health demand and the circumstances that led to its implementation in 2019 which included concern for welfare calls in Humberside, that had risen exponentially.
- Many of these calls came from partner agencies and included incidents in NHS or care settings.
- The RCRP model includes 6 key principles:
 1. Members of the public have the right to receive the “Right Care from the Right Agency”
 2. The Police should concentrate on crime
 3. Understanding the Police’s Legal Duty to Attend
 4. Listening to feedback from staff
 5. Partnership working
 6. Ensuring staff feel properly trained and supported to make the right decisions.
- Delivery of the RCRP approach has resulted in fewer police deployments, considerable officer time saved and ultimately vulnerable people being able to access health support instead of a police response.
- Additionally, Humberside Police has been able to spend more time on crime related incidents such as robbery, violence and focussing on proactive work to reduce crime.
- PCC Evison highlighted how he and the force had invested time in gathering legal advice, and the need for strategic oversight, as well as the importance of working effectively with key partners. As PCC he nominated Humberside Police for the ‘Public Sector Transformation Awards 2022’ for this work and they became Police Service of the Year in 2022.

- The RCRP approach has also resulted in better partnership working outside of mental health. It is also an area of interest for the Home Secretary and HMICFRS.
- PCCs are encouraged to find out more about RCRP and raise this with their Chief Constables.
- DCC Rachel Bacon, NPCC Mental Health Lead, then spoke and made the following points. This approach has been shared with the Home Secretary and Policing Minister, with the APCC and the NPCC recently joining a roundtable chaired by Policing Minister Chris Philp with health also represented to discuss wider roll out of the principles of RCRP.
- Following the House Review, national recommendations between health and policing should be ready in February. The NPCC will support delivery of the Right Care, Right Person model but it will take time to deliver this change and PCCs should be mindful of this when raising the approach with their Chiefs.

6. APCC Portfolio updates:

Performance Portfolio update:

- PCC Matthew Barber provided colleagues with an update on the work of the APCC Performance Portfolio.
- He informed PCCs that the Home Office recently announced plans to launch a public version of the Digital Crime Performance Pack (DCPP) on the HMICFRS website at the end of February as part of the Policing Minister's plans to bring more transparency into policing.
- Whilst this version of the pack will only contain data that is already publicly available, it will make this data more accessible and easier for the public to compare force performance. The APCC has been working with the Home Office, HMICFRS, the College of Policing and the NPCC to develop this version of the pack and make sure that it provides the important context the data needs to ensure it is not misconstrued by the public.
- He anticipated that the launch of a tool that directly compares police performance may generate some media attention – particularly from local outlets – and as such, will work to support local OPCC comms teams to understand the limitations and context of the data in their work to respond to any enquiries.
- It was also important to note that the data made publicly available will be 3 months behind the data available on the internal version of the pack so there will be no surprises and OPCC teams can prepare in advance for what the public will see.
- The portfolio was keen that PCCs benefit from the launch of this public performance tool and some PCCs had called for a publicly accessible version back when the internal pack was originally launched. Some of the ways it was anticipated this being utilised are:
 - When meeting requirements under the Specified Information Order: We have a statutory duty to publish quarterly information on how our forces are doing against the National Crime and Policing Measures. This data can be used to help you meet this requirement.
 - At local accountability forums: This accessible performance tool can be used in your engagement with local communities to help them understand how the force is doing in key crime types.
 - In partnership boards and meetings:
- An Early Warning System will use the Digital Crime Performance Pack (DCPP) to identify forces under performing against the National Crime and Policing Measures and offer them an option support package.
- The Home Office say their aim is for there to be a focus on 'what works' in different forces in raising performance against key crime types and sharing these insights across the sector. In the plans the portfolio has seen the PCC will be engaged from an early stage and in conversation with their forces will be able to opt out of the support package if they believe no further action is needed.
- It is understood that individual PCCs and CCs from identified forces will not be asked to attend the CPPB to account for their individual performances or actions taken. Those forces already in the HMICFRS' Engage process will not be included in this process.
- The Crime and Policing Performance Board (CPPB) that is attended by APCC Performance Leads is being relaunched following a review of its approach. This Board is chaired by the Policing Minister and is the main forum for scrutiny against the National Policing Outcomes.
- It is proposed that this board moves away from the thematic deep dive style and instead explores performance themes. This means the next CPPB will not be focused on VAWG as was originally the intention.
- The Home Secretary and Policing Minister seem to have moved away from widespread league tables but are keen to bring more transparency and sharing of best practice into the area of performance.
- Matthew ended with a reminder for PCCs to attend the APCC Performance Portfolio Group meeting on Wednesday 1 February where the above plans will be discussed in further detail and attendees will have the opportunity to provide their feedback.

Workforce Portfolio update:

- PFCC Stephen Mold provided an update on the Chief Officer Remuneration review in advance of the APCC Workforce Portfolio group on 27 January.
- The Chief Officer Remuneration Review began in 2020, in response to concerns about recruitment and retention of chief officers and almost 20 years had elapsed since the last review. The Review had to suspend recommendations on chief constable pay in 2021 due to the public sector pay pause.
- The Review was revived in 2022 and it was included in the 2023/24 PRRB remit. The Review Steering Group continues to support the conclusions of the original review, namely the reduction in pay rates for Chief Constables from 12 to 3. The reduction to 3 rates introduces significant pay differentials between all three chief officer ranks CC-DCC-ACC which the review concludes will improve rates of chief officer progression and mobility. There is also a key recommendation around greater flexibility on PCC pay discretion that will be considered at the meeting of the portfolio group.

7. BlueLight Commercial update: Strategic Plan Priority: Securing investment and supporting innovation

- PCC Matthew Scott, Chair of BlueLight Commercial (BLC), reminded PCCs that they had all been asked for their authority to share vehicle details with BMW in pursuit of our commercial case against them concerning issues with its N57 engine. The deadline for responses was 30 January and only those who agree by then to sharing their information would be able to be included in further discussions or subsequent claims against BMW led on by BLC. He clarified that BLC already had the data they just needed PCC authority to share it.
- Matthew noted that BLC had recently been informed that BMW had decided to cease selling vehicles into the Emergency Services and MOD market.
- Matthew highlighted that BLC were leading the procurement activity for the National Aviation Fleet Replacement Programme. This work would result in the award of a six year framework agreement with two separate call off contracts for the OBC requirements. This would provide policing with a viable route to market for any future lease or capital purchase of aircraft.
- On contingent labour, BLC and Adecco were working in partnership to manage implementation. 18 forces were now onboarded to the framework. When fully realised saving would be around £4m a year.
- The Boards of BLC and the Police Digital Service (PDS) had agreed to the transfer of the commercial lifecycle work from PDS to BLC. Activity was underway to set out the detail and timetable for doing that.
- Matthew drew attention to the fact that amongst the papers for the General Meeting PCCs had the usual detailed update on the activity of BlueLight Commercial. In addition, as some PCCs were not around when BlueLight Commercial was originally set up in April 2020, an annex to the update had been included which set out its genesis and purpose.
- Finally, Matthew said that the cashable efficiency savings target for 2022/23 was £24m and he was pleased to report that cashable savings attributable to this year so far are just over £16.86m as of the end of October – so policing was on track and the aim was to exceed the target.

Q & A

- PCC Alun Michael thought that BLC were carrying out very important work and he was grateful to them for taking on the case against BMW. However, he could not understand why they needed to keep coming back for PCC authority at each stage and thought it must be possible to just get a more general mandate to operate under on the basis that they would use information in a responsible and professional way. Matthew welcomed the comment and said he would look into it as that sort of arrangement would certainly help speed up the process.