Notes of Bristol City Council Mayor/PCC Meeting

30th July 2019

11:30 - 12:30 City Hall, Bristol

Attendees: Cllr Asher Craig, Deputy Mayor; Sue Mountstevens, Police and Crime Commissioner; Andy Marsh, Chief Constable; Mike Jackson, Head of Paid Service; Will White, Chief Superintendent Neighbourhoods; John Smith, Chief Executive, OPCC; Cllr Helen Godwin, Cabinet Member

1) Actions from Previous Meeting

The situation in terms of Broadmead and the Bear Pit was discussed – there was a range of ongoing issues in relation to the recent work in the Bear Pit. The longer term plans for this area were discussed.

Action: It was agreed that Andy Bennett and would do a joint update to the Mayor and the PCC on their current joint working in relation to activities in the Broadmead.

2) Serious Violence

Cllr Godwin and Cllr Craig raised an issue with the Call In project and the need for additional engagement and support from the Council and Police in terms of providing job opportunities for those individuals coming to the end of the Call In process.

Action: MJ to engage with HR team to see what Council support could be provided.

It was agreed that a key issue is the co-ordination of all the various early intervention and youth engagement activity linked to the Serious Violence strategy. It was agreed that in the first instance the Serious Violence Executive Board should provide leadership and co-ordination around this activity. It was hoped that some of the recent VRU funding could be applied towards this co-ordination activity and it was thought that the requested police post might provide some support on this.

Action: Serious Violence Executive Board to review and confirm position on co-ordination of engagement and early intervention activity.

Cllr Godwin also raised the issue of enforcement activity against the key perpetrators of gang/drugs activity. It was agreed that the police would liaise with the Serious Violence Engagement Board on this. The issues around data were also discussed, particularly around emergency department data at acute hospitals. MJ agreed to confirm the position with the action in relation to the Mayor writing to the Chief Executive of UHB Bristol. JS agreed to support MJ in any further follow up activity that was needed with acute hospitals in Bristol.

The PCC will be circulating the Behavioural Insights Report analysing the key issues for Serious Violence in Avon & Somerset within the next week – this also refers to hospital data issues.

3) Youth Zones

There was a discussion about the proposal to establish Youth Zones in Bristol. Cllr Godwin had visited Manchester and was considering the offer to establish Youth Zones in South Bristol though there were capital and ongoing revenue implications for the City Council and the implications and impact on the rest of Bristol needs to be considered. Cllr Godwin is maintaining contact with the agency who are offering this and will provide updates.

4) Recruitment position

The Chief Constable provided an update on the latest national announcement in relation to police recruitment and also the work going on in Avon and Somerset around diversity and recruitment, particularly recent employment of 8 outreach workers.

Action: CC/Mayor/Deputy Mayor to liaise about potential promotion of the outreach workers.

5) Op Remedy

Will White gave an update on Op Remedy particularly the improvement in burglary.

6) Bijan Ebrahimi Review

The report has now been finalised and it was agreed that JS would send the report to the Strategic Independent Advisory Group and the attendees at the Panel and that the work in this area would move to Business As Usual.

7) January 2017 Taser Case

Asher stated that she had seen the Scrutiny of Police Powers report and that this had now been published. The Chief Constable gave an update on the recent mediation process with the complainant. The Chief Constable had also agreed 8 ideas/actions for follow up with the complainant and would be progressing these.

8) It Takes a Village

Asher gave a brief update and agreed that Andy Bennett would be invited to the next meeting to give an update on police activity.

9) Knife Angel

Asher does have concerns about bringing the knife angel installation to Bristol **Action:** Asher agreed to get some feedback from some cities where it had already been taken and to come back with any concerns.

10) Trinity

The PCC gave an update that there was a preferred bidder that was a charity and was looking at the majority of affordable housing. Discussions were ongoing and a further update would be provided as soon as possible.

11) Extinction Rebellion

Mike raised some issues about partnership comms. Mike's particular concern was that the police had signed the memorandum of understanding with the demonstrators without Council agreement – this inevitably put partnership relationships on the back foot from the start. There were then some issues around the joint comms and joint support and in Mike's view this stemmed to some degree from issues around the MOU.

Action: Andy Bennett and to do a joint Lessons Learned/Review update to provide to the PCC and Mayor to provide assurance about any learning for future events.

12) M8 Metro Mayors Devolution Statement

Mike asked if the PCC was aware of this in advance. Sue said she had not been consulted and was not aware of the statement in advance.

13) Drug Strategy

Asher raised the issue of a Bristol Drugs Strategy – the Council were going to be working on one. The Constabulary had an Avon & Somerset wide drug strategy which includes their approach to various issues including the Drug Enforcement Programme approach. The PCC's view was that she supports heroin assisted treatment as an NHS led approach but does not currently support drug consumption rooms as they are not permitted under current rules and regulations. Constabulary drugs lead is Mark Runacres who would be happy to work with Bristol City Council on any Bristol specific strategy.