

## **1. Warwickshire County Council**

The County Council welcomes the opportunity to respond to the draft Police and Crime Plan.

Warwickshire County Council (WCC) recognise that the contribution of partner organisations, including WCC, to the prevention of crime and promotion of community safety is reflected to some extent in the current draft plan. The County Council makes a considerable contribution to Community Safety and Criminal Justice issues.

Some of the funding streams that were previously administered on behalf of the County are now allocated to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC). It is noted and welcomed that the PCC intends to fund evidence-based programmes and initiatives and support many of the areas of work delivered by or on behalf of the County Council.

WCC has staff with specific commissioning, analysis and other skills that the OPCC may wish to draw on. We are fully committed to working with the PCC to ensure that we maximise the return on investment for the citizens of Warwickshire.

The Council looks forward to working with the PCC both to develop the detailed plan and as a new and important partner.

### Specific points:

#### Executive Summary, 'Answerability'

WCC agrees with the PCC responding to the views of citizen's.

WCC would wish to be specifically recognised as an important partner organisation. 'Crime and Safety Partnerships' should read 'Community Safety Partnerships'

#### 'My Priorities'

It is understood that the Strategic Alliance with West Mercia Police Force has the potential to release savings through sharing of resources and economies of scale. However, we would wish to see the needs of Warwickshire as a whole and those of its various communities being championed by the PCC.

Early Intervention – many WCC direct and commissioned services have a role to play in early intervention as does the Priority Families initiative. The PCC's stated support for this work is welcomed as is his commitment to supporting victims.

Communications – it is anticipated that WCC will be able to assist the PCC in communicating with the Warwickshire population. The PCC may wish to respond to Community Forum Priorities as set by the public. The PCC feeding back on these may be seen a visible indication of the OPCC in action.

□ Finances – WCC, along with most other public sector organisations, face reducing funding but is committed to maintaining as high a level of service and protection as possible for its citizens. It is recognised that this may be best achieved through true partnership working and collaboration.

### Introduction

The PCC may also wish to take note of the Strategic Assessments prepared for each CSP by the Warwickshire Observatory and Needs Assessments prepared for services such as Drug and Alcohol Treatment.

Section 3, Page 9 – 2011 estimates show 231,000 households in the County

### Crime in Warwickshire (4.5)

WCC can provide help and support through the analyst posts funded in the Warwickshire Observatory in monitoring crime levels and identifying important new trends.

WCC considers cross-border crime a particular issue for many areas of the county and that it should receive special consideration.

WCC welcomes the PCC's recognition of safeguarding of vulnerable children and adults as a priority.

### Objective 1 (6.1)

WCC agrees with the aim to reduce crime related to drugs and alcohol and also to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour but would recommend a quality measure (as opposed to volume).

We also agree that tackling known offenders and reducing their re-offending is a particularly effective way of reducing crime. Again, analytical support will assist in better understanding crime and disorder issues and potentially identify better ways of working.

We would welcome the PCC's endorsement and support for identifying vulnerable victims and in particular the systematic sharing of information between agencies that may facilitate early detection of multiple referrals.

### Objective 2 (6.2)

WCC fully supports the PCC's concentration on the four key priority areas of Hate Crime; Domestic Abuse; Sexual Violence and Abuse and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Children. The Council has taken action and leads on or is significantly involved in all four areas. The pivotal role of some WCC services and our collaborative, holistic approach is not currently reflected in the detailed actions and we would wish to assist the PCC in strengthening this section of the plan. We support various aspects of early intervention and would not want the single example given in the plan to artificially limit our joint work in this field.

### Objective 3 (6.3)

WCC supports the PCC's intention to take account of local views and will assist this process where possible.

### Objective 4 (6.4)

WCC supports efficient working practices that will develop from the strategic alliance with West Mercia. However, these changes should involve partners potentially affected by any changes.

### Objective 5

WCC would welcome the PCC's specific support for the 'Prevent' agenda and recognition of the partnership work needed to achieve success in this area of counter-terrorism.

### Accountability and Performance (7)

The nature of crime, disorder and public safety is that, in most cases, no single organisation can achieve progress without the support of others. WCC will work with the PCC and other partners to build on our current performance measures and develop targets.

### Resources (10)

The Council welcomes the PCC's intention to maintain funding levels in the short term and agrees with the intention to fund evidence-based activities.

### Appendices (11)

WCC would expect to see an appendix reflecting the non-police organisations and how they contribute in the final plan.

In responding to draft plan in detail account has been taken of the Association of Police Authority Chief Executives' published guidance (August 2012) and other guidance documents as follows:

## **2. Federation of Small Businesses**

As you know, the FSB has a key interest in business crime and are working with the PCC to ensure the needs of the business community are considered. From our research, we know that currently two-thirds of businesses experience crime and fraud at a cost of up to £3,000 per business each year. With 4.5 million small firms in the UK, employing nearly 14 million people, engagement and support from the police is critical to help boost growth in the economy.

With this in mind, the FSB is asking you to consult with the business community in your area to strengthen your police and crime plan, and to do the following:

- Include a reference to business crime in the police and crime plan and a wider business crime reduction strategy, setting out how you will engage with the business community and reduce business crime
- Support the initiative being pursued by the ACPO lead on business crime for a national definition of business crime
- Support the accurate recording of business crime by using appropriate recording mechanisms
- Promote and encourage signposting towards Action Fraud for advice on fraud prevention and their fraud reporting mechanism

Currently 40 per cent of businesses do not report crime because of a lack of faith in the system of police response. The recent Home Office Commercial Victimization Survey published in January 2013 shows the volume of business crime that is going unreported meaning that actual levels of crime will be higher. Effective strategies to reduce business crime will help reduce crime overall.

### **3. Ian Bonner**

I would like to draw your attention to the issue of road safety for all road users, vulnerable road users in particular.

The number of people killed in road incidents in Great Britain increased in 2011 for the first time since 2003, by 3%, from 1,850 to 1,901. This is nearly four times the number of murders for the same period. What's more, the number of pedestrians killed rose by 12% and the number of cyclists seriously injured rose by 16%. These injuries and deaths are too often seen as unfortunate, but unavoidable, consequences of society's over-dependence on motorised travel. They should be seen as avoidable and more should be done to prevent them from occurring such as increasing the effectiveness of roads policing and improving road collision investigations. Better road policing would not only improve road safety but would also help the police to catch individuals connected to other criminal activity. I hope you prioritise road safety when writing your forthcoming policing plan.

The number of one of the most vulnerable road users, cyclists, has increased recently, not least due to the success of the Olympic cycling team last year. Hopefully this increase will be a long-term upward trend that will benefit the nation's health and the environment. However, the perceived risk of dangerous roads dissuades many people from cycling. Furthermore, too often cyclists are blamed for collisions involving motorists and, as a result, these collisions are not investigated to the necessary standard.

Attention also needs to be paid to the rights of victims of road crime. At present the Code for Victims and the National Victim Service exclude victims of road crime. Only victims of dangerous driving are eligible for support, yet increasingly bad drivers are being convicted of careless rather than dangerous driving, a decision which blocks support to their victims. I hope you back any future changes to give equal rights to all victims and consider this issue when devising your priorities for the coming year.

I hope you find these comments useful and take them into consideration when writing your police and crime plan.

#### 4. Stratford on Avon District Council Response

Stratford on Avon District Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Police and Crime Plan for Warwickshire. We also welcome the opportunity to work with the Commissioner to keep Stratford District as a safe place to live, where our residents feel safe both in their home and outside and to protect our communities from harm.

The priorities for Stratford District have been established through a variety of consultation exercises with residents and communities. In addition, we review evidence of actual crime. Information from both of these sources are then brought together to develop a picture of crime and disorder in the District which is set out in the Strategic Assessment for the South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership.

**Our residents tell us the ‘level of crime’ and ‘activities for teenagers’ are important to them:**

a. **The ‘level of crime’ is the most important thing in making the District a good place to live.**

We are fortunate to have relatively low levels of crime in our District; however, our greatest challenge is to maintain this position, against a backdrop of reduced policing and public services. Therefore, partnership working is critical, to avoid duplication, share knowledge and skills and make the most of our collective resources to keep our District safe.

The Strategic Assessment identifies the crime issues for the District as:

i. **Violent crime**

Evidence shows us that violent crime is predominantly in the town centre of Stratford upon Avon, and in particular is linked to alcohol and the late night economy.

ii. **Acquisitive Crime** (burglary and theft)

The District accounts for half of the geographical area of Warwickshire, almost 400 square miles, of rural landscape, villages and market towns. We have good arterial routes in and out of the District linked to motorways and major towns and cities, such as Redditch, Birmingham and Coventry. Due to our rurality, perceived affluence and road networks our District is an easy target for rich pickings from cross border criminals. This leaves our District vulnerable to this type of crime.

Burglary and theft have been identified as priorities by most our Community Forums.

b. **‘Activities for teenagers’ is the top thing our residents tell us needs to be improved in the District.**

Whilst there are many advantages to living in an attractive rural area, it does

present challenges for young people in terms of things to do and getting around, which has the unfortunate consequence of resulting in anti-social behaviour (ASB). ASB affects our communities and individuals, particularly vulnerable victims. All of our Community Forums identify anti-social behaviour as a priority on a regular basis. The Strategic Assessment identifies Anti-Social Behaviour as a priority for the District.

### **Community Safety Partnership**

- c. The Council is a member of the South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership who work together to tackle crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse in the District.
- d. The CSP has made significant progress and is currently showing improved performance against each of its priority areas. The Strategic Assessment has identified that the CSP should continue to focus on the current priorities. Therefore, at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013, the SWCSP approved the community safety priorities for 2013/14. The priorities reflect what our residents tell us they are concerned about and evidence of actual crime as set out in the Strategic Assessment.

### **South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership Priorities 2013/14**

#### **Violent Crime**

- With a focus on alcohol/drug related violence, tackling town centre violence in both Leamington and Stratford.
- With a focus on offender management and early intervention in relation to young people, with the 16 to 25 year old age group being the key offending group in both districts.
- With a focus on domestic violence across Stratford and Warwick Districts.

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour**

- With a focus on alcohol related anti-social behaviour, concentrating efforts in Leamington and Stratford town centres.
- To support the early intervention of ASB victims through a victim centred approach towards anti-social behaviour.

#### **Reducing Re-offending**

- With a focus on preventing and reducing re-offending and prioritising the offenders of domestic burglary and violent crime.

### **How we are tackling our priority of Violent Crime:**

- e. **Going out Staying Safe 'Your Town Your Choice'** - is a multi-agency event involving the District and County Councils, Police, Health, Fire, local businesses and the voluntary sector to tackle violence in Stratford's hotspot (Greenhill Street). The event combines:
  - i. education – alcohol, drug and personal safety advice;

- ii. prevention – enhanced police patrols providing early intervention to remove offenders from the town;
  - iii. enforcement – licensing visits, including identifying underage drinkers and fake ids.
- f. **Street Marshalls** – Street Marshalls provide a visible presence in the hotspot area between 1am and 4am. Their early intervention tackles rowdy behaviour and diffuses potential violence in the town centre at night.
- g. **Street Pastors** – provide a friendly reassurance to those who are vulnerable in the late night economy. They engage with people on the streets to care, listen and help people stay safe.
- h. **Bardwatch** – our pubwatch scheme receives reports of individuals involved in violence in licensed premises and takes a decision on whether to ban those individuals from all licensed premises in the town.
- i. **CCTV** – monitors activity and liaises with the Police, Street Marshalls and Street Pastors to enable early intervention and directing of resources to trouble spots, groups and individuals.

### **Consultation Response (relevant to Violence)**

#### **Police & Crime Plan priorities:**

**Stronger Local Policing** *‘provide more consistent provision of local policing’.*

**Valuing People and Increasing Visibility** *‘the number of Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) has gone far enough and I want to see their numbers maintained. I plan to increase the number of special constables ... to review the powers of PCSOs’.*

Stratford on Avon District suffers from low levels of policing. For an area of nearly 400 square miles covering half of Warwickshire, with 120,000 residents and 4 million visitors a year, there are only six Police Constables (one for each of the six Safer Neighbourhood Teams) and two Sergeants. Stratford town alone has a population of around 26,000 residents and the majority of visitors but has only one Police Constable.

In terms of Response Policing there is no dedicated resource for Stratford. Response Teams are called from Leamington (Greys Mallory), which has implication for response times, pressure of calls to other parts of the county, and a lack of local knowledge, which all hinder potential effectiveness. This has a particular impact on tackling our priority of violence in the night time economy. This is where Street Marshall play a valuable role in diffusing violence and calling for Police support where necessary.

**Therefore, Stratford District Council strongly urges the Commissioner to increase the Police resourcing for the District.**



PCSOs are a valuable resource, however their powers are limited, and in most case a Police Constable is required. Given the comments above **the Council welcomes a review to extend the powers given to PCSOs.**

Special Constables are a valuable resource. As volunteers, by their circumstances, their capacity is limited. Therefore, whilst **the District Council welcomes additional Special Constables, it does not deflect from the need for a stronger full time Police presence.**

### **How we are tackling our priority of Anti-Social Behaviour(ASB)**

ASB is '*behaviour likely to cause alarm, harassment or distress to members of the public not of the same household as the perpetrator*', this might include: harassment, abuse, intimidation, threatening behaviour, abusive language, noisy neighbours, neighbour disputes, vandalism, graffiti and rowdy nuisance. ASB complaints can be reported to the Council, Registered Social Landlords or the Police. There were 3,413 incidents of ASB in the District last year.

- j. **Early Intervention** – The Council employs an Anti-Social Behaviour Officer. The ASB Officer's role is to protect residents and communities from harm by 'nipping in the bud' ASB. This involves perpetrators being quickly identified and issued Warning Letters explaining the situation and pointing out the sanctions if improvements are not made. Should this not have the desired effect the perpetrator is issued with an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC). A Parental Responsibility Contract can also be issued where necessary. ABC's sets out specific conditions for behaviour, and often include curfews. They can also include positive conditions e.g. to attend alcohol recovery treatment or diversionary activities. The early intervention approach has over a 90% success rate in modifying behaviour and protecting our residents.
- k. **Diversionary Activities** - The ASB Officer also works with perpetrators, parents and partners to identify diversionary activities that provide an alternative to getting involved in ASB.
- l. **Anti-Social Behaviour Group** - The Council chairs the multi-agency ASB group where those with an ABC or ASBO are reviewed monthly and progress is monitored and referrals made to other agencies e.g. social services, youth offending, mental health or to the judiciary.
- m. **Targeted ASB operations and patrols** – enhanced Police patrols and ASB operations are carried out in hotspot areas to identify and deter perpetrators. There have been recent ASB operations in Southam, Alcester and Stratford.
- n. **CCTV** – monitors activity and liaises with the Police to enable early intervention and directing of resources to trouble spots, groups and individuals and those who are vulnerable.
- o. **Designated Public Places Order (DPPO)** – the Council has put in place a DPPO for the town centres of Alcester, Southam, Stratford and the village of

Studley. These Orders give the Police the power to ask perpetrators, in the defined area, to stop drinking and to confiscate alcohol from them. The powers are currently being used to tackle the street drinkers in Stratford, which is a priority for the Community Forum.

- p. **Victim Centred Approach** – In addition to the work already being done with perpetrators to address ASB, a new victim centred approach is being rolled out across the District and Warwickshire. This will involve those who experience ‘personal’ ASB being risk assessed. Those deemed a high risk, and thus vulnerable, will be allocated to the most appropriate agency, who will devise an action plan for each victim. Those cases will be monitored and managed through ASB Group. The ASB Officer will co-ordinate this work. There were 1,653 cases of ‘personal’ ASB last year.

### **Consultation Response relevant to Anti-Social Behaviour**

#### **Police & Crime Plan priorities:**

**More Effective and Early Intervention** *‘involving the voluntary and other statutory agencies ..... dealing with community safety, issues around drugs and alcohol misuse’.... ‘consistent and comprehensive support for victims’*

The Community Safety Partners deploy an early intervention approach for example through (Your Town Your Choice; Street Marshalls and Street Pastors; and through our Anti-Social Behaviour Officer).

We also value the involvement of the voluntary and business sector, as well as the statutory agencies of the CSP to tackle community safety and issues of drug and alcohol misuse. Organisations such as the Recovery Partnership, the BID ‘StratForward’, Bromford Support and the Street Pastors have worked alongside the Council and Police to address the ASB issue of street drinkers.

The new Victim Centred Approach to ASB requires a greater need for support of victims. **The District Council welcomes the Commissioner’s commitment to address this as it is a cornerstone of the new ASB approach being implemented.**

The new ASB approach also requires improved data sharing between the Police and other agencies. **We strongly urge the Commissioner to improve the current data sharing arrangements within Warwickshire Police. Information sharing has become more difficult in the last year, which represents a risk for vulnerable victims.**

ASB information sharing systems are also currently inadequate for the new ASB approach. Therefore **we would welcome the Commissioner’s support for a countywide system that enables the sharing of ASB information, regardless of which agency has received the complaint, to enable repeat and vulnerable victims to be identified.**

**The District Council welcomes the Commissioner's support for the early invention approach being deployed by the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).**

**The District Council also supports the Commissioner's commitment to 'consistent and comprehensive support for victims', as this is a cornerstone of the new ASB approach and a CSP priority.**

### **How we are tackling our priority of Reducing Re-offending**

- q. The District Council has a limited role in re-offending, as this priority is led by Probation. However, the Council is involved in the following:
- r. **Integrated Offender Management (IOM)** – there is a monthly meeting of the multi agency Prolific and Priority Offender (PPO) Group. At this meeting individual PPO's are discussed, including those due for release from prison and those who are coming to notice as Emerging Prolific Offenders (EPO's). At the meeting actions are agreed by the different agencies to deter further offending, and a Police PPO Manager is assigned to each individual.
- s. **Information sharing** – a weekly Police briefing has been introduced at the Council offices. Council staff are briefed on current crimes and locations, so that they know what to look out for and how to report it. There is also a weekly Police surgery at the Council for staff and councillors to discuss any concerns or seek advice.

### **Working with the Police and Crime Commissioner**

- t. Working together the Community Safety Partnership is helping to make the District a safer place for our residents, businesses and visitors.
- u. As a partnership, we are achieving reductions in crime against our stated priorities.

### **Consultation Response**

#### **Police & Crime Plan priorities:**

#### ***'Communications'***

We welcome the Commissioner's intent to engage with local people and listen to their concerns.

We thank the Commissioner for the opportunity to comment on the draft Police and Crime Plan for Warwickshire. We are pleased to see the Commissioner's plans broadly reflect the approaches being taken in the District.

We also wish to thank the Commissioner for his attendance at the Your Town Your Choice event in December.

We encourage the Commissioner to continue to engage with the Council and South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership.

***'Financial responsibility'***

Much of the partnership work outlined above to reduce crime and disorder in the District has been possible because of the partnership funding from the Safer Stronger Communities Fund. This funding is now directly under the control of the Commissioner. The South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership will be presenting to the Commissioner a bid for funding to support delivery of the of the CSP priorities.

Finally, we look forward to working with the Commissioner as a partner in the delivery of the community safety priorities identified by residents.

Subsequently to the report two further issues are:-

Your Plan makes no reference to cyber crime

Due to the changes to the benefits / welfare state, there is potential for an increase in acquisitive crime.

## **5. Road Haulage Association Ltd**

We have set out seven key points overleaf.

A brief word about the Road Haulage Association, by way of introduction. The RHA represents 7,000 haulage firms, operating close to 100,000 HGVs and many thousands of warehouses. We promote an entrepreneurial spirit, efficiency, safety and high standards of legal compliance. Our industry provides vital services to firms and enterprises across the economy and is a major employer in its own right.

Security in the industry can attract or deter investment in local areas. It is a constant area of concern for our members and this is reflected in the RHA's extensive dealings with the police and other agencies, who are actively involved in the RHA Security Forum. We also offer security assessments and training to our members.

We see four categories of transport security threat:

1. Attacks on trucks – from a few pallets, to truckloads of finished goods, to metals; also theft of the vehicles themselves and of diesel from HGV tanks
2. Trucks used as part of crime – smuggling of fuel, people, drugs etc; VAT fraud
3. Attacks on drivers
4. Potentially, as vehicles used in acts of terrorism

We estimate the direct cost of crime against the haulage industry to be at least £1 billion, excluding the cost of security provision. (One of the industry's problems is that there is no accurate figure and no adequate process for crime reporting. As one example, a lorry theft of vehicle and goods valued at £1 million is recorded as the same as one motor car.)

This is not a victimless crime – far from it. The effects can lead to unemployment as companies, particularly small and medium sized companies are driven out of business by the losses incurred. And theft of, and from vehicles, and the threat of such attacks, may also have a detrimental effect on the well-being of drivers particularly those who sleep in their cabs.

Against this background and a general lack of appreciation of the seriousness of crime against haulage by those outside the industry, police response is all too often woefully inadequate. We are working hard with certain police forces and the Truckpol desk at the National Business Crime Intelligence Bureau. (Truckpol is a small police unit that is now 100% funded by the private sector.)

### **Summary**

We request that you require your police force to:

1. Properly record freight crime as a separate crime to other vehicle crimes so that accurate and meaningful analysis may be carried out in your force. This can be done through the RHA or directly to Truckpol
2. Appoint a single point of contact (SPOC) for freight crime to ensure service quality to the industry, to improve engagement with the industry in your local area, and to develop knowledge and expertise within your force
3. Adopt the common minimum standard of reporting and investigation, which is available through the RHA or Truckpol
4. Share information and intelligence with other law enforcement agencies. This can be done through Truckpol
5. Share investigation successes and convictions through Truckpol
6. Support the provision of adequate secure parking in your police authority
7. Recognise the impact of freight crime and prioritise it accordingly in your policing plan.

## **6. Tony Arber**

I would like to take this opportunity to contribute to the public consultation on police and crime in the area where I live. I would like to draw your attention to the issue of road safety for all road users, vulnerable road users in particular.

The number of people killed in road incidents in Great Britain increased in 2011 for the first time since 2003, by 3%, from 1,850 to 1,901. This is nearly four times the number of murders for the same period. What's more, the number of pedestrians killed rose by 12% and the number of cyclists seriously injured rose by 16%. These injuries and deaths are too often seen as unfortunate, but unavoidable, consequences of society's over-dependence on motorised travel. They should be seen as avoidable and more should be done to prevent them from occurring such as increasing the effectiveness of roads policing and improving road collision investigations. Better road policing would not only improve road safety but would also help the police to catch individuals connected to other criminal activity. I hope you prioritise road safety when writing your forthcoming policing plan.

The number of one of the most vulnerable road users, cyclists, has increased recently, not least due to the success of the Olympic cycling team last year. Hopefully this increase will be a long-term upward trend that will benefit the nation's health and the environment. However, the perceived risk of dangerous roads dissuades many people from cycling. Furthermore, too often cyclists are blamed for collisions involving motorists and, as a result, these collisions are not investigated to the necessary standard.

Attention also needs to be paid to the rights of victims of road crime. At present the Code for Victims and the National Victim Service exclude victims of road crime. Only victims of dangerous driving are eligible for support, yet increasingly bad drivers are being convicted of careless rather than dangerous driving, a decision which blocks support to their victims. I hope you back any future changes to give equal rights to all victims and consider this issue when devising your priorities for the coming year.

I hope you find these comments useful and take them into consideration when writing your police and crime plan.

## **7. Graham Smith – Napton Neighbourhood Watch**

I have received your draft Executive Summary of the Warwickshire Police and Crime Plan through the Neighbourhood Watch system and wish to make comments as follows.

1. Noted with anticipation your duty and references to working with Neighbourhood Watch

2. I am writing as part of the executive of Napton on the Hill Neighbourhood Watch. We used to receive a weekly crime report from Southam Police Station, indeed we supplied a computer PC to the local police in the late nineties to facilitate these reports by email and won the 2001 Neighbourhood Watch award from the Lord Lieutenant and Chief Constable for this innovative liaison work. Later of course the station was supplied with their own computers but the service of weekly crime updates continued for many years until a year or so ago.

We have 100% coverage in Napton, and through a system of street co-ordinators, can post into every house letter box a crime alert, or request for information.

Nowadays we are lucky if we receive a crime update from Warwickshire Relay once a month, meaning that some information is a month old, too long for our residents to sensibly remember what they were doing when a crime was being committed. Our Southam police station is not sufficiently staffed to keep crime alerts up to date, delays result, and Warwickshire Relay is seemingly solely staffed by Julie Dale, but only during her work days, not at weekends or when she is on leave. Therefore morale is plummeting amongst NHW due to the intermittent and delayed reports on crime in our areas.

When we regenerated Napton NHW the Southam Police Station staffing was approximately 10, headed by a Station Sergeant, now it is about 3 - a Beat Constable and two or three PCSO's. The reactive forces have to come from Rugby or Stratford. Of course we understand that budget decreases and technology improvements contribute to this decline, but even so it is drastic in the way it affects our village coverage.

Our request to you is that crime alerts (Relay etc) are made in a timely fashion, next day if urgent, weekly if not and Relay is staffed appropriately.

3. The next point is regarding the much vaunted and publicised 101 telephone number for non urgent reporting of crime or crime related incidents. Unfortunately our local residents that have tried it have often become completely disenchanted about the service. Most often there is a long wait or no reply and seemingly no alternative of email or answer phone. Because of the overall poor service many of the public have simply given up reporting crime, unless very serious and this may be having an effect on the recorded incidents and statistics. As a case in point our local garage had an attempted burglary recently and since the

villains did not manage to gain access, they did not bother reporting it knowing from previous experience nothing much would be done. Since they saw the car involved, you would think they would have valuable information, and it might have been linked with a break in at the newsagent shop in Southam the same day. We keep trying to persuade residents to report using 101 but this is no good if they cannot get through quickly. Please try and sort this out.

## **8. Safer Roads Partnership Team**

In Warwickshire between 2008 and 2012 an average of 31 people were killed and a further 285 seriously injured each year in road collisions. During this period, seven times as many people were killed in the County as a result of road collisions than as a result of manslaughter, or murder.

Almost every Warwickshire resident and those travelling through the County will be regular road users. Nationally, in 2010 an average of 6 people left their homes each day never to return because they had been killed in a road collision. Research has shown that in many instances the victim's family and friends never fully recover from their distress. For each person who loses their life, a further 6 people are seriously hurt - many of these are left with life changing injuries.

Whilst the deaths and injuries that result from collisions will always be a prime concern, the economic damage they cause, with vehicles written off or requiring extensive repairs, damage to the roads infrastructure, time off from work due to the loss of transport, and the cost to the economy as a result of delays for commercial operators and businesses caused by road closures should not be discounted.

This harm happens to road users and communities in Warwickshire and damages their sense of well-being. These people look to Warwickshire Police, the traffic law enforcement agency, to protect and reassure them - and there can be no doubt that unchallenged bad driving damages trust and confidence. Currently, the roads policing priorities of Warwickshire Police are to protect people from harm by: reducing road casualties; disrupting criminality; countering terrorism; providing reassurance patrols; and combating anti-social road use. This involves focussed, intelligence led, harm reduction activity to save lives and prevent crime, with enforcement based on professional judgement and discretion in order to positively affect and influence road user behaviour.

To reduce road casualties, reassure communities and reduce inappropriate use of the roads, Warwickshire Police adopt a partnership approach to deliver road safety interventions based around Education, Engineering and Enforcement and Warwickshire Police are presently key stakeholders in the Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership and Warwickshire and West Mercia Police Road Safety Partnerships. The operation of Safety Cameras (speed and/ or red light) is managed through the Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership. The strategy for the use of this technology remains focussed on reducing fatal or serious road casualties arising from inappropriate traffic speed at historically problematic sites. There is no doubt that safety cameras make a significant contribution to saving lives and preventing injuries and they continue to contribute to improving safety and reducing fear on



Warwickshire's roads. They may also be employed at major road works on the Highways Agency strategic road network to protect road users and the workforce.

Protection from harm and the fear of harm from road dangers are core elements of the wider vision for Warwickshire Police and we are committed to enhancing the safety and security of all road users and communities across the County. You should note that the Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership Board have adopted a local joint casualty reduction target, which aims to reduce road casualties by 33% by 2015 (against the 2004-2008 baseline). The reduction of road related death, year-on-year is a current policing priority for Warwickshire Police. This includes monthly tasking to deliver intelligence led activity to police a number of high harm routes and to participate in ACPO/ TISPOL National and European Road Safety Campaigns. Warwickshire and West Mercia Police have already adopted a one team approach to delivering road safety and traffic management, which is provided through our Safer Roads Partnerships team.

## **9. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council**

Further to receiving the Executive Summary, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council would like to comment on the document as follows;

- 1) Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Responsible authorities are obliged to work together to reduce and address community safety issues. The document does not refer to this, nor how the PCC intends to hold them to account. In addition to this the document mentions working with 'Community Safety Partnerships' – as a statutory body they need to be afforded a greater role.
- 2) Warwickshire as a whole is tremendously diverse – there needs to be an acknowledgement of this.
- 3) It would be useful to understand how the PCC proposes to address the disproportionate levels of crime in particular areas and whether resources will follow need.
- 4) Details of income and expenditure would be useful, along with an indication of how the PCC intends to commission. What risk assessment has been conducted in relation to the role of partners and the services they commission to address local needs? If there is no consideration of this, valuable activities such as the Youth Contact Team and Nuneaton and Bedworth and Partnership support roles for anti- social behaviour across Nuneaton and Bedworth will be significantly affected.

- 5) What are the PCC's commissioning intentions? What priorities will they be commissioning against? Whilst the PCC's key priorities are laid out, it is unclear as to what particular crime types are a priority and how this will be addressed.
- 6) Engaging with the public-how do you intend to engage with the public to develop the plan? In West Midlands for example there are several workshops/events organised that the PCC is attending e.g. one for victims, Businesses etc.

Given the comment 'I have a duty in law to ensure the provision of services which protect the public from for example, serious and organised crime, terrorism and economic crime'. On a day to day basis this excludes the sort of crime that affects most people e.g. in Nuneaton and Bedworth the key issues are burglary, ASB (although this is not a crime it is a serious issue for communities) and theft of items from vehicles. The above needs to be given priority also.

## **10. Bedworth and Bulkington Neighbourhood Watch**

PCC priorities: Stronger local Policing. The last sentence says "It is my aim that people will know the name of their local beat manager" - We were wondering how will you do that?

Communications: "seek to ensure that his office is represented at the local community forums" and also "meet with representatives of young people" we hope you keep these promises. As we feel communication with the community already needs to be improved?

What sort of incentives are you going to give us as volunteers?

What about crime prevention as it has to be cheaper to prevent crime more than solve crime?

You mention volunteers and specials, but what about full time police officers and PCSOs, is your idea of volunteering going to reduce their numbers?

PCSO's what extra powers are you thinking about and are you consulting the PCSO's regarding this?

If your document is agreed has this also been consulted on via police officers?

## **11. Keith Newell – Rugby Community Safety Partnership**

We were surprised not to see a specific work stream around cross border offending especially as you had previously given your commitment to pursue this with your neighbouring commissioners. We now understand that this will be included in the final version. The whole issue of Integrated Offender Management is critical to the CSP as we are vulnerable in Rugby, especially from Coventry, Leicester and Daventry. I also informed the meeting that recent legislation ( LAPSO Act 2012 ) had further weakened our ability to reduce re-offending through strict enforcement of licence conditions and prison recalls. I was also aware that the West Mercia blueprint does not cater for a cross border offender manager.

## **12. Tim Sanders**

I think it would be useful to include something about the way we should engage with local authorities regarding housing growth. Each District & Borough is preparing a Local Plan, which will set the strategic direction for some fairly significant housing growth in Warwickshire over the next ten or fifteen years. Some of this housing growth is already starting. Overall we can expect up to 45,000 new homes in Warwickshire, which equates to about 20% growth in population (and demand for police services).

We are working with Local Authorities to include crime and disorder considerations into their plans, including things like Secured By Design, road safety, and infrastructure planning. We are also developing the police position around developer contributions to infrastructure funding. This means we can access contributions from the house builders to help with the expanded infrastructure (vehicles, IT, equipment, buildings etc.) that we will need to police a growing Warwickshire Population. This is known as the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and it is very important that we make sure policing is properly represented in each Local Authority plan. If we are successful then we are potentially looking at up to twenty million pounds over the next decade or so. I think this topic could fit under section 5 (partnership working) and section 10 (resources).

It will be particularly useful to get such a mention in the Police and Crime Plan because this will help to evidence the validity of the police request to be considered under the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

## **13. Fighting Wildlife Crime – Same letter received from 35 members of the public**

I am extremely concerned by accounts of the suffering inflicted on wild animals, both at home and abroad, as a result of wildlife crime. The Illegal wildlife trade is estimated to be worth billions of pounds with some of the criminals linked to organised crime and terrorism. The transportation of wildlife and wildlife products across country boundaries also poses a serious threat to human health. This crime has seen tens of thousands of elephants killed to fuel the demand for ivory while

rhino populations are being decimated as criminals butcher rhinos for their horns.

Wildlife crime is a very real threat at home in the UK as well as abroad. The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), the Home Office and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) all recently gave evidence to the Environmental Audit Committee on the scale and nature of wildlife crime on our doorstep. Border Force statistics show that more than 850,000 wild animals and wildlife products were seized at the UK's borders between 2008 and 2011. Meanwhile over 1,500 prosecutions for international wildlife crimes have been initiated between 2009 and 2012.

Wildlife crime in this country takes many forms ranging from the international illegal trade in wildlife products (including ivory, rhino horn and tiger products); the hunting of deer, hares and foxes with dogs by both poachers and organised hunts; badger and bird of prey persecution; the destruction of bat roosts and the theft of bird eggs.

I urge you to fight wildlife crime by ensuring our constabulary's policing strategy outlines how the force will enforce wildlife crime legislation. I would encourage you to seek the input of the National Wildlife Crime Unit, the local Police Wildlife Crime Officer or Officers, the UK Border Force (where appropriate), and Non-Governmental Agencies that work on wildlife crime such as the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) when drafting this strategy.

#### **14. Robert Jacob – Road Safety Comments – This one email was received several times by different members of the public**

I would like to take this opportunity to contribute to the public consultation on police and crime in the area where I live. I would like to draw your attention to the issue of road safety for all road users, vulnerable road users in particular.

I am a regular cyclist in the area, as I believe you are as well. I cycle to work as often as possible, and also cycle socially, much of which is taking a blind friend, who is in his seventies, out on a tandem. We have experienced close shaves with careless road users on several occasions. We took part in the Heart of England CTC Meriden cycling weekend last year, and came extremely close to being knocked off by a white van driver who over took us with only millimetres of clearance, only to turn right off the road we were on as soon as he passed us. The cyclists behind us saw better than I did just how close he was, and they were amazed that I kept the tandem upright. It was dangerous driving that would have barely saved him seconds on his journey.

The number of people killed in road incidents in Great Britain increased in 2011 for the first time since 2003, by 3%, from 1,850 to 1,901. This is nearly four times the number of murders for the same period. What's more, the number of pedestrians killed rose by 12% and the number of cyclists seriously injured rose by 16%. These injuries and deaths are too often seen as unfortunate, but unavoidable, consequences of society's over-dependence on motorised travel. They should be seen as avoidable and more should be done to prevent them from occurring such as increasing the effectiveness of roads policing and improving road collision

investigations. Better road policing would not only improve road safety but would also help the police to catch individuals connected to other criminal activity. I hope you prioritise road safety when writing your forthcoming policing plan.

The number of one of the most vulnerable road users, cyclists, has increased recently, not least due to the success of the Olympic cycling team last year. Hopefully this increase will be a long-term upward trend that will benefit the nation's health and the environment. However, the perceived risk of dangerous roads dissuades many people from cycling. Furthermore, too often cyclists are blamed for collisions involving motorists and, as a result, these collisions are not investigated to the necessary standard.

Attention also needs to be paid to the rights of victims of road crime. At present the Code for Victims and the National Victim Service exclude victims of road crime. Only victims of dangerous driving are eligible for support, yet increasingly bad drivers are being convicted of careless rather than dangerous driving, a decision which blocks support to their victims. I hope you back any future changes to give equal rights to all victims and consider this issue when devising your priorities for the coming year.

I hope you find these comments useful and take them into consideration when writing your police and crime plan.