

Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA)

**QA - Harrow Police Station**

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Your ref: 15/02/11S2

17<sup>TH</sup> May 2011

Dear Ms Brasse and Ms Hearn,

Further to Harrow's presentation to the MPA DSV Board on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2011. I provide an update on the improvement issues highlighted in your letter dated 22 February 2011 and referenced below:

**1) SCD2 unit to provide an update on the proportion of No-Crimes and CRI data and why this seems disproportionate when compared with the MPS average for No-crimes**

The No-Crime and Crime Related Incidents (CRI) figure for SCD2 Harrow for the reporting period is 29. This consists of 15 CRI's and 14 no crimes. All no crime and CRI decisions are made by the centrally based Crime Management Unit (CMU) and according to National Crime Recording Standards (NCRS). In respect of the comparatively high no crime rate for the reporting period all 14 crimes have been reviewed in the preparation of this report. 13 of these are confirmed no crime on the basis of additional verifiable evidence gathered during the course of the investigation which disproved the offence. One was no-crime on the basis that it was a duplicate report.

**2) Harrow BOCU to provide an outline of how bespoke community engagement has been developed, and to share learning with DSVB and Barnet Borough**

We have had positive working relations with Harrow community by initially forging strong working relationships with managers and professionals from lead agencies. Harrow Council Mike Howes recognised the need for coordination by funding and employing a motivated individual Jodie Darge as Harrows DSV coordinator. We have ensuing attendance and contributing to meaningful steering groups from all partners, and invited ideas and support. Work such as a World Cup initiative with visits to 150 licensed premises targeting perpetrators of DSV with a toilet poster and table beer mat campaign in all premises in Harrow throughout the World cup 2010. Our biggest success was White Ribbon Day where over one hundred Community members attended an event at our Civic Centre with speakers, presentations and a Question Time Panel. A pledge initiative for all those attending made it possible to reach five thousand people through e-mail and networking delivering a message of DSV. We are preparing now for this years event. Harrow has developed leaflets with referral points to support in multi languages Training for Faith Leaders and Faith Youth workers in DSV Workshops with targeted community groups e.g. Presentation to Asian Women's group using translator. Holiday Guidance to schools about FGM and Forced Marriage Engagement with Interfaith Council intervention and prevention work has taken place. Police performance figures have been used throughout to

bolster confidence in reporting. DI James McEvoy has had a meeting with Barnet's DI discussing and encouraging similar positive working practices. TPHQ have also been informed of this positive work.

**3)SCD2 to investigate low occurrence of under 18 year old figures for SCD2 and update the DSVB with any action taken and the outcome of this**

There is 0% for accused aged under 18 for incidents and offences as there were three accused for incidents and three accused for offences. None of which were aged 17 or under. There is 28.6% for accused aged under 18 for SD's as there were two SD accused aged 17 or under out of a total of seven SD records. The three records listed as Incidents and offences are also listed within the seven SD's. The other four SD's could have been recorded as incidents or offences prior to the date period looked at but became an SD during that time hence they do not show on the Incident or Offence lists but show on the SD results. Below is some sanitised raw data to assist in this explanation:

**Incidents**

Ref No	Hit Count	ACC Accused No	ACC Age	ACC Sex
A1	1	1	19	M
A2	1	1	25	M
A3	1	1	46	M

**Offences**

Crime No	Hit Count	ACC Accused No	ACC Age	ACC Sex
A1	1	1	19	M
A2	1	1	25	M
A3	1	1	46	M

**SD's**

Crime No	Hit Count	ACC Accused No	ACC Age	ACC Sex
A4	1	1	15	M
A5	1	1	15	M
A1	1	1	19	M
A6	1	1	23	M
A2	1	1	25	M

A7	1	1	45	M
A3	1	1	46	M

#### **4) Harrow BOCU to provide an update on adapting the Peckham gang violence work for DV**

Detective Chief Inspector Craig McKinlay has implemented this initiative supporting repeat victimisation in DSV. This is supported by the CSU DI James McEvoy ensuring positive action to bring offenders to justice. We have use of a system VOLT, Place Victim Offender Location Time approach, which we monitor daily. This ensures a quality service and prompt response. Arrest is ensured in these cases. A Victimless Prosecution Template (VPT) has been introduced by DCI McKinlay scoring risk to those who decline to support prosecution. The merits of mounting a victimless prosecution are measured. VPT promotes and secures a positive CPS response to charge. Cases are more likely to be entered into the Criminal Justice System (CJS) as a victimless prosecution. Since the introduction of this system we have had two such cases. Run parallel to this system is MARAC which seeks other problem solving solutions. Our two highest scoring chronic offenders are currently in custody which we continue to monitor. We have processes in place monitoring offending from cradle to custody using our PIN's licence, which alerts us to the release of offenders from prison. Key is victim updates as we travel through these processes which maintains our customer focus and satisfaction.

#### **5) Harrow to link in with Islington and Barking & Dagenham for best practice in linking health response and CSU work on DV**

Detective Inspector James McEvoy has liaised with Islington and Barking & Dagenham to link their ideas to Harrows NHS/PCT. Barking and Dagenham has been chosen as the London NHS regional demonstration site for Health based domestic violence initiatives. This MPA recommendation has provided positive and welcomed information sharing. Best Practice has been adopted and fed into Harrows DV Steering Group agenda with a view to promote the inclusion of DV as a priority in Harrows PCT/NHS "Health and Well Being Strategy".

#### **6) Harrow BOCU and SCD2 to confirm VCOP figures and whether there is any difference between overall VCOP compliance and that for domestic and sexual violence**

There is no overall VCOP compliance measure so this question has been answered using data from compliance with 28 day update - This is VCOP measure 5.09. It is not possible to run this data for the reporting period, VCOP data is a 'snapshot' incorporating all cases from 1st April 2006. The data is as follows: Harrow BOCU 91%, Harrow SCD2 72%. In respect of SCD2 data the CMU produce figures for VCOP 'failures' which are reviewed by SCD2 supervisors. These failures are invariably administrative errors in that there is a clear record within the investigation that the victim has been updated, however the officer has omitted to update the VCOP field. This is addressed by the appropriate supervisors with the officer concerned.

#### **7) Harrow BOCU to provide update regarding the McKinlay model; outcomes for the community and possibility of sharing best practice with other boroughs. The DSVB will also ensure that it highlights this as good practice in its Final Report to be published in July 2011.**

In addition to the risk assessments carried out as our Domestic Violence SOP. DCI Craig McKinlay, Harrow's Crime Manager has introduced a local risk matrix for cases where there is a named suspect not arrested for any allegation of crime. Compliance in the use of the matrix has been achieved and continues to be monitored by DI Ian Millar and at DMM. Where the final score is 12 or above immediate action is jointly taken by both uniformed staff and Investigators to reduce risk in line with

the risk matrix protocol. Domestic Violence features as a heightened risk factor attracting an immediate high scoring of 12 which ensures focus and the priority of Domestic Violence. Positives and the template have initially been shared with Ealing who are considering it as best practice.

**8)Harrow Borough Commander to identify how to share ward-level data on domestic violence with SNT's and the Harrow SNT Ward Panels provide an update to DSVB on any resulting changes. This again may be referred to in the DSVB Final Report.**

Consultation has taken place with Harrows Intelligence Unit, Domestic Violence, SNT lead and Harrow Council. It was recognised, The Borough can't dismiss any opportunity to identify Domestic Violence and consider the many effects DV has on its community. Examples such as the impact on others in built up areas when they experience their neighbours in dispute, arguing and disturbance effecting quality of life and the fear of violence. SNT have promoted ward panels supporting neighbours calling police to report suspected abuse. CSU will highlight risk cases to SNT Inspectors, disclosing high risk cases where an offender has been charged with bail conditions or a post conviction order against them. Making SNT aware of addresses where there are inharmonious relationships. The Inspector will confidentially brief SNT sergeants. BIU will provide an overall figure of DV related calls and arrests in the monthly SNT Newsletter. SNT will engage with Ward panels on a case to case basis when the risk is assessed as high, seeking assistance for a problem solving approach.

**9)Harrow Borough Commander to share his position on how good leadership works, which again the DSVB would like to highlight this as good practice (what we describe as a 'Critical Success Factor')**

The Borough Commander Dal Babu leads the Senior Management Team (SMT) who recognises the impact of Domestic and Sexual violence. SMT personally brief all new officers and staff on the importance in dealing with DSV and the inherent risks attached to it. They highlight both national and local statistics which bolsters the importance of a positive police response. All team briefings include the emphasis of the need to understand the position of victims of abuse and promotion of a zero tolerance approach when dealing with those responsible. In addition Harrows welcome pack includes practical information and illustrates the importance of dealing with Domestic Violence effectively. There is a focus on heightened risk factors, cycles of abuse and an emphasis to help and support victims and their families, and measures required to reduce the risk of harm. This practice extends to Harrows Safeguarding Hub MASH. There is recognition that dealing with Domestic Violence in a holistic way means that we problem solve the issue and ultimately will reduce or stop victims of crime and reduce demand on police and partners. The Detective Inspector in charge of the CSU routinely meets with the Borough Commander to discuss individual cases and general learning to maintain constant improvement to the victims of Domestic Violence.

The Borough Commander holds regular meetings with the lead political member for women's issues as well as a lead member for community safety. A review of all crime types and performance is part of the agenda. Domestic Violence is one the key crime types discussed and police and local authority take actions on any learning. The Daily Management Meeting DMM chaired by the Borough Commander or his Deputy reviews every recorded Domestic Incident with a view to ensure robust compliance on agreed Domestic Violence SOP. The Borough Commendation ceremony rewards officers who have supported victims' of Domestic Violence and values their work along with other types of crime.

Yours sincerely

James McEvoy  
Detective Inspector