

Sussex Police and Crime Panel

23 September 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 3 questions have been received for a response by the Commissioner.

Question	Response
<p>When is something going to be done about the appalling level of street drinking in Hastings town centre? The associated daytime group drunkenness, drug taking and begging is not just an awful image to present to visitors to Hastings and to shoppers, including families with young children, but I feel sure is a significant factor in local crime.</p> <p>Mr Colin Grimshaw, Hastings</p>	<p>Thank you for this question, I am very aware of the emerging issues in Hastings and St Leonards and the impact that they are having. I have met with Sussex Police and other agencies to discuss ways that this antisocial behaviour can be addressed.</p> <p>In August Sussex Police launched an operation in the town centre to identify and target antisocial behaviour, and to enforce the designated public place order. A number of arrests were made during this time for a variety of offences.</p> <p>In relation to the street community, Sussex Police are currently working with a number of services and agencies around the issue. There is a vulnerable group of individuals with many complex needs and they require a multiagency response, and enforcement alone may not always be the right option. Agencies involved include Hastings Borough council, SHORE (Sussex Homeless Outreach Reconnection and Engagement), St Mungos, Seaview, Housing, and NHA. Hastings also has a dedicated rough sleeper officer working as part of this multiagency response.</p> <p>Sussex Police are continually addressing and improving how they work with other agencies to address issues raised in relation to drug use by individuals as some of them are also vulnerable or already undertaking rehabilitative treatment. They also rely on intelligence or information to target drug dealing in Hastings and Rother.</p> <p>If Mr Grimshaw would like to make any specific reports of anti-social behaviour, he can do that</p>

	<p>by reporting them to Sussex Police. If there has been an incident reported, that he would like an update on, he can call my office on 01273 481561 and we will put him in touch with the local team.</p>
<p>Please can you explain why the Police are no longer providing detailed burglary details to Adur NHW for their newsletter, which was the only way you had left to communicate with members of the public who do not have computers, since the demise of proactive policing?</p> <p>David Hansford, Lancing Community Panel</p>	<p>In April 2016 Sussex and Surrey Police launched a new Neighbourhood Alert system called 'In the Know.' This system is more sophisticated than the previous one and allows the messages that they send to be tailored to the communities they are serving.</p> <p>Sending long lists of individual cases of less serious crime to lots of smaller areas within Sussex was time consuming for the Police and did not provide any real value or benefit for policing or the public.</p> <p>Instead Sussex Police now provide subscribers including Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) with weekly summaries of crime trends, crime prevention advice and information where appropriate, of policing in the district where those subscribers live.</p> <p>The weekly summary lists crime trends, including burglaries, if relevant, and the summary can be shared with people who may be interested in receiving it, including sharing with those that may not have access to a computer. If you are not receiving these summaries, please contact my office and we will liaise with the appropriate officers within the Force to make sure that you receive them in the future. For those subscribers or for NHW co-ordinators who still want to know or share more local level crime data not featured in the weekly bulletins, this can be found on www.police.uk by typing in your postcode.</p> <p>As well as weekly bulletins, if there is a need based on threat, risk and harm, Sussex Police will send information about higher priority or more serious crime and incidents through individual messages called 'alerts' to those living in the area affected. These crimes may also appear on the Sussex Police website (www.sussex.police.uk) as a press release, and will be posted to social media through the local district accounts and where appropriate the Force social media accounts.</p>

No Background Papers