

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

A:08.04.19

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?

There are a number of roles with our CPT model, however primarily teams are made up of Sgts, PCs, LCIs and PCSOs. All these roles are deployed in the same way,

namely a team will arrive for a shift, will enter into briefing (where there Sgt may deploy or task to key priorities) following which the team will exit the briefing to complete their duties within their communities. All roles will carry differing workloads, some of these will be as a result of a reactive request (radio dispatch, following a 999 call) or an investigation following a report of crime from a member of the public. Some of these tasks will be proactive, community focused and not necessarily response, for example pulse patrols, engagement at schools or improved visibility within hot spot areas. Whether proactive or reactive, the teams will own and work on tasks/duties for their communities. We do not actively split roles into response and community work, we expect that CPT staff are actually all community focused first, responding as and when needed.

Cllr Jonathon Seed

R:13.03.19

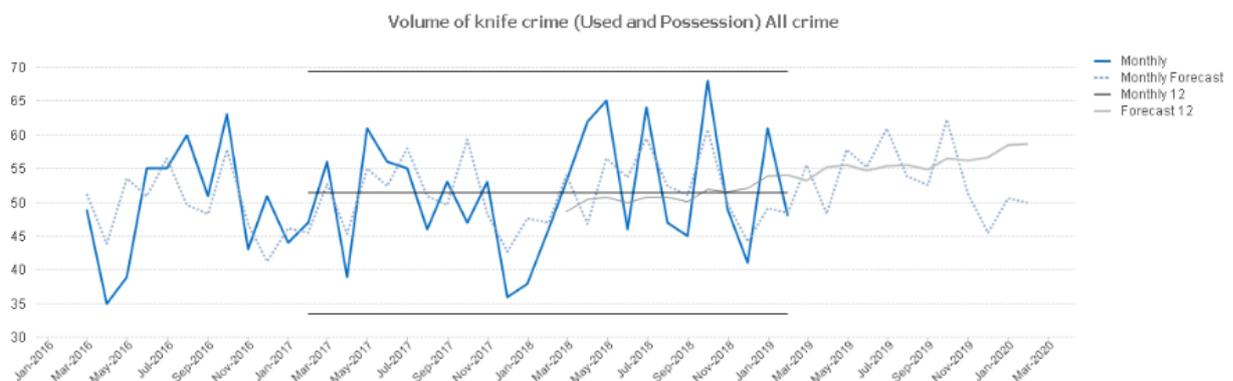
S:13.03.19

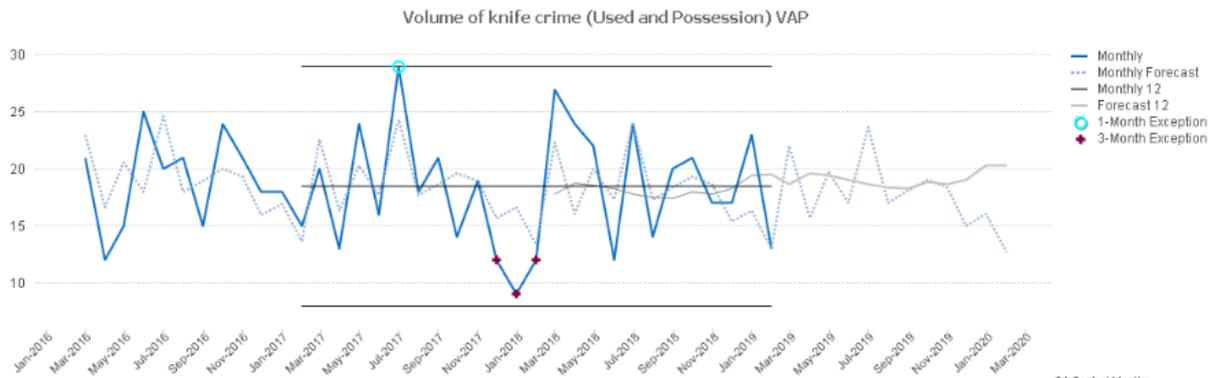
A: 08.04.19

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?

The first graph represents all Knife Crime. This represent all crimes where a tag for either a knife/ blade has been used/ threatened or possessed. The below chart highlights a slight increasing trend in knife crime with a forecasted increase. The second graph represents Knife Crime with the same methodology but only applied to offence classed as Violence Against the Person (VAP) this show a stable volume and trend.





It should also be noted that Annual Data returns that are submitted to the Home Office around knife crime use the methodology highlight below. When comparing data from 12/13 to 17/18 – Wiltshire has seen an increase in volume. This has gone from 102 offences to 267 offences – 162% increase. Over this time, VAP crimes have seen increases (nationally) alongside the improvements around data quality within our recorded occurrences.

Methodology

ADR returns (Home office website) include sharp instrument and knife/blade crime and specific classifications of crime (Homicide, attempted murder, threats to kill, assault with injury and assault with intent to cause serious harm, robbery, rape and sexual assault).

Cllr Jonathon Seed

R:13.03.19

S:13.03.19

A: 08.04.19

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

The Bobby Van Trust is a registered charity which has its own accounts and data. The OPCC does not have access to this and so the charity would have to be approached separately for a response to this question.

Cllr Jonathon Seed

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A: 08.04.19

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.



Response to C Seed
question - Horizon.;

Cllr Richard Britton

R:15.05.19

S:15.05.19

A: 04.06.19

Dear Commissioner,

I refer to the recent press statement from the Chief Constable regarding his additions to his senior management team.

Please could you tell me whether you were aware of these proposals at the time you presented your budget proposals and MTFs to the Police and Crime Panel.

Thank you.

Richard

Cllr Richard Britton

Chairman, Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel

In December, I appointed Kier Pritchard as Chief Constable after a competitive interview process. This followed his exemplary performance in the acting-up role, which commenced the very day the nerve incident attack was revealed. He has now appointed a Deputy and two Assistant Chief Constables. These appointments replace the acting roles. Contrary to some press reporting, the size of the management team has not increased.
