

For Information	
Public/Non Public*	Public
Report to:	Police & Crime Panel
Date of Meeting:	20th April 2015
Report of:	Police and Crime Commissioner
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Agenda Item:	5

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

Update on Operation Daybreak and Operation Xeres

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 For the Police and Crime Commissioner to inform the Police and Crime Panel of the updates on two operations that are currently being investigated with regard to historic child abuse within Nottinghamshire children's care home establishments as it is a matter of significant public interest.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Panel notes the update by the Police and Crime Commissioner and the current position.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 In order that the Panel is able to satisfy its statutory responsibility under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 in scrutinising the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

4. Summary of Key Points

- 4.1 Operation Daybreak was first reported to the Police and Crime Panel on 15 September 2014. Two further reports have been reported to the Panel for information on 5 January and 2 February by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Operational Daybreak and Operation Xeres are operational matters under the Chief Constable.
- 4.2 Operation Daybreak is a historic police investigation, launched in 2011 in response to an original complaint in 2010 of physical and sexual abuse in the former Beechwood children's home.
- 4.3 The number of allegations to date stands at over 100. We are currently in phase 4 of the operation which has yielded 11 named suspects.

- 4.4 One male has been charged and is currently remanded, Ivan Bethell, 61, of Barnhill Road, Wembley. He was charged with two counts of indecent assault on a girl under 14; two counts of rape of a female aged under 16, one count of gross indecency with a girl under 14, two counts of inciting an act of gross indecency with a girl under 14, and three counts of incite a girl under 14.
- 4.5 There have been 24 new complaints since the national publicity on the 19th February 2015 (7 sexual, 4 physical, 1 emotional and 12 as yet undetermined, 3 of which are from serving prisoners).
- 4.6 There have been 2 further arrests. Both have been bailed pending further enquiries.
- 4.7 A further CPS charging decision is anticipated on the 23rd March 2015. Another suspect has now been re-arrested and interviewed regarding a rape in 1994 at Beechwood.
- 4.8 During this same period 98 complaints within civil proceedings have been made against Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City Councils. The allegations and complaints are in relation to alleged incidents within a period from 1960 to 2000. The investigation has continued to grow in its scale and complexity.
- 4.9 There is an in Force Gold Investigation structure. ACC Jupp is Gold, Superintendent Chamberlain Silver and TDCI Dales Bronze for Daybreak, DCI Luke Bronze for Xeres.
- 4.10 A Strategic Management group has been instigated in accordance with the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Boards child protection procedures. The staffing for this operation has been taken from current Public Protection staff.
- 4.11 In early November allegations were brought to light indicating that there were a number of complaints emanating from a series of care homes in north Nottinghamshire. Operation Xeres spans 40 years from the 1950s and concerns 10 children's establishments.
- 4.12 **Operation Xeres** currently has a total of 24 complaints with 40 named and unnamed offenders.
- 4.13 There is one current safeguarding issue which is being addressed through Local Authority working.
- 4.14 Operation Xeres has two dedicated Social Workers who are co-located within the investigation team who have been tasked with locating files and creating chronologies.

- 4.15 There is a national operation established named Operation Hydrant whose role it is to establish a national HOLMES database and is being populated with data received by police forces and referrals from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and the Home Office. Early assessment has found that a considerable number of cases being investigated across the country and this is placing huge demands upon the service. There will be regular contact between this Operation and the secretariat of the Home Office inquiry into historic child sexual abuse.
- 4.16 The force has commissioned and been subject to a number of independent reviews into our criminal investigation through the College of Policing, Leicestershire Police, and Operation Yewtree in order to ensure we are delivering the best possible service to victims in these complex enquiries.
- 4.17 While detailed and complex enquiries are on-going, we are working with colleagues in the Health service to develop appropriate health pathways for victims of non-recent abuse.
- 4.18 We are working with a small number of victims and their supporters in both cases who are engaged with social media, the local and national press. A number of complaints have been made against police officers. All of these individuals have been assigned a contact point within the service.

5. Financial Implications and Budget Provision

- 5.1 This presents clear financial and resourcing issues for the Force given the balance needing to be drawn in managing historical allegations and ensuring the current risk of reported abuse are investigated effectively particularly around child sexual exploitation. GOLD investigation structure has authorised the recruitment of an additional analyst to support Public Protection in managing the demands of this enquiry.

6. Human Resources Implications

- 6.1 Whilst the organisation works through the Delivering the Future (DtF) business cases, there are clear implications around the movement of resources based on risk, harm and threat. The Public Protection resources have been agreed based on the need to maintain the trajectory for force efficiencies and the re alignment of roles and responsibilities, in order to manage enquiries of this nature locally will mean resources are moved from other areas of business within a finite financial structure.

7. Equality Implications

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

8. Risk Management

- 8.1 Resourcing of Operation Daybreak already features on the Risk Register
- 8.2 Risks associated with the DtF are raised within the business cases for Public Protection and relate to the ability to manage the increased workload given the differential in staffing.

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

- 9.1 Not applicable.

10. Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations

- 10.1 Not applicable.

11. Details of outcome of consultation

- 11.1 Not applicable.

12. Appendices

- 12.1 None

13. Background Papers (relevant for Police and Crime Panel Only)

- 13. None