

TO: Leader and Cabinet, 8 September 2011

POLICING REPORT

Neighbourhood Panel Meetings

1. Of the neighbourhood panel meetings (three in total since the beginning of the summer, Sawston, Swavesey and Cambourne) I attend on the whole crime has gone up since the last quarter, this is due periodically to the better weather and longer nights and schools breaking up to name some of the reasons, but this is not an unexpected trend upwards and is in line for this time of year.
2. The neighbourhood panels are great ways for members of the public, parish councillors, district and county councillors to voice concerns on issues that are happening locally. A set of priorities are set at each meeting, which is then reviewed at subsequent meetings to see what has been achieved.
3. Common themes looked at by the Panels are, parking outside schools, parking in high streets, parking on pavements, speeding and Anti-social Behaviour.
4. Speedwatch information is very useful, recorded and is encouraged among parishes; equipment is available on loan.
5. South Cambs police did in fact have two off road bikes which until recently were scrapped, these were useful in off-road offences and I am keen to get these reintroduced.
6. It has been reported that callers to the non emergency number 0345 456 4564 are having to wait 10 minutes to speak to an operator, this has been noted and there are trials in the UK for another emergency number 101. I will keep you informed.

The South Cambridgeshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP)

7. The CDRP met on 26 July 2011.
8. What was clear here was the need for all authorities to work together on this and with each partner, Police, Fire, NHS. etc.
9. A lot of crime is committed by the same persons known to the police and which involve many cross partners, this obviously takes resources and time so, looking forward, a more streamlined process is being looked into.
10. The Chairman noted that Jean Hunter, Chief Executive, had agreed to Chair and therefore steer the District Tasking and Co-Ordination Group's discussions and progress.
11. Farm crime was a priority from the last meeting, and although this was a priority it has not reduced. I asked that it remained a priority, I also asked that if a farm building such as a residence is burgled does it count as a farm crime or a dwelling burglary. The answer I got was to do with home office guidelines as to what category a burglary comes under.

Cambridgeshire Police & Police Authority

12. Cambridgeshire police sent officers to the recent riots in London, and a letter of thanks was sent from the Commissioner.
13. In the coming months there will be changes to the Cambridgeshire Police Authority whose main job currently is:
 - Hold the Chief Constable to account
 - Set policing priorities and targets
 - Scrutinise police performance
 - Monitor the police budget
 - Ensure value for money
 - Engage with the public to influence policing delivery
14. Cambridgeshire Police Authority is an independent watchdog that is responsible for overseeing the work of Cambridgeshire Constabulary. It makes sure the Constabulary operates as efficiently and effectively as possible within the available resources.
15. I will let you know the changes when I get further details.
16. Cambridgeshire Constabulary is reviewing all its business processes and practises as part of a comprehensive programme of change.
17. Members have been contacted by the Engagement Project Board who are keen to seek our views to ensure that any future strategy and processes complement those of our organisation, our own thoughts as elected Members and our understanding of what the people we represent want. Hopefully many members would have responded to this.

**Cllr Ben Shelton
Cabinet Policing Champion
30 August 2011**