



Questions from the Police and Crime Panel Members

Received during the last meeting which was held on 4th February

1. NPCC – Top slicing costs of membership support -would be good to know how much it costs us (Clive to provide the costs to Cllr Seed)

Response:

Wiltshire Police's contributions to NPCC for the year 2020/21 are £ 13,345. The 2020/21 NPCC budget and funding contributions were agreed at Chief Constables' Council on January 16th, 2020.

2. Can you look at the level of policing in Cllr Amin's wards in Swindon - PCC to consider the level of policing in Cllr Amin's wards in Swindon and to update Cllr Amin directly

Response:

The Community Policing Teams, which are at the heart of the local policing model, build strong connections with our communities which empowers them to solve safety problems with partners at their earliest stages. As the members have been informed, in 2019, the organisation critically assessed the CPT frontline model, comparing both the local and national picture. As a result, Wiltshire Police conducted a review into how community policing is delivered in our county to make sure it evolves to meet the changing demands on policing in the 21st Century.

The CPT Operational Improvement Programme was established to implement improvements to the delivery of Operational Policing. This strand focused on delivering Neighbourhood Policing, whilst ensuring that the configuration of Public Protection Units and Criminal Investigations Departments are optimal and driving our workforce towards identifying and mitigating threat, harm, risk and vulnerability.

A new Optimal Model for the delivery of Community Policing within Wiltshire has developed two variants, one for Swindon and one for the Wiltshire County. When Swindon model changed from 2 to 3 Neighbourhood Inspectors, a thorough review of demand across each neighbourhood was conducted. The review considered the demand down to individual beat area. This demand was reviewed based on data from crime and incident levels of the previous 12 months. This evidence-based approach which incorporated growth/decline predictions, allowed Wiltshire Police to allocate a set percentage of the business to each area, and therefore determine how to best staff across areas.

At the same time, the type of resource was tailored to suit the needs of the location, such as PCSO resources for highly populated areas versus police officers for areas where the business required the use of their powers more, such as fast moving roads where enforcement would be required. The outcome of this exercise allowed for the resources to be split fairly across Swindon.

In addition, although Swindon is led by 3 Neighbourhood Inspectors, Wiltshire Police employs a 'soft borders' approach so that resources can be moved around according to demand as peaks and troughs can occur on a daily basis – a recent example being the knife attack in the town centre which led to resources from all three areas patrolling the location for the evenings that followed to offer reassurance to the community.

I hold the Chief Constable to account on the force performance during our 1-2-1 meetings or during my Monitoring Board which takes place every two weeks. The Chief is specifically asked to report on any high impact local operational issues affecting our communities to ensure that I have a full oversight of any significant issues and changes in demand.