

**FOI 0722**

Thank you for your email and further enquiry, I am pleased to advise the following:

Operation Deter is run by Thames Valley Police. It was developed following a series of incidents in Milton Keynes. The Police & Crime Commissioner, in his role of holding the Force to account, challenged senior officers on the processes within the Force that lead, amongst other things, to the number of RUIs, particularly for knife possession offences.

Following discussions with Chief Officers on the subject, the Head of Criminal Justice was tasked by the Chief Constable’s Management Team (CCMT) with drawing up formal proposals that included the potential for the use of police charging and early intervention in custody. These plans were put to CCMT and agreed for implementation. The PCC was kept informed of the progress of these plans by the Chief Constable and other senior officers.

In addition to the operational policing element of Op Deter, there is a significant element of public engagement (managed by the OPCC as the budget holder for the work and co-ordinated with the Force and the VRU), as well as an investment of approximately £170,000 by the PCC into the Milton Keynes Youth Offending Team. Following the operating decision of the Force to embark on Op Deter, the PCC convened a meeting of partners to ensure the timetable for implementing all of these elements and launching the operation was co-ordinated. The PCC is kept up-to-date on the performance of the operation by the Chief Constable and the Criminal Justice team and the Force’s media office have co-ordinated press announcements with the OPCC.

All of the operational elements of both the implementation of the operation and the individual decisions relating to the progression of cases remain operational. The PCC has set out his expectation that the Force should be proactively dealing with knife crime in Milton Keynes, and spreading the learning from this across the Force. The PCC will continue to hold the Chief Constable to account by scrutinising the activity in this area on behalf of the public. Aside from the operational policing elements, the PCC has also lead in the funding of the MK YOT, discussions with the council, and engagement with the wider community.

Yours sincerely

Jim Katouzian

Governance Manager

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner