Members Questions – 2019

Cllr Jonathon Seed raised at the 17 January meeting.

S: 05:02.19

A: 14.03.19

Salisbury City Council Application for Community Safety Accreditation Scheme powers

Salisbury City Council contracts two "stewards" from a Company called "Venture Security" to provide a level of support to the public, City Council and police around anti-social behaviour, street drinking and aggressive begging while generally keeping watch over the "estate" and City Centre. They work closely with Wiltshire Council Housing and Rough Sleeping teams and keep a day to day eye on the health and well-being of some of the city less fortunate.

To assist further in their duties and to provide more support to the police SCC have been asking for Community Safety Accreditation Scheme powers (CSAS) for a considerable time, and while all concerned have said this would be a very positive step forward

I would like to ask the Commissioner to look into when or if Salisbury CSAS powers will be signed off.

Salisbury City Council Application for Community Safety Accreditation Scheme powers

It is the company Venture Security which has applied to Wiltshire Police for Community Safety Accreditation Scheme powers and not Salisbury City Council itself. The City Council is proposing to use Venture Security to provide the stewards and the company also wishes to operate in Hampshire. Therefore, to avoid duplication of work, Wiltshire Police is working with Hampshire Police, which is currently vetting a number of stewards to be used by Venture Security. Wiltshire vetting have agreed that it will accept the Hampshire vetting so as not to require the process to be carried out twice. This takes time and is the longest part of the process. Once appropriately vetted individuals have been identified, the force will be able to consider the application for CSAS powers and a report will be submitted to the Chief Constable who will decide whether CSAS status will be granted. We have

no control over the length of time the vetting process takes but the Force are fully engaged with Hampshire and will consider the application as soon as possible.

Cllr Abdul Amin

Why does Wiltshire have the lowest number of Police force in the Country.

R: 05.02.19

S: 05.02.19

A:07.03.19

Wiltshire does have the lowest police officers per head of population in England and Wales - 105 police officers per 100,000 people, compared with England and Wales average of 208 per 100,000 people (180 - excluding the Met).

The main factor, given around 80% of the police budget is spent on staff - is the total funding we receive. The table for number of police officers per head mirrors the total funding of the police area. As we all know Wiltshire is one of the lowest funding forces in the country.

I am trying to address this, taking every flexibility on local precept, as discussed during the precept consultation, this will enable me to increase police officers by 43. However almost every other PCC has used the same flexibility. As such our relative position of the lowest officer head of population is unlikely to change.

Only by addressing the unfair national funding formula will ensure that Wiltshire is not disadvantaged. I will continue to lobby central government to address the unfair national funding formula that they use to allocate funding. I understand that this will be considered as part of the comprehensive spending review, I will continue to raise it with ministers to ensure it is.

Cllr Jonathon Seed

R: 13.03.19

S: 13.03.19

Community Police Teams – Please could the PCC outline how CPT officers are deployed? How many of those allocated to CPT duties are allocated to response tasks within their sector. How many are allocated to duties within their communities?

The previous knife crime statistics seen by the Panel were encouraging. What are the latest statistics and is the encouraging trend continuing?

Please can the Commissioner give figures for the number of victims of crime seen and supported through the criminal justice system by staff of the Horizon Centre?

Please can the Commissioner give the latest update and crime prevention statistics achieved by the Bobby Van Trust?