

**GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE, FIRE AND CRIME PANEL
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2023 IN THE GMCA
BOARDROOM, GMCA OFFICES, 56 OXFORD STREET, MANCHESTER**

PRESENT:

Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council (Chair)
Councillor Dane Anderton	Wigan Council (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Amy Cowen	Bolton Council
Councillor Rabiya Jiva	Bolton Council
Councillor Ummrana Farooq	Bury Council
Councillor Luthfur Rahman	Manchester City Council
Councillor Dave Arnott	Oldham Council
Councillor Chris Goodwin	Oldham Council
Councillor Barbara Bentham	Salford Council
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford Council
Councillor Tom Morrison	Stockport Council
Councillor Vimal Choksi	Tameside Council

Also in attendance:

Kate Green	GM Deputy Mayor
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Officers Present:

Ian Cosh	Chief Finance Officer, GMP
Damian Dallimore	Assistant Director, Deputy Mayors Office for Policing & Crime, GMCA
David Minto	Group Manager, GMFRS
ACFO Leon Parkes	GMFRS
Lee Rawlinson	Chief Resources Officer, GMP
Rachel Rosewell	Deputy Treasurer, GMCA
Jeanette Staley	Advisor to Panel & Head of Community Safety, Resilience & Neighbourhoods, Salford CC
Sandra Stewart	Chief Executive, Tameside Council
ACC Chris Sykes	GMP
Lee Teasdale	Senior Governance & Scrutiny Officer, Governance and Scrutiny, GMCA

PFCP/46/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Rosemary Barratt (Stockport), Councillor Richard Gold (Bury), Independent Member Majid Hussain, Assistant Deputy Mayor Baroness Beverley Hughes and GMCA Deputy Monitoring Officer Gwynne Williams.

PFCP/47/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

**PFCP/48/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 24TH JULY 2023 & CHAIRS
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Members considered the minutes of the previous meeting. Points highlighted included:

- In reference to PFCP/40/23 – the further details on ethnic minority breakdowns had been forwarded to members on 27th July.
- In reference to PFCP/44/23 – a meeting would be arranged to further consider taxi licensing issues.

The Chair invited Deputy Mayor Kate Green to provide an update on the ongoing work around the Baird Review of custody in GMP. It was advised that the review had commenced following the Sky News broadcast during the summer, through which three women had come forward with serious allegations of mistreatment during custody in the Pendleton custody suite. Dame Vera Baird had met with a number of people who wished to talk about their experience of strip searches in GMP cells and had plans to meet with several more people who had come forward. It was hoped that the report would be ready for full publication in November, as there had been some delays in arranging meetings so that all who wished to share their experiences could do so.

GMP officers provided an update to members following the announcement of a breach of GMP officer data on 14th September. Clarity was provided that the breach had not taken place within GMP, but rather that a contracted third-party firm had seen their data breached. An investigation was ongoing as several police forces and government departments across the country had been impacted by this breach. The Information Commissioner had been informed as per duty bound requirements. The information that

had been potentially breached was relatively low risk but did pertain to some officer names and in some cases photo identification. All staff had been notified and any potential risks identified.

Members were updated on the tendering of the GM Victims Services (GMVS) contract. As of Monday 18th September 2023, 'Catch 22' would be the new provider for the contract. The contract formed the baseline support offer for victims and witnesses of both reported and unreported crime from across the city-region. Independent Victim Care Coordinators positioned within the GMVS would provide comprehensive and tailored support to individuals affected by crime, ensuring they received the care and assistance they deserved during their journey towards recovery. The refreshed service would support GM's commitment to improving services for victims of crime and would also focus on strengthening local partnerships and fostering greater collaboration with GMP, as this was the first time that the service has been co-located with them.

Catch22 were awarded the contract as it was felt they best demonstrated alignment with GMCA's own priorities, such as developing a victim centred approach that builds aspiration and resilience in people and communities, whilst offering best value for money. The Provider had a proven track record of delivering impactful services and unwavering commitment to empowering communities.

Members were reminded that a site visit would be taking place at GMP Headquarters on Thursday 28th September. A date would be made available soon for a site visit to GMFRS Bury Fire Training Centre.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2023 be agreed as a true and correct record.
2. That the update from the Deputy Mayor on the ongoing Baird Review of custody within GMP be received.
3. That the update from GMP following a recent third-party data breach be received.
4. That an update be received on the recent re-tendering of the GM Victims Services, with Catch 22 confirmed as the new provider.

ACC Chris Sykes introduced an update on the areas of business within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) that had been subject to inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) during 2023. It also provided an overview of HMICFRS published reports, progress against recommendations arising from those inspections and providing a look forward to future inspections and preparatory activities. Points highlighted included:

- The latest Peel Report and Victims Services Assessment had just concluded and the reports arising from these were expected to be published in November 2023. A GMP Custody Suite re-visit was expected soon following an initial visit a couple of years previously.
- As at the end of August, GMP had 80 ongoing recommendations, 26 areas for improvement and 7 causes for concern. However, these had now reduced to 70, 23 and 6 respectively. The 6 causes for concern all related to custody, and a team was in place working on these specific areas. These included how medication was looked after; how risk was monitored and governance oversight.
- It was hoped that the Peel Report outcomes would explicitly show the level of progress made in the two years since the Report recommending that GMP enter special measures.

Comments and Questions

- Members asked about the measures put in place to ensure that none of the ongoing causes of concern 'slipped off the agenda'. It was advised that a strong internal governance process had been put in place to ensure that this were monitored closely across the entire range of areas to which the causes of concern related. Each month all of the recommendations were reviewed with chief officer leads. All were included on a portal that could be shared with members to allow them to see all ongoing recommendations. The Deputy Mayor advised that she also closely monitored all HMICFRS recommendations through the Deputy Mayors Executive.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contents of the report be noted.

2. That members be provided with the details needed to access the GMP portal detailing all ongoing recommendations.

PFCP/50/23 GMP PLAN ON A PAGE UPDATE

CRO Lee Rawlinson introduced a report providing a mid-point progress update on the Plan on a Page (PoaP) improvement portfolio and its associated programmes and projects which put in place the building blocks for long term sustainability of improvements within GMP.

It was advised that work was taking place now on the arrangements that would be put in place following the conclusion of the PoaP to ensure that very long-term business planning was in place to maintain this sustainability in the future.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contents of the report be noted.

PFCP/51/23 GMMFRS ANNUAL DELIVERY REPORT 2022/23

ACDO Leon Parkes presented a report providing an overview of the Service's achievements and performance against the six strategic priorities detailed within the Annual Delivery Plan 2022-23, and the overarching Fire Plan 2021-25.

Members were also shown a GMFRS promotional video highlighting many of the other achievements of the service throughout 2022/23.

Comments and Questions

- Members referenced cadet training and asked if there was a way to extend the age offer beyond the current 14–16-year-old parameters. It was advised that the national programme set the age profile, and this had to be aligned to. The programme concluded at 16 years old as the aim was that these cadets would then develop to become young firefighters.

- Members sought further detail on inclusivity key performance indicators. It was advised that the number of female firefighters had risen in the past year by 1.04% and ethnic minority firefighters had risen by 0.64% in the same period. It was asked if the exact numbers of firefighters could be provided.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contents of the Annual Delivery Report 2022/23 be noted.
2. That the contents of the Annual Delivery Summary Report 2022/23 be noted.
3. That the numbers of female and ethnic minority firefighters be provided to give context to the percentages.

PFCP 52/23 POLICE & CRIME PLAN – PRIORITY 2 REPORT & PERFORMANCE SCORECARD YEAR 2 UPDATE

Damian Dallimore (Assistant Director, Deputy Mayors Office for Policing & Crime, GMCA) introduced a Year 2 progress update on the work to support Priority 2 of the Police and Crime Plan 2022 – 25. This being Priority 2 - Reducing Harm and Offending. Points highlighted included:

- Reference was made to the increased arrest rate seen at GMP over the previous 12 months, with further detail provided on the types of arrests that had seen the highest levels of increase. These included a 22.5% increase in burglary related arrests, a 66% increase in domestic abuse arrests, 35% on sexual offences and a 40% increase in relation to thefts from a person.
- Improvements in outcome rates were also highlighted. Of particular note were the increased charges and convictions around burglary, up from just 3% to 6.6%, with May alone standing at 7.5%. GMP was now third placed amongst the eight most similar comparator authorities.
- Operation Challenger continued to operation and had surpassed its target of closing 75 county lines operations by March 2023. With a total of 85 having been shut down.
- The GMCA and Probation Services had jointly funded some reducing reoffending posts. These focussed upon child centred policing work, which was crucial in addressing young people at risk of harm and a life of criminality.

- Reference was made to restorative justice interventions, with 429 such interventions having taken place in the previous 12 months.

Comments and Questions

- Members made reference to women who were recent immigrants to the UK who may be victims of domestic abuse. Were interventions in place, possibly through advice via the airport to tackle this issue as quickly as possible upon arrival in the UK? It was advised that this was a recognised issue and was particularly challenging to tackle at the present time. Operation Challenger had a dedicated human trafficking and slavery team which included a series of co-located partners across GM. GMP had a dedicated officer for immigration crime as part of a national drive to tackle these issues, and the 'Navigator' scheme had also been set up to assist immigrants in tackling the police and crime system.

It was stated that a contact card being made available would be very helpful. It was advised that in collaboration with Border Force relevant contact information was made available – and that further detail on this could be made available to members.

- Members referenced work with probation on mental health treatment. It was advised that a significant amount of work was taking place in collaboration with probation and health services – with Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) being a key part of this. RCRP was due to be piloted in a small scale towards the end of the year to examine how it works in practice in terms of triaging and the GMP function. If successful in terms of capacity within the system, it was intended to be fully introduced in the spring of 2024. It was agreed that in the new year a report would be brought to the Panel following the pilot.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a further report be brought to the Panel at the appropriate time on Right Care, Right Person.

Deputy Mayor Kate Green was invited to introduce the finalised fully designed version of the Deputy Mayor's Annual Report for 2022/23.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Deputy Mayor's Annual Report 2022/23 be endorsed.