

For Information	
Public/Non Public*	Public
Report to:	Strategic Resources and Performance Board
Date of Meeting:	
Report of:	ACC S Jupp
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Other Contacts:	
Agenda Item:	8

*If Non Public, please state under which category number from the guidance in the space provided.

Nottinghamshire Police – Public Protection

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the office Of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) on the subject of Safeguarding and the current position within Public Protection for Nottinghamshire Police.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the OPCC notes the ongoing commitment of Nottinghamshire Police to the principles of “Every Child matters” and our obligations within the legal framework of the Children’s Act 2004.
- 2.2. It is also recommended that the OPCC notes the update on the developments of Public Protection and safeguarding within Nottinghamshire Police

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1. To ensure that the OPCC is able to satisfy its statutory responsibility under the Children’s Act 2004.

4. Summary of Key Points

- 4.1. The role of Nottinghamshire Police within safeguarding is to exercise its duties under sections 10 and 11 of the Children Act 2004. The requirements regarding vulnerable adults have been enacted under the Care Act 2014, which will require that we manage adults at risk with the same level of scrutiny as safeguarding of children. This won’t actually come into place until April 2015, but both of the Safeguarding Adults Boards are planning for this now. This approach already takes place through the existence of the Adult Safeguarding Boards and the separate audit processes under those boards, which the police participate in. It has a responsibility for the investigation of criminal activity against the vulnerable and those in need of safeguarding. Nottinghamshire

Police must also offer support, advice and assistance to other agencies in carrying out their safeguarding responsibilities.

- 4.2. We continue to be committed to the work of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and have ensured that we are supporting the developments required in terms of timely information exchange, reviewing the process around how we manage domestic abuse referrals with partners into children's social care. There continues to be capacity issues with the MASH due to the demands but we are committed to working with the Local Authority to address them, through the MASH Governance group. Currently there is a joint review taking place of the Domestic Abuse referral Team (DART) which is located at Oxclose Lane but consists of Police, Health and social care.
- 4.3. Police officers and employees are well placed to identify risk and need to be aware of other incidents that they attend that could detrimentally impact on the most vulnerable in our community. Police officers and staff must also be cognisant of safeguarding when dealing with children and vulnerable adults as offenders. Police Officers hold the emergency powers of police protection under section 46 of the Children Act 1989.
- 4.4. Public Protection is working on a business case to support the Designing the Future (DTF) work. This is being managed alongside other key business cases such as Improving Investigations, Response, Neighbourhood Policing and the Prisoner Handling Team. This business case will develop the work around management of all domestic abuse cases and all sexual offence cases (from indecent exposure upwards). Currently activity is taking place around resource/demand modelling of the Public Protection activity to identify whether the current establishment is correct before reviewing the capacity to deal with additional areas of business.
- 4.5. We have been notified that Nottinghamshire Police is in tranche 2 of the Her Majesty of Inspectorate of Constabulary's (HMIC) inspection programme into Child Protection. We have provided the detail requested by HMIC such as procedures, policies and examples of cases pertaining to Child Protection. This inspection covers the whole gamut of activity where a child is in need of protection so it will, in effect, be reviewing child abuse, missing children, child sexual exploitation, how we manage dangerous people who may come into contact with children and domestic abuse.
- 4.6. The City Local Authority has recently been subject to an Ofsted Inspection (March 2014). The overall judgement was that it 'Requires Improvement'. Overall there were 80 recommendations but none that related to the Police and the Police recognition was extremely positive within the report. Specifically the work with regard to child sexual exploitation and missing children. The County

local Authority has not yet had notification of its inspection, however they believe it is imminent.

- 4.7. The Force have submitted the most recent Section 11 Audit, which now takes place every two years in line with the process previously agreed by both Boards. This ensures that partner agencies are fulfilling their obligations in line with Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 is a requirement placed on all Local Safeguarding Children Boards by Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 (Chap.3 para.2) and this self-assessment is a key part of the process for the NSCB/NCSCB.

5. Financial Implications and Budget Provision

- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

- 6.1 There are no HR implications arising from this report.

7. Equality Implications

- 7.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

8. Risk Management

- 8.1 Any risks that are highlight above in the main body of the report are being managed through the Force's organisational risk process.

9. Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities

- 9.1 The ongoing work of Public Protection is clearly linked to the Commissioner's vision for a safer future and the seven top priorities from the Police and Crime Plan for tackling crime, specifically to 'protect, support, and respond to victims, witnesses and vulnerable people.'

10.Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

- 10.1 This section is not applicable.

11. Details of outcome of consultation

- 11.1 This section is not applicable

12. Appendices

- 12.1 None