



Police and Crime Strategic Board

22 February 2016

Chief Constable's Report

1. National Issues

1.1.1 'A fair deal for the people of Lincolnshire'

1.1.2 Budget Setting

1.1.3 The Final Grant Settlement was announced on 4 February 2016; this confirmed the provisional settlement details:

- A flat rate reduction in grant funding (Police Grant plus ex-DCLG Grant plus the Welsh funding and Welsh top-up) of 0.6% in cash terms. For Lincolnshire this equates to a £337k reduction.
- No PCC will face a cash reduction in Formula Funding plus legacy council tax grants plus NICC plus precept income (as long as they maximise their precept).
- The provisional settlement covers just one year and confirms the previously announced council tax flexibility (£5) for the 10 lowest precepting force areas and referendum limit of 2% for all other forces.
- Top-slices have reduced to £218m in 2016-17. However, the Home Office have also introduced a new Transformational Fund worth £76.4m in 2016-17 to fund, amongst other things, the uplift in firearms capability nationally.
- Legacy Council Tax funding is still separately identifiable and has increased slightly (£4.2m) in 2016-17 to include the 2015-16 Freeze Grant allocations. Lincolnshire's allocation of £6,833k was confirmed.
- No mention of reserves at all in the written ministerial statement.

1.1.4 The announcement did however amend the capital grant allocations, with Lincolnshire's share being set at £0.457 million a cut of £0.299 million compared to the £0.756 million received in 2015/16, this is due to the Home Office undertaking additional top slicing for ICT.

1.1.5 The announcement did not provide any real further clarity on the future grant announcements, the written Ministerial Statement recommended that total funding including grant and precept should remain flat in cash terms across the spending review period.

1.1.6 The Police and Crime Panel resolved to accept the proposal for a 1.96% increase in precept at their meeting on 5 February. The Ministry of Justice announced its allocation of Victims services budget on 22 January, allocating £0.865 million to Lincolnshire.

- 1.1.7 The effect of all these announcements and decisions together with expenditure plans have been included within a report on the Budget forming the next stage of the formal budget and precept setting process.
- 1.1.8 The Chief Constable has written to local MPs to keep them up to date on matters relating to funding, and has arranged a meeting with the Policing Minister to discuss the funding position on 24 February.
- 1.1.9 Formal announcements on the next steps with regard to the Funding Formula Review are awaited from the Home Office.

2 Regional Issues

2.1 East Midlands Regional Modern Slavery Strategic Board - update

- 2.1.1 This week DCC Roach has approved the tactical group terms of reference and this is a positive step forward in terms of tackling Modern Slavery across the region.
- 2.1.2 A new regional plan with key priorities has been implemented that will improve the capability to identify Organised Crime Gangs involved in Immigration Crime, Human Trafficking Exploitation and Modern Slavery offences. The Strategic Threat and Risk Assessment has been refreshed that will enable a comprehensive picture of modern slavery across the East Midlands to be established.

2.2 Regional Children and Young People (C&YP) Group – update

- 2.2.1 The most recent Regional C&YP Group meeting, chaired by DCC Roach, was held on 27 January where an update was provided in relation to the National C&YP Conference attended by both DCC Roach and DCI Storey.
- 2.2.2 DCC Pinkney, the national lead for the policing of children and young people, gave an overview of progress so far and drew attention to the National Strategy for the policing of children and young people which was agreed at Chief's Council last year. The force has already developed a strategy which reflects the national one and the Regional Group is in process of creating its own strategy.
- 2.2.3 DCC Pinkney encouraged forces to recognise the vulnerability of children and young people as being crucial in reducing the threat, risk and harm to those who often live in challenging circumstances.
- 2.2.4 Speakers at the event included Anne Longfield, the Children's Commissioner, Jonathan Baggaley, Head of Education at CEOP, Juliet Lyon, Prison Reform Trust and a panel discussion with T/CC Nick Ephgrave and DCC Adrian Hanstock the NPCC leads for custody and stop and search respectively.
- 2.2.5 It has been recognised that progress has been made across the country resulting in a 60% reduction in children being arrested for a notifiable offence. There has been a change in police practice with offences now being dealt with appropriately and the number of children convicted of indictable offences has fallen by 57% from 2008 – 2014. There are 12 million children in the UK but less than 1000 are in custody.
- 2.2.6 Continued improvement is required to reduce the unnecessary criminalisation of children. Children in care (CiC) are over represented in the criminal justice system and generate more calls for service than other children and are more likely to result in

formal CJ outcomes. It is recognised that Home Office Counting Rules are restrictive and attempts are being made to include an additional disposal that involves action by other agencies.

- 2.2.7 Protecting children from online sexual exploitation and abuse and how the police can better engage with young people is seen as a national priority. There are hundreds of sites and Apps that allow young people to communicate with each other, and the service should be educating children about the positives of them rather than highlighting the negative aspects. The focus should be to see the internet through their eyes.
- 2.2.8 Whilst local policing and school engagement are still important the challenge for all forces is to identify new methods to improve engagement with children and consider social media as an important tool to strengthen engagement with young people.
- 2.2.9 The National Strategy focusses on four key areas:
- Stop and Search
 - Looked After Children (children in care)
 - Detention, custody and criminalisation of C&YP
 - Relationship between C&YP and the police
- 2.2.10 This is translated into a regional plan with individuals represented within each force.
- 2.2.11 Following DCC Roach's retirement in April ACC Rachel Swann, Northants, will take over as Regional lead for the Group and chair future meetings.

2.3 Regional Niche Project – update

- 2.3.1 On 2 February Nottinghamshire Constabulary successfully went live with Niche RMS. There were some minor technical issues with the web form and Live Scan but these were quickly resolved. They are now stable on the regional platform.
- 2.3.2 Approximately 30 police officers and police staff from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Derbyshire were deployed to support Nottinghamshire staff following 'go-live' until 8 February. The feedback from staff has been very positive and Nottinghamshire very much appreciated the support provided by their regional colleagues.
- 2.3.3 A "hot" de brief session was held following Nottinghamshire's go live date. Northants and Derbyshire were involved in this session and all forces found it useful. Northants and Derbyshire will be incorporating any lessons learned into their go live plans
- 2.3.4 Northants are on track to have their back record conversion data completed and loaded into the regional Niche platform for their go live date of March 2016.
- 2.3.5 A Regional Management of Information planning and design session was held in Nottinghamshire on 19 January 2016. The meeting discussed closer collaboration and standardisation of all Managing Information reports. All Force representatives found the session very productive. More design sessions have been organised by the regional programme lead.
- 2.3.6 Members of the regional Niche team have now migrated to Northamptonshire HQ in preparation for their go live date on 8 March 2016.

3 Local issues

3.1 Mobile Data Project – update

- 3.1.1 Following roll out of the first 70 devices Airwave has released the updated version of the software to correct a number of bug fixes. Feedback from officers remains positive and figures continue to show a high number of processes being carried out through the device. The project team are offering additional support in the use of the device to officers who are less confident with the technology.
- 3.1.2 The phase two training has been delayed until 1 March due to the supplier being unable to provide the required Sim cards. A number of procurement options were considered and Airwave has been asked to directly contract with EE as part of the hosted solution in order to resolve this.
- 3.1.3 Wi-Fi hotspots have been progressed with IT and a strategic solution to allow a central hotspot has been agreed by the board. This is a more cost effective solution and allows greater flexibility as stations or other departments can add their own access points at a later stage if required.

3.2 Blue Light Collaboration Project – update

- 3.2.1 An updated Business Case is being currently being prepared that will include updated figures from EMAS as well as the revised Police Innovation Funding bid of £7.5m.
- 3.2.2 The Chief Constable and Project Team recently held a very positive meeting with the Chief Executive of EMAS who confirmed they wish to be part of the Blue Light Campus; this will be discussed by their board in February.
- 3.2.3 The Project Team has also now completed their first iteration of the Programmed Definition document and this will have been circulated to the Steering Board by Friday 12 February.

3.3 HMIC Legitimacy Report

- 3.3.1 Overall the HMIC rated the force as 'good' at keeping people safe and reducing crime. The force also received a 'Good' grading for understanding, engaging and treating people it serves fairly to maintain and improve its legitimacy. Although the force was rated overall as 'Good' at keeping people safe and reducing crime, the HMIC found that Lincolnshire Police still needed to improve their performance in the recording of the use of Taser and 'stop and search'.
- 3.3.2 The force has developed a detailed action plan in relation to its use of stop and search powers and is well on the way to meeting most of the requirements. The introduction of mobile data devices will significantly enhance the capture of relevant data and body worn video cameras will further ensure the integrity of the use of the power.
- 3.3.3 C/Insp Pearce (Professional Standards Department) is developing an organisation approach to the use of force which will identify key themes and issues from the submitted forms.

3.4 Blue Light Time to Change Pledge

- 3.4.1 The Blue Light Time to Change Pledge is an initiative supported by the charity MIND who has invited the police and other emergency services to show their commitment to challenge mental health stigma and promote positive wellbeing within the service.
- 3.4.2 Committing to the pledge involves developing and delivering a tangible action plan that meets the essential criteria set by MIND that provides help and support to staff and volunteers and enables them to feel more able to speak openly about mental health and to seek support when they need it.
- 3.4.2 Lincolnshire Police are currently working with MIND to commit to the pledge and are looking at developing an internal network of supporters/listeners/confidants for staff that are experiencing mental health difficulties or issues. Jon Morris, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities Liaison Officer, will be meeting with MIND on 15 March to discuss what the force can do to support this initiative.
- 3.4.3 Training has already been arranged for Public Protection Unit managers around managing their staff if they experience mental health issues.