



ADUR & WORTHING COUNCILS

Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee
15 February 2018
Agenda Item 7

Key Decision [No]

Ward(s) N/A:

Interview with Adur & Worthing District Police Commander

Report by the Director for Digital and Resources

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides some background and guidance to assist the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JOSC) in interviewing Chief Inspector Miles Ockwell, Adur and Worthing District Police Commander on local operational policing issues.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That JOSC interview the District Police Commander for Adur and Worthing on local operational policing issues; and
- 2.2 That JOSC consider if any further follow up action is required and consider any further questions to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

3. Context

- 3.1 At its meeting on 21 September 2017, JOSC considered a Scrutiny request from local Councillors that there was a need for them to scrutinise local

operational policing issues in Adur and Worthing. The following reasons for the request were included in the agenda papers for that meeting:-

- There was concern that there was a heavy reliance on PCSO's;
- It was claimed that very few Police were on the 'beat and not many were in cars. It was claimed that this was down to a lack of resourcing;
- There were claims that the public were having to wait 45 minutes to get a reply to 101 and there were delays in the 999 response;
- It was claimed that it was taking over 24 hours to get a reply from the online reporting service;
- It was claimed that follow up was often non existent; and
- There were claims that there were issues with drug dealing being reported but no action taken and issues with homeless/rough sleepers causing disturbances in Lancing.

3.2 JOSC agreed to include the matter in its Work Programme and hold a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner and local Adur and Worthing District Police Commander to discuss the issues and other issues of concern.

3.3 The Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne, is unable to attend this meeting due to a late cancellation so the Committee will hold the interview with Chief Inspector Miles Ockwell, Adur & Worthing District Police Commander.

4. Issues for consideration

4.1 JOSC has the opportunity to interview the Police Commander on operational Policing issues in Adur and Worthing to find out more about the scheduling of Policing across the Adur & Worthing communities and to assess if any further recommendations need to be made to improve Policing.

4.2 JOSC is asked to note that the Police and Crime Commissioner has the responsibility for the totality of Policing. The Police & Crime Commissioner has responsibility to deliver an effective and efficient Police service within their force area. The Commissioner is responsible for holding the Police to account.

5. Engagement and Communication

5.1 The JOSC Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen have been consulted on this matter.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications relating to this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 Under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the power to do anything to facilitate or which is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of their functions.

7.2 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a Local Authority to do anything that individuals generally may do (subject to any current restrictions or limitations prescribed in existing legislation).

Background Papers

None

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Sustainability & Risk Assessment

1. Economic

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2. Social

2.1 Social Value

Strategic vision - 'Platforms for our Places (Platform 2 - Our Social Economies) includes a commitment for the promotion of our communities as safe places. Extra support from the Police can help in the successful delivery of that commitment. Some of the issues to be discussed in the Work programme will impact on the Communities.

2.2 Equality Issues

Matter considered and no direct issues identified.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

Matter considered and this items relates to community safety issues.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and no issues identified

3. Environmental

Matter considered and no issues identified.

4. Governance

Matter considered and no issues identified.