**OFFICE OF POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR GWENT**

**STRATEGY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD**

**8th MARCH 2023**

**Present:** **Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)**

Mr J Cuthbert -Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)

Ms E Thomas – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC)

Mr D Garwood-Pask – Chief Finance Officer (CFO)

Mrs S Curley – Chief Executive (CEx)

Mr S Slater – Head of Strategy (HoS)

Mrs J Regan – Head of Assurance and Compliance (HoAC)

Mr R Guest – Head of Communications and Engagement (HoCE)

Mrs N Warren – Governance Officer (GO)

Miss B Hale – Standards and Governance Officer (SGO)

**Office of the Chief Constable (OCC)**

Ms P Kelly – Chief Constable (CC)

Ms R Williams – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC)

Ms N Brain - Det/Ch/Superintendent, Head of Protective Services (HoPS)

Mr N McLain – Chief Superintendent – Head of Continuous Improvement (HoCI)

Mr M Williams T/CH/Superintendent – West LPA (WLPA)

Mr S Payne – Head of Professional Standards - (HoPSD)

Mr M Coe – Head of Finance - (HoF)

Ms N Brennan Assistant Director – Head of the Joint Legal Service (HoJLS)

**Staff Associations**

Mrs L Davies – Unison (UN)

Ms J Everson – Unison (UN)

Mr M Candy – Police Federation (PF)

The meeting commenced at 10:00am at the new Police Headquarters and online via Teams.

The PCC and CC sent their deepest condolences to the families of all the victims involved in the recent accident in St Mellons, Cardiff.

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| 1. **APOLOGIES** | **Action** |
| Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Hobrough, Assistant Chief Constable (ACC), Mr C Williams, Chief Superintendent, Mr N Stephens, Assistant Chief Officer, Resources. |  |
| 1. **MINUTES** |  |
| We received and confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st September 2022 and 23rd November 2022.  We noted they were a correct record of the meetings and no amendments were required. | **Action** |
| 1. **ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME PLAN PRIORITIES QUARTER 3, 2022-23** |  |
| We received the Organisational Performance report against the Police and Crime Plan (the Plan) priorities for quarter 3 of 2022-23.  The PCC referred to the report and asked the Force for a summary on what areas were performing well, what areas were causing concern and what action was being conducted to improve those areas.  The DCC stated that over the last 3 years there had been an increase in Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and Police Staff which had helped them to be a more diverse organisation. The challenge was ensuring that those new recruits had the right skills and training to provide the community with an acceptable service.  The Force were starting to see improvements in performance in areas such as investigative quality due to the Burglary and Improvement Plan that had been implemented as officers were attending burglaries in a more timely manner. Chief officers were reviewing crimes to identify key themes such as domestic abuse, violent crime, burglaries and inquisitive crimes.  The DCC highlighted that since September 2022 there had been an improvement in the victim services area; 999 calls were answered in approximately 12 seconds in September 2022 but were currently being answered in approximately 10 seconds. However, answering 101 calls averaged 5 minutes 29 seconds and had increased to 6 minutes, 6 seconds. The DCC assured us that work was being conducted to improve the response to 101 calls and informed us that the abandonment rate for 101 calls had reduced from 41.5% to 30%, which was a big improvement for the Force.  A key area for the answering of calls was completion of the threat, risk and harm script assessments, which had increased to 70.5% from 49.5%. The Force were seeing an improvement in the time taken to attend incidents following a call.  The DCC advised that every member of the senior officer team had been in engaged in reviewing their Fast Time Improvement Plans (FTIP) along with the Continuous Improvement Strategy and the latest draft of His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Police, Effectiveness, Efficiency and Legitimacy (PEEL) inspection. Weekly meetings had been arranged where departmental heads, staff and officers identified areas in which they felt further improvements could be made. Over 207 actions had been put forward to a master improvement plan for supporting the force’s control, functions, and investigative quality. This was being led by the Continuous Improvement Department and would provide evidence of improvement to HMICFRS. We were pleased to note that learning was being shared between departments to improve performance across the Force.  The PCC requested further clarification in relation to 999 calls. He noted that demand had dropped in the last quarter yet the average time to answer 999 calls had increased. The PCC asked why this had happened and what plans were in place to combat this.  The DCC stated that everything must be looked at through a sequence of enabling and operational functions. One of the core activities undertaken was to review their sickness records within the FCR; those that were on medium/long and short-term sickness and to provide solutions around this. Efforts had been made by the Superintendent and the Lead for the FCR to maximise the use of resources. If a certain team was suffering from staff abstractions more than others, they would use resources flexibly within the FCR to fill the gaps.  The DCC assured us there was no ambiguity about what concerns the force had what they should be prioritising through their teams. Any issues had been driven through the FTIPs over the last four weeks and progress was being monitored on a weekly basis through the relevant governance board.  The PCC asked if the DCC was confident this would bring benefits in a measurable way and in a reasonable timeframe. The DCC assured us that improvements would be made and that she would be held accountable if they were not.  As crime had dropped in quarter 3, the first time since quarter 4 of 2021, the PCC asked if there was a specific reason for it at this point.  The DCC stated that she did not know the answer at this time and did not believe the Force were in a position based on one quarter to make any assumption at this time.  There had been a slight increase in burglary outcomes as demonstrated in the report. The PCC asked if the Force were confident that the Burglary Improvement Pilot was starting to have an effect or if there were still issues that they intended to tackle.  The DCC stated that the pilot had a series of actions which would drive improvement in performance but at this stage there was not enough evidence to confirm whether the pilot was working.  The PCC noted that public confidence had decreased to 68% overall and 61% for ethnic minorities and asked what the Force intended to do to improve this.  The DCC explained that international, national, and local factors contributed to public confidence, and acknowledged that recent incidents in Gwent had impacted on this. There were three areas the Force were focussing on to improve public confidence; improving performance, culture and raising standards. This would address areas of confidence around the Force in terms of the service they provided and the way the community talked about the service they had received. The DCC had also attended the March meeting of the Joint Audit Committee (JAC) and provided members with a comprehensive overview of their plan to improve organisational culture in addition to work already undertaken. The JAC were reassured with the evidence provided and the use of academic partners to support the Force in their understanding of culture and to pinpoint where they need to take action to address their culture internally. In terms of how the force managed their professional standards, they saw themselves in a good position. This would be explored further in the Professional Standards Department (PSD) report.  The PCC noted that rape figures had decreased for the second quarter in a row, the PCC asked if this was a genuine reduction or if there an issue within reporting arrangements.  We were advised since the Rape Investigation Team (RIT) had been established the Force had improved their rape investigations. They had a good working relationship with New Pathways and the link with victims was much better. The Force were trying to improve reporting from the Black Asian and Minority Ethnic communities (this was also a national issue). There were plans in place to support this work and it was also positive that all four Welsh forces were part of Operation Soteria. We were informed that the detection rate was increasing and Gwent was now above the national average in terms of their rape conviction rate. The Force had positive feedback from the Operation Soteria team when an inspection was completed and were working on key areas in relation to early investigative advice to reduce the timeliness of rape investigations and were also working with the Crown Prosecution Service to improve the service further. The Force acknowledged there was more work to do.  The PCC asked how well the Force were supporting rape victims in Gwent.  The HoPS informed us that the Victim Survivor Engagement Officer (VSEO) had been crucial in supporting victims of rape and domestic abuse. The VSEO also sits on the Force scrutiny panel and identifies anything further that could have done for victims which is then fed back as learning.  The CC confirmed the Force would meet the Operation Uplift target. She reiterated the challenge of having a young workforce serving our communities comprising between 400 and 500 people with less than six and a half years’ service and assured us it was a priority to have the right people with the right skills serving the public in order to continuing building on public confidence. | **Action**  **Action** |
| 1. **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3 2022-23** | **Action** |
| We received and noted the Professional Standards Performance Report for quarter 3 2022-23.  The HoPSD informed us they were working with the HoS to incorporate the PSD report into the Organisational Performance report for future meetings.  We were informed that there had been a slight increase in complaints by 5% (12) from the last quarter. When the data was collated, there were 30 ongoing schedule 3 complaint cases.  The average number of days to contact complainants was 4 working days which was a 4 day improvement from the same period last year and brings the Force in line with the national average.  We also noted that the Force performed better than the national average for the average number of days to finalise allegations (both non schedule 3 and schedule 3).  There were 157 complaint cases finalised under schedule 3 with 23 reviews requested by complainants. Of these 4 (17%) were upheld which was below the national average of 22%. The CEx advised us the OPCC had not identified any specific trends when reviewing complaints. PSD had been very open to recommendations and suggestions and we were finding that, overall, PSD cases were conducted reasonably and proportionately.  We were informed that the demand on vetting continued to be high but moving forward they would be using a 3-tier vetting approach to further improve the service.  The HoPSD advised us PSD representatives would be attending the March meeting of the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) in order to give a presentation on the complaints process to members.  The PCC asked what morale was like among staff and officers and how secure and confident they were feeling. The HoPSD explained that most staff and officers supported the work that was ongoing and taking place nationally. We were advised that there were clear procedures for the reporting of any concerns and that this could be done anonymously if required. There was also a staff survey being conducted to gauge how staff and officers were feeling.  The Force had also invested heavily in wellbeing and there was a high level of supervision from Sergeants, Inspectors and Chief Inspectors to ensure that support is there for individuals. The DCC and CC were also talking to officers and staff to gain further understanding in this area.  The Force were also launching a cultural survey to determine if people had concerns around culture and to encourage reporting. PSD have been sharing the issues they encounter in different forums and the bulletins that are circulated identify themes. When people have been found to have committed misconduct and learning has been identified, that information was being shared.  The DPCC asked if the Force was prepared for the re-vetting of all staff and officers via the Police National Database wash through. The HoPSD advised us there was a process in place and although they had 6 months to complete it, they aimed to finalise within 3 months. The CEx advised us that the national data protection impact assessment was still being discussed to include the re-vetting of OPCC staff.  The CC passed her thanks to the HoPSD and the team for all their hard work at this difficult time.  The CC raised concern with the timeliness of investigations undertaken by the IOPC. She acknowledged the support provided by the OPCC to challenge the length of time these investigations were taking and stated that we needed to continue to challenge this area. The CEx supported concerns around timeliness of the IOPC investigations and confirmed that this had been raised with the Director for Wales and an apology had been received.  The CC confirmed that the Force staff survey was important to gauge what people thought about working for the organisation. Recently there had been the Police Federation morale survey, 269 officers completed the survey and it indicated that there was low morale in areas such as response, roads policing and Public Protection Unit (PPU) due to demand. Most officers stated that training opportunities were fair and they would stay with the organisation for the next 2 years. The CC acknowledged there was more work to do to ensure people wanted to continue working for Gwent Police.  Unison advised us that they met with the DCC regularly to discuss gross misconduct cases and suggested that it would be beneficial to implement a structure to also discuss misconduct cases as timeliness had a significant impact on the morale and wellbeing of the employees involved as some were over taking over 12 months to complete  **The meeting was paused for 5 minutes at 11:18am.** | **Action**  **DCC** |
| 1. **FORCE DELIVERY PLAN 2022-2025** |  |
| We received the Force Delivery Plan (FDP) 2022-2025.  We were advised that further operational detail had been incorporated within the FDP as requested by the OPCC on how those activities which the Force intended to carry out linked directly to the PCC’s Plan.  The document very much focused on the three areas; culture, public confidence and traditional performance. The FDP was separated into the 5 priorities within the Plan, cross referencing the commitments and key activities the CC would conduct to achieve those priorities. It also clarified the governance arrangements and was linked to supporting strategies and key outcomes agreed with the OPCC.  We were advised that the FDP was a live document and that focus may change over the coming 12 months. The CC advised that this document had been discussed recently by chief officers.  The CC also confirmed that a progress update on the FDP would be provided at the following SPB meeting in June 2023 as agreed by the HoCI and the CEx. The PCC stated that it was important for the public to be able to see the link from the FDP to the Plan. | **Action**  **HoCI** |
| 1. **FINANCE MONITORING REPORT QUARTER 3** |  |
| We received the Finance Monitoring Report for quarter 3.  There was now an underspend of £3,275,000 projected for year-end, an increase of £0.9million in comparison to the forecasted £2,238,000 in September 2022. This was partly due to changes in relation to some of the assumptions made during the original forecast.  It was assumed, for example, that there would be £189,000 of interest charges from borrowing to fund the capital programme in this financial year which were now unlikely to materialise.  Higher interest rates had contributed to the underspend in terms of investment income, fuel prices had also decreased as well as various other reasons that had contributed to the underspend as indicated within the report.  We were advised that police officer pay and salary allowances were under budget by £3,177,000 due primarily to the year to date effect of the recruitment profile of officer cohorts. These posts were budgeted in full for the financial year, hence the phasing of recruitment results in underspends for the period from 1st April2022 onwards while these posts are unfilled. The underspend is a non-recurrent saving for this financial year only. Once the planned recruitment had taken place, the full cost of officers would be realised for 2023/24 budgets onwards.  There was a £1,400,000 overspend on the overtime budget for this quarter which would be offset by an underspend on officer pay and allowances. However, there was a £1 million overtime overspend forecast for the full year. The ACC was monitoring overtime to understand the reason for the overspend with daily overtime reports being produced to assist with this process.  Gas and electricity price rises also continue to have an impact on the budget.  The Sustainability Strategy, Greener Gwent Strategy and the photovoltaic cells, the solar panels that the Force have been adding across the estate, should mitigate some of the usage. Joint procurement services would also be reviewing energy supply contracts.  There were no issues with debt recovery on the large debts as indicated within the report appendix. Creditor payments and the no pay, no purchase order initiative were also on track.  The PCC asked if there were any significant changes to the financial situation in terms of income since the precept was agreed with the PCP. The HoF informed us that there were not as the timing of Operation Uplift and cost pressures identified had not disappeared. There was also an additional £1,700,000 identified that needed to be managed and although the Force were reviewing savings that had also been identified, it was clear that those savings would not cover this additional cost.  The CFO thanked the HoF for the explanation of the changes between quarter 2 and 3 and requested that in future reports, the focus was on movement between reporting periods rather than reporting each period in silo. The CFO also referred to the additional pressures post January and highlighted there would be a further £1million transferring to reserves at the end of 2022-23. He asked the if there were any changes anticipated in the 2023-24 budget highlighted in quarter 3 that hadn’t already been accounted for such as adjustments, interest rates and utility prices of fuel.  The HoF advised us the wholesale cost of oil and electricity and gas could fall depending on global events as there was no indication that prices would fall as yet the inflation rises had been considered in the budget  The CFO thanked the HoF and his team for their hard work on debtors and creditors and reducing the number of creditor days to as low as 20 days.  The CC referred to the PCP’s concerns of using reserves to balance the budget and emphasised the importance of focussing on forecasting, as this year the Force were likely to use the highest amount from reserves in comparison to the other forces in Wales and any savings that needed to be made impacted on operational delivery. Forecasting informed what the Force could and could not use to deliver the best operational police service. Any decisions around what funding remained in the operational budget or was moved into reserves was critical as the Force had difficult saving plans to deliver and also needed to provide the best service possible to ensure public confidence.  We were advised that there would be a penalty of £40,000 in March and £40,000 in September for every officer beneath the expected establishment for Operation Uplift. However, the Force were on course to meet the target number.  It was suggested it may be beneficial to discuss decision making regarding reserves and how this was being managed with the PCP Finance Sub Group. The CFO informed us that arrangements had been made and the Estate and Finance Sub Group would receive briefings on Finance and the Estate 2 weeks before every PCP meeting to ensure they were fully engaged in and understood the process.  The CFO assured us that the situation regarding the use of reserves was monitored throughout the year and should the efficiency savings be realised the requirement to use the reserves would reduce.  The CC referred to the pay awards for this year and acknowledged it was a risk in terms of the budget but would have a positive impact on staff and suggested this was monitored over the coming months. | **Action**  **Action**  **ACOR** |
| 1. **RESERVES REPORT** |  |
| We received the Reserves Report.  The CFO informed us that the reserves report had been presented at the JAC on the 2nd March where it was recommended for approval.  The paper articulated there would be a depletion of reserves by 2027-28, with just £9,400,000 of reserves remaining, of which £5 million is the general reserve for emergencies leaving £4,400,000 of other reserves set aside for commissioning Force initiatives and other liabilities. All the reserves set aside for budgetary risk would be consumed over the following 2 years which would enable time to enact the efficiency programme.  The report illustrated the utilisation of the capital programme and the work that has been approved by the Estate Strategy Board for the next 3 to 5 years to minimise exposure to capital borrowing.  The next iteration of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) would be in June which would include any changes that head taken place. The DCC suggested that it would be beneficial to meet early to discuss the MTFP and the potential impact of any changes over the following 12 to 24 months. | **ACOR/**  **CFO** |
| 1. **MANUAL OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ANNUAL REVIEW** |  |
| We received the annual review of the Manual of Corporate Governance (MoCG) for approval.  The CFO advised us that the JAC received the report on the 2nd March 2023 and recommended it for approval.  We noted that there were minor amendments to the MoCG but that changes to the JAC Terms of Reference (ToR) had not been incorporated due to further discussions being required relating to changes in the new Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) guidance for police audit committees. Once reviewed, any proposed amendments would be presented to the JAC meeting in September.  The HoJLS confirmed new guidance was released in November last year which changed some of the provisions in relation to JACs and the relevant information was contained in the MoCG, apart from the changes to the ToR as specified by the CFO.  Both the PCC and the CC approved the changes to the MoCG for 2023-24. | **Action**  **HoAC** |
| 1. **STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL REVIEW 2021/22** |  |
| We received and noted the Strategic Equality Plan Annual Review 2021/22.  The DCC stated that an extensive amount of work had been undertaken against this plan particularly in relation to legitimacy and acting in a fair manner in key areas such as stop and search and vulnerability of people in custody as well as public complaints and satisfaction although she acknowledged there was more work to be done.  The DPCC thanked the Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) team in particular the EDI Lead who had taken forward the work plan together with the OPCC. It was suggested that a discussion to prioritise areas for the new plan due in 2024 would be useful.  Although work was progressing in relation to the Anti-Racism Strategy on an All Wales basis, it was suggested that progress was slower in individual organisations due to the quality of the data recorded on systems. The DCC acknowledged that the data needed to be improved and that the refresh of the Data Quality Strategy should assist.  The DPCC welcomed the growth of a more representative workforce and suggested there was more work required in order to ensure the organisation was better prepared to support the increase in diversity.  The DCC welcomed working jointly with the OPCC on the new Strategic Equality Plan and also wished to focus on an All Wales basis in terms of horizon scanning and ensuring the Plan was as futureproof as possible.  The DPCC referred to the use of Stop and Search and Use of Force in the report and stated there was a conversation happening nationally on strip searching children. There was work being undertaken across all four Forces in Wales on this area and the OPCC had made a commitment to monitor the issue and raise anything of concern. The DCC agreed to provide the information from an All Wales and local perspective to the OPCC. | **DCC** |
| 1. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC** | **Action** |
| The information contained in the report(s) below has been subjected to the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Data Protection Act 2018 and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent’s public interest test and is deemed to be exempt from publication under section 7. |  |
| 1. **GWENT PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD WELLBEING PLAN** |  |
| We received the Gwent Public Service Board (PSB) Wellbeing Plan.  The HoS informed us that the Wellbeing Plan focussed on three key areas:   * Health inequalities and well-being (including housing); * Community cohesion (including community safety and substance   misuse); and * Environment (including climate and nature emergencies)   The draft plan was prepared based on the key areas to create a fair and more equitable and inclusive Gwent for all and to create a climate-ready Gwent, where our environment is valued and protected, benefitting our well-being now and for future generations.    The HoS welcomed comment on the draft plan which he would feed back to the Strategic Wellbeing group on behalf of both the OPCC and the Force. It was noted that the plan was too generic and needed to be more specific to Gwent. Both the PCC and CC agreed that issues such as Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) needed to be included and there needed to be clarity on the measures and funding required as well as confirmation as to what the plan would deliver for Gwent.  The final Wellbeing Plan was expected to be presented to the Gwent PSB for approval on the 27th April 2023 and with the intention of publication in May 2023. |  |
| 1. **ANNUAL PRESENTATION ON COMPLIANCE WITH SAFEGUARDING/CHILD WELFARE** |  |
| We received a presentation on statutory compliance with Safeguarding and Child Welfare.  The HoPS assured us that child protection sat in all crime areas and formed part of the regional strategic safeguarding structure. The Force were involved in all 5 safeguarding networks. Learning from the networks was fed back into the Safeguarding Board.  Domestic abuse often involved children and Operation Encompass enabled the Force to work with educational authorities to alert schools when children were involved in an incident.  Dip samples were conducted in child protection and domestic abuse cases to make sure the voice of the child was being captured. This was an issue identified during the child protection HMICFRS inspection in 2019. Subsequently a significant amount of work was conducted in this area including Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) being integrated into the safeguarding hubs, morning meetings with Probation Teams and the ongoing VAWG action plan.  The positive outcomes for domestic abuse stood at 16.6% with a conviction rate of 83.3% in December 2022, which was above the local and national rate of 75.6%. Domestic abuse arrests rose in February 2023, this was being driven by chief officers and it was the third consecutive month that it had increased.  The Missing Children’s Team had been embedded in the Safeguarding Hubs with an evaluation currently ongoing. The number of children reported missing had dropped slightly from January 2022 to January 2023 (182-152). The Force were seeing a very similar pattern from this time last year and were working closely with local authorities to reduce these occurrences as it was evident that children repeatedly went missing if they were in foster care and placed out of county.  There had been a drop in children detained in custody over the last three months which could be attributed to the work the Force had undertaken with custody staff and healthcare professionals in ensuring they understood that putting the public protection notices (PPNs) in as soon as children were in custody was important.  Due to Force investment in the PPU, resourcing was much improved. The CC assured the PCC she was not prepared to tolerate a significant number of vacancies in the PPU.  The DPCC referred to the structure of the presentation and suggested that further data and detail would provide greater assurance that the statutory responsibility for safeguarding children was being met and was happy to provide guidance as the report did not appear to do justice to the amount of work the Force were undertaking and could include key themes from Child Practice reviews or Domestic Homicide reviews; the lessons learnt, and an evaluation of the Safeguarding Hubs over the course of the year.  The DPCC informed us that work was continuing in terms of finding alternatives to detaining children in police custody. Although Operation Encompass was a valuable warning system more work was required from public services to ensure the appropriate infrastructure was in place so support children experiencing a homelife where there was domestic abuse.  The DCC suggested that to provide the necessary assurance there could be a set of specific questions for specific strategic reports at certain reporting periods. This mechanism could form part of the review of the governance structure going forward and would need to be agreed by all parties. The new Force governance structure was due to launch on the 1st April 2023 which would provide chief officers with strengthened internal scrutiny. It had already resulted in a vulnerability deep dive which the OPCC would be invited to attend.  The CC assured us that vulnerability was a key priority and the Vulnerability Board would identify any concerns or risks that should be raised at SPB.  The CFO advised us that JAC was presented with the resource risk in relation to Detective resources in September and welcomed the improvement in numbers within PPU, as it was a difficult area in which to recruit and asked if this caused Detective shortages in other areas. The DCC assured us the Force were resourcing the highest priority areas and there was a plan in place maximise Detective pathways to fill any gaps. | **Action**  **HoPS**  **Action**  **DCC** |
| 1. **JOINT STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER** |  |
| We received the Joint Risk Register.  The CEx assured us that the Joint Risk Register goes through the relevant Force Governance Boards and that gave the OPCC an opportunity to scrutinise the items on the register and to be part of the decision making process.  The DCC informed us that a new risk added to the register was in relation to culture and this was a concern raised by the JAC previously.  The DCC advised us that she had implemented a process whereby one of the risks on the register was to be focus of a deep dive at every SEB meeting.  The CEx advised us that JAC also recently gave reassurance in relation to the process and presentation of risk. |  |
| 1. **MANCHESTER ARENA TRAGEDY AND RESILIENCE FORUMS** |  |
| We received a verbal update on the Manchester Arena Tragedy and Resilience Forums from the CC.  The CC advised us that a review of the report that had been released as a result of the tragic incident in Manchester had taken place and many of the Force’s practices and processes had already been aligned to it. We were informed that there were plans were in place to review and work through any other issues raised as a result of the report.  It was agreed that the ACC would brief the PCC on the work of the Manchester Arena Tragedy and Resilience Forums. | **Action**  **ACC** |
| 1. **COLLABORATION UPDATE - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONAL AREAS** |  |
| We received a verbal update on the Executive Summary of Operational areas.  There had been significant improvement in the Joint Firearms Regional Unit (JFRU) in terms of performance and efficiency savings. There were no backlogs and forensics were being processed much quicker. Good practice from within the JFRU was to be utilised within the FCR to improve communication with victims. The CC also advised us that there was further good practice that could be utilised from within the Joint Scientific Investigation Unit (JSIU).  The CC thanked ACC Valentine for his work and advised us that ACC Gunney was the new collaboration Lead.  The CEx explained that there had been dialogue with the Force regarding a report on collaboration and that the work was being conducted on the business benefits of collaboration by the Force that could be used to demonstrate the benefits of collaboration in Gwent. However, the report was not completed in time for the meeting on this occasion. The CEx requested that a chief officer was made the Lead for the report to ensure it was completed in readiness for the following meeting in June 2023. The DCC apologised that the report had not been presented on this occasion and assured us that the issue had been considered in the governance framework. |  |
| 1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS** |  |
| It was suggested that the HoCC and HoCE reviewed communications to ensure members of the public were able to access information about attending SPB meetings should they wish to do so. | **HOCC/**  **HoCE** |
| 1. **TO IDENTIFY ANY RISKS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING** |  |
| There were no risks identified during the meeting. |  |
| **The meeting concluded at 13.05** |  |