



STOWMARKET PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting was held at Blackbourne Centre Elmswell on 25th May 2017 1900 hrs.

PRESENT:

Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner

Tim Passmore (Police & Crime Commissioner), and Chris Jackson (CEO Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Virginia Taber (Correspondence and Support Officer)

Suffolk Constabulary

Kim Markus Warner (Superintendent, West), Acting Inspector Andy Martin (Locality Inspector Stowmarket).
Stowmarket Police Cadet Unit

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER OVERVIEW

The PCC welcomed 29 members of the public and the Police Cadets to the meeting and made introductions. The PCC spoke briefly about the key elements of his role and current priorities. A copy of his handout will be attached to these notes for the record.

POLICING UPDATE

Acting Inspector Andy Martin introduced himself and spoke about policing in the locality; a copy of his handout is available for the record.

QUESTIONS ASKED AND SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

- *Why so many questions were asked when reporting a Crime on 101.*

Supt. Warner explained that calls to Suffolk Constabulary were graded using the THRIVE (Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigative opportunities, Vulnerability and Engagement Opportunities.) This is the reason that the questions are asked in order to ascertain all relevant information from the caller. This enabled the call taker to respond in the most appropriate way to the call.

- *101 response*

Concern was expressed about delays in responding to 101. Tim explained that he had made a significant investment into improving an old system that needed updating. The new telephony system was expected to go live later this year. Recent

information received about calls was that the average time for a call to be answered is 3.5 minutes.

- *Anti-social behaviour*

Concerns were voiced that this was not being tackled since the hours of duty were changed for PCSO's. It was explained that financial prioritisation has meant that PCSO's are being used during the day time for problem solving. Officers from local SNT's are to form ASB teams and are able to serve Community Protection Notices. A review of PCSO's shift patterns is being undertaken.

- *Parking issues – outside schools*

Tim explained that the transitioning of parking enforcement to Borough and District Councils was well underway and it is anticipated that Civilian Parking Enforcement (CPE) will be in force throughout the County within 18 months. Acting Inspector Martin explained that with 80 parishes in his area covering a large geographical area it was difficult to respond to all requests to deal with anti-social parking outside schools. He said that he was working with schools to overcome this problem.

- *Police attendance at Parish Meeting and Police Parish reports*

As a result of the introduction of the Local Policing Model routine attendance of Officers at Council meetings was no longer taking place. However if there was a specific issue to be addressed and if notice was given and operationally it could be achieved then a representative could be sent to a meeting but this was to be seen as the exception.

The newsletters that were published on the Suffolk Constabulary website were being revamped to be more inclusive and relevant. There was no problem with these newsletters being reproduced in Parish newsletters or displayed on notice boards.

- *Changing nature of Crime*

The question was asked about Country versus Town and it was perceived that more resources were going to urban areas. Tim reported that a Strategy for Rural Policing in Suffolk had been launched on 1st March 2017 and that whilst it was recognised that there was a difference in the types of crime experience but that some crimes were universal and resources were allocated according to demand but also balancing need, ensuring that Suffolk Constabulary was effective and efficient for everyone in Suffolk.

- *Visibility of Officers*

Concern was expressed about the lack of visibility of Police Officers. Tim explained that he was campaigning for a fairer deal for Suffolk to ensure that Suffolk received more funding in the police grant. Suffolk received 44 pence per day per head of population compared with Norfolk who receive 50 pence. This would equate to an extra £ 3 million pounds. Tim further told the meeting that he had met with the Policing Minister to press the case for Suffolk and was seeking support from all Suffolk MP'S to achieve this.

The PCC thanked everyone and thanked the Police cadets for their help in service tea and coffee and closed the meeting at 20.30 hrs.