Sussex Police and Crime Panel

4 July 2016

Written Questions

Report by the Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel

The table below provides a schedule of the written questions received prior to this meeting and where possible responses have been included. Responses will be tabled at the meeting that were not available at the time of despatch. Written Questions must be received 2 weeks before a meeting of the Panel and the Commissioner or Panel Chairman is invited to provide a response by noon of the day before the meeting.

Questions that relate to operational matters of Sussex Police will be passed to a relevant officer at Sussex Police for a response and a brief summary of the question will be provided below. For the current meeting two questions have been received for a response by the Commissioner.

Question

During the Sussex PCC term of office she has set up elders and youth panels but has not got a panel for those with disabilities like autism, specific learning disabilities and mental health. If the PCC is re-elected on 5th May 2016, would she set up a disability panel of people who are registered with Sussex Police under the Pegasus Scheme. Can the PCC advise how many people like myself with autism are registered on Pegasus Scheme?

Richard Nixon of Crawley

Response

Sussex Police has a representative disability forum that informs the services they provide.

There are currently 154 Pegasus card holders, information on the scheme can be found here: http://www.sussex.police.uk/contact-us/accessible-contact-methods/pegasus-scheme/

Sussex Police has established an external disability reference group; information on this and how to get involved is published on their website here:

http://www.sussex.police.uk/aboutus/governance/equality-and-diversity/equalityand-diversity-disability-and-mental-health/

I hold a bi-annual Equality and Diversity meeting where I hold the Chief Constable to account for the way Sussex Police deliver their services to all groups within the community, including those with disabilities.

I also have existing partnership and consultation arrangements with several external groups representing people with a range of disabilities, including the Eastbourne Disability Involvement Group run by Eastbourne Borough Council.

A question was asked on an ongoing investigation in Crawley. The questioner is asked to liaise with Sussex Police directly on this matter.

Richard Nixon of Crawley

Why has little or nothing happened to resolve the awful parking situation which exists in some parts of Sussex?

In our town, parking enforcement is the responsibility of the police and yet they continually refuse to meet their obligations on this issue. People park their vehicles on corners, double yellow lines, loading bays,, 2hour spaces, disabled bays etc all day without any penalties ever issues.

What will the PCC do within his/her Police and Crime Plan to address this?

Stephen Atkinson-Jones of Bexhill on Sea.

As Mr Atkinson-Jones has said, enforcement of parking within the Rother District is the responsibility of Sussex Police and not the Police & Crime Commissioner. Temporary Superintendent Warren Franklin will be attending a meeting of the Rother District Council Scrutiny Committee on the 25 July 2016. The meeting will be held in public and will include a detailed discussion on parking in Rother. Details of the meeting are available on the Rother District Council website: www.rother.gov.uk. The agenda will be published on the 15 July 2016.

My experience when calling in a domestic infraction such as excessive noise from a neighbour or dogs' chronic barking etc is that it leads to a drawn out affair, a great deal of passing the buck, such as it's not our jurisdiction or you have to write in to the authority and specify times and dates etc.

Homeowners want immediate action on these issues. Our taxes which pay your salaries should be respected by your response to callouts being dealt with appropriately and to the satisfaction of the plaintiff or complainant.

Dr. J Silver, St Leonards on Sea

The Chief Constable aims to ensure the Force makes the most effective use of available resources to provide Sussex with appropriate levels of local policing.

The Chief Constable is reviewing the way local areas are policed through a 'Local Policing Programme (LPP)' and in the future local prevention teams will be focused on targeted problem solving activity based on threat, risk and harm by more multi-skilled officers and PCSO's, making the role more responsive to solve local problems.

As PCC, I am closely monitoring the roll out of the LPP with the Chief Constable and his senior team and continuously engaging with the many communities I meet as to how best this will support the policing requirements the public of Sussex want and need.

I live right next to Brighton station. There is often rowdy drunken behaviour late at night. There is also a lot of people who could have the reassurance of a police presence if you had a permanent police box there on the plaza.

A small investment for a significant impact as visitors would see this as they enter Brighton as well

Richard Partridge, Brighton.

I quite understand the sentiments that Mr Partridge has raised here. A similar issue was brought to my attention by members of the public in St Leonards on Sea and I fully supported the Force in the development of a police hub in the area. Having said that, the Station Plaza in Brighton falls under the jurisdiction of the British Transport Police (BTP), whose own station is approximately 500 yards away. The Plaza is private premises and is specifically policed by BTP and their wider partners linked to the railway infrastructure.

Dedicated officers from Sussex Police are actively patrolling the night time economy on Friday and Saturday nights. The patrols are intelligence led, focused, and target known hot spots for crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour (ASB) and other vulnerable locations linked to wider crime risks.

Sussex Police has a close working relationship with local the BTP and the issues raised by the questioner will be shared with BTP.

In the last two weeks Sussex Police, along with Trading Standards, Environmental Health, Immigration and HMRC visited a number of premises, including a pub next to the station and it has been closed since.

No Background Papers