



**Council**

**Monday 13 December 2021**

**Agenda Item 4, Thames Valley Police - Address by Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner**

Members were asked to submit questions in advance of the meeting. The following questions were submitted (listed in the order submitted).

	<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Question</b>
1.	Cllr John Broad	Bicester West	<p>“At the last council event where we asked questions to the Chief Constable and the PCC I asked why the Thames Valley force cannot provide accurate figures for the theft of motorcycles. I seem to remember that the answer was they would get back to me.</p> <p>Well, they still cannot provide this data and so I need to ask again for accurate data on the theft of motorcycles across the Thames Valley Force only this time I don't want to be fobbed off. I do know that when this was asked in an FOI by a motorcycling lobby group the PCC failed to provide the data saying it was too difficult and time consuming to extract quoting the time limit as a reason not to comply.</p> <p>If the PCC is minded to answer my question in the same manner I further ask him to provide all the theft of all motor vehicle data on a memory stick to enable the work to be carried out beyond the force employees.</p> <p>There are a couple of reasons why I want this data apart from the obvious of wanting to know the size of the problem of motorcycle theft in the Thames Valley force area. The other reason is that I am seriously concerned that if this data is not readily available to the PCC, how can he plan the workload for the force and what other data is unable to be extrapolated so that he can manage the workforce to deal with items.”</p>
2.	Cllr Andrew McHugh	Adderbury, Bloxham and Bodicote	<p>“I understand Thames Valley is due to receive around 220 additional police officers in 22/23.</p> <p>Can the Commissioner or the Chief Constable give an indication of how these 220 officers will be</p>

			<p>deployed?</p> <p>Is he able to give any reassurance that the deployment of additional police officers across Thames Valley will have regard to pockets of considerable population?"</p>
3.	Cllr Andrew McHugh	Adderbury, Bloxham and Bodicote	<p>"Can the Commissioner outline what the Police have been doing to disrupt County Drug Lines and other Organised Crime Gangs operating in Cherwell?"</p>
4.	Cllr Bryn Williams	Deddington	<p>"With the increase in traffic within our district and inevitably the frequency of those exceeding current speed limits members welcome OCC's initiative that towns and villages consider replacing 30mph limits with 20mph where practical.</p> <p>However, parishes within my ward, whilst positive about a reduction in speed through their villages, are concerned by reports that TVP are likely to not have the capacity to police the new 20mph zones.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt, can the Commissioner/Chief Constable clarify what resource TVP can allocate to the policing of these (and existing) speed limits within our towns and villages as at present there is confusion and hesitation from parishes whether to proceed if reduced limits will not be policed."</p>
5.	Councillor Andy Beere	Banbury Grimsbury & Hightown	<p>"Given that the emergency services and all local authorities have changed the way they operate in the pandemic, have the TVP, Oxfordshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service (RFS) and local authorities (unitary, county and district) come to any published conclusions as to how Civil Protection Support rather than Law Enforcement in the role of TVP can be improved in this enduring Social and Public Health scenario."</p>
6.	Councillor Lucinda Wing	Bicester South and Ambrosden	<p>"Commissioner, I think I can speak for most of us in the chamber, and our communities, when I say that we have been horrified by reports of increases in domestic violence and heinous crimes such as the murders of Sarah Everard, Bibaa Henry and Nicole Smallman -- and the subsequent treatment of these women by those who are employed to protect them.</p> <p>Last month the government published a strategy on tackling violence against women and girls. This</p>

			<p>drew on extensive evidence from the many victims and survivors who provided testimonies as part of a call for evidence. In total 180,000 responses were received, the largest ever consultation by the government in this area.</p> <p>The government's strategy has three objectives - the second being an increase in the number of perpetrators brought to justice and increased victim engagement with the police and public service response. In light of this, do you think it would be appropriate for you to identify a sixth priority that specifically addresses violence against women and girls?"</p>
7.	Cllr Andrew McHugh	Adderbury, Bloxham and Bodicote	<p>"Commissioner,</p> <p>I understand it your intention to upgrade police radios to ensure that all front-line staff, including Special Constables, will have GPS enabled equipment. Will this upgrade include Local Authority Community Wardens who also wear and use police radios?"</p>
8.	Cllr Andrew McHugh	Adderbury, Bloxham and Bodicote	<p>"At the last Cherwell Community Safety Partnership meeting we reviewed the Cherwell elements of the Strategic Intelligence Assessment.</p> <p>One point that arose was that the Police have seen a sharp increase in stalking and harassment. For Cherwell this was a change from 852 for Jan to Dec 2019 to 1,259 Jan to Dec 2020.</p> <p>Is this a real increase or a function of how stalking and harassment is recorded? If the increase is real, are you operationally comfortable with the increase?"</p>
9.	Cllr Andrew McHugh	Adderbury, Bloxham and Bodicote	<p>"Following the killing of Sarah Everard and other events, violence against women and girls is now firmly on the national agenda.</p> <p>Your office has channelled funds to local areas to address this issue and that is welcome. However, Cherwell has not benefited from any of this funding since it goes to the areas that can demonstrate the highest need.</p> <p>For a small Community Safety Partnership such as ours it is challenging to develop bids/ proposals when funding is distributed in this way. You need analytical capacity to develop the bid to</p>

			<p>demonstrate the need, evidence the spending will make a difference, etc. Hence the funding will naturally tend to go to areas where there is higher crime and bigger community safety teams that have capacity to form bids against the funding criteria.</p> <p>This may be defensible but there is a risk that towns like Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington could be overlooked as a result. Is there any way this could be addressed?"</p>
10.	Councillor Sean Woodcock	Banbury Ruscote	<p>"How many Christmas gatherings in breach of COVID guidance were attended by Thames Valley Police in Cherwell last year? And how much was recouped in fines?"</p>