MINUTES OF BROOKE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

11 APRIL 2019

PRESENT:

Members of the Committee: Councillors Claire Edwards (Chair), Mrs A'Barrow, Keeling, McQueen, Mrs New, Picker and Mrs Timms

Officers: Dan Green (Head of Environment and Public Realm), Mannie Ketley (Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer), Ruth Barnett (Principal Accountant) and Veronika Beckova (Democratic Services Officer)

In attendance: Phillip Seccombe (Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire), Inspector Karen Jones (Safer Neighbourhoods North Warwickshire, Warwickshire Police) and Edward Palusinski (Chair of Rugby Borough Neighbourhood Watch)

19. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2019 were approved and signed by the Chair.

20. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Councillor Pacey-Day and Srivastava.

21. REVIEW OF SPECIAL EXPENSES SCHEME

The committee received a report (Part 1 – Agenda Item 4) concerning the one-page strategy for the review.

The Head of Corporate Resources and Chief Financial Officer and the Principal Accountant attended the meeting to present the report and answer questions. A copy of the presentation given at the meeting is attached at Annex 1 to the minutes.

The review would consider the current composition services within Special Expenses to determine whether they are services that solely benefit the residents within the urban area. During the review, members would also consider any alternative options to maintaining the current scheme and potential impact on council tax/special expenses/parish precepts.

Councillor Picker expressed an interest to serve on the task group.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the one-page strategy be approved; and
- (2) an invitation be extended to all non-executive members to serve on the task group with the aim to hold the inaugural meeting in June 2019.

22. CRIME AND DISORDER

The committee received a report (Part 1 – Agenda Item 5) concerning the annual review of the work of the Rugby Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

The Head of Environment and Public Realm attended the meeting to present the report and answer questions. Chief Inspector Daffyd Goddard was unable to attend the meeting. Inspector Karen Jones attended in his place.

The Chair of Rugby Borough Neighbourhood Watch (RBNW) attended the meeting to provide members with a brief summary of the work carried out by RBNW. A copy of the summary is attached at Annex 2 to the minutes.

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Warwickshire attended the meeting to provide members with an appreciation of the PCC's priorities and key activities. A copy of the report is attached at Annex 3 to the minutes. The report covered the following:

- Warwickshire Police and the Alliance
- Improved Support Services for Victims of Crime
- Precept 2019/20
- Force Establishment
- Road Safety
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services
- Warwickshire Police Performance
- Summary of Activity

During the presentation of the report, the following additional points were made:

Improved Support Services for Victims of Crime

On 1 April 2019, a new service went live across Warwickshire. The service was commissioned and funded by the PCC and provided by the third sector organisations on a three-year basis.

At the time of the meeting, all funding (£2.3 million) had been allocated. The new funding model would allow organisations to invest in longer term initiatives. A tight performance review would be carried out on the work of the third sector organisations to ensure value for money.

Staff from third sector organisations would be co-located with Warwickshire Police's Integrated Victim Management Units and work alongside police officers and staff providing free victim care 24/7 across the county.

Precept 2019/20

The council tax precept for a Band D property was increased by £24 per annum. Extensive engagement and consultation demonstrated significant public support for the increase. Over 2,500 consultation responses were received. 72.5 per cent of the responses stated their willingness to pay £25 or more per annum if a better service was provided.

The 2019/20 precept increase brought £6 million into the Warwickshire Police.

The PCC was responsible for a budget of £110 million. Half of the budget was funded by the Government and the other half was made up of council tax contributions in Warwickshire.

Force Establishment

The police officer establishment for 2019 was 976. Within a two-year period, the force was anticipated to increase by approximately 20 per cent (200 officers).

The precept increase would be invested back into Warwickshire in the form of:

- 40 more officers in patrol (999 response)
- 15 more officers into Warwickshire Investigations Team (CID detectives)
- 3 digital media investigators seven days a week coverage
- Rural Crime Team working in partnership with the two rural crime advisors already in place
- Harm Hub one additional inspector, two more adult in need coordinators, three more domestic abuse risk managers
- Safer Neighbourhoods Team five additional officers and five additional police community support officers spread across the county
- Child Sexual Exploitation Team additional detective sergeant and four more officers
- Offender Management Unit eight more officers. The team would focus on car key burglary, general burglary and vehicle crime.
- The police staff investigators currently on contracts would be mainstream into baseline funding which would result in 10 more permanent police staff investigators.

The aim of the significant staff increases was to address the property of visibility and have more police officers and police community support officers out in the community.

Road Safety

The Committee was invited to inform the PCC of any charity or private organisation involved with road safety that may be interested to bid for funding from the <u>Road</u> <u>Safety Grant Scheme</u>.

Hate Crime

In March 2019, the hate crime agenda was launched into businesses for the purpose of understanding hate crime, highlighting the need for reporting and making the town a safer place for all residents.

The PCC noted that comparing to other counties, communities in Warwickshire were well integrated.

Youth Agenda

The PCC stated that it was very important to engage with under 18s as they were the country's future but that it was proving difficult to do so. A portion of the funds from the precept increase would be used to improve engagement with schools.

The Committee was informed that the PCC attends meetings of the Youth Parliament and Children in Care Council to listen to their views.

The Committee was also informed that the Bradby Club and the Hill Street Youth and Community Centre receive funding from the PCC.

During the discussion, the following points were made:

<u>Community Speed Watch</u> (CSW) schemes were a national initiative coordinated locally by the Safer Roads Team but managed and run by volunteers in the community. The scheme enabled local people to take an active role in road safety and make their community safer.

The aim of CSW was to encourage motorists to drive at a safe and appropriate speed, reduce speed in areas on concern, re-educate drivers about the dangers of speeding and address concerns from local residents about vehicles speeding through their neighbourhood.

In Warwickshire, there were 50 up and running schemes. In accordance with regulations of the Department of Transport, volunteers were not permitted to issue penalties. Penalties could only be issued by a police officer.

As part of <u>Operation Snap</u>, members of the public could submit (via a secure online form) digital footage showing potential traffic offences. This could range from driving dangerously or carelessly to overtaking on solid white lines, using a mobile phone while driving, ignoring traffic lights or dangerous driving around other road users, such as horse riders and cyclists.

More information on Community Speed Watch and Operation Snap can be found on the Warwickshire Policy website.

A member of the Committee raised a concern regarding <u>parents parking at schools</u>. Members were informed that the Police was now much more visible around schools at certain times. In the first instance, an offender would be educated. Any repeat offenders would be ticketed.

Information on road safety education with regards to school parking can be found at https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolparking.

RESOLVED THAT – the Head of Environment and Public Realm, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire, the Chairman of Rugby Borough Neighbourhood Watch and Inspector Karen Jones be thanked for their updates and attendance.

23. MOTION FROM COUNCIL 27 FEBRUARY 2018 – REDUCE PLASTIC WASTE AT THE COUNCIL

The committee received a report (Part 1 – Agenda Item 6) concerning a motion referred by Council on 27 February 2018.

The motion was considered by Brooke Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 28 June 2018 where the Head of Environment and Public Realm was asked to undertake an audit of single use plastics used by individual service areas.

The committee considered the audit findings on 7 February 2019 and asked for a council-wide plastics policy to be drafted and presented on 11 April 2019.

The Head of Environment and Public Realm attended the meeting to present the Single Use Plastics Policy.

During the discussion, the committee asked for the following to be reflected in the plastics policy:

- a council-specific timescale target to eliminate single use plastics;
- financial implications arising from the utilisation of more sustainable materials in council services; and
- the council's commitment to adhere to the waste hierarchy.

The Head of Environment and Public Realm would update the plastics policy to reflect members' comments. Following the meeting, a revised version would be circulated to the committee for final comments prior to submission for adoption by Full Council on 23 April 2019.

RESOLVED THAT -

(1) the Head of Environment and Public Realm be thanked for his attendance and report; and

(2) IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL that the updated council-wide Single Use Plastics Policy be adopted.

24. REVIEW OF ACCESS FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

The Committee considered the draft report for the review of access for people with a disability (Part 1 – Agenda Item 7).

The aim of the review was to consider the current inclusive approach to the management of facilities and access for people with a disability to council owned or run buildings, parks and open spaces and identify any improvements that could be made.

RESOLVED THAT – the review report be submitted to Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 3 June 2019.

25. REVIEW OF INFORMING AND ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITIES

The Committee considered the draft report for the review of informing and engaging our communities (Part 1 – Agenda Item 8).

The aim of the review was to look at including a range of new media that members and relevant officers can use, together with a refreshed package of traditional engagement techniques.

RESOLVED THAT – the review report be submitted to Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 3 June 2019.

26. COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The committee received a report (Part 1 – Agenda Item 9) concerning the progress of scrutiny reviews and the overview and scrutiny forward work programme for 2018/19.

A review of the Council's overview and scrutiny arrangements was carried out by members of both scrutiny committees at a meeting of Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 5 March 2019. Following the joint meeting, a report on the outcomes and proposed recommendations arising from a review was considered by Cabinet on 1 April 2019. A report on the proposed recommendations was due to be considered at the Full Council meeting on 23 April.

RESOLVED THAT –

- (1) the progress of scrutiny reviews be noted; and
- (2) the forward work programme be noted.

27. VOTE OF THANKS TO CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED THAT – the committee placed on record its appreciation of the work undertaken by Councillor Claire Edwards in her capacity as Chair of the Committee over the past several years.

CHAIR

Budget Scrutiny IIth April 2019

Review of Special Expenses Scheme

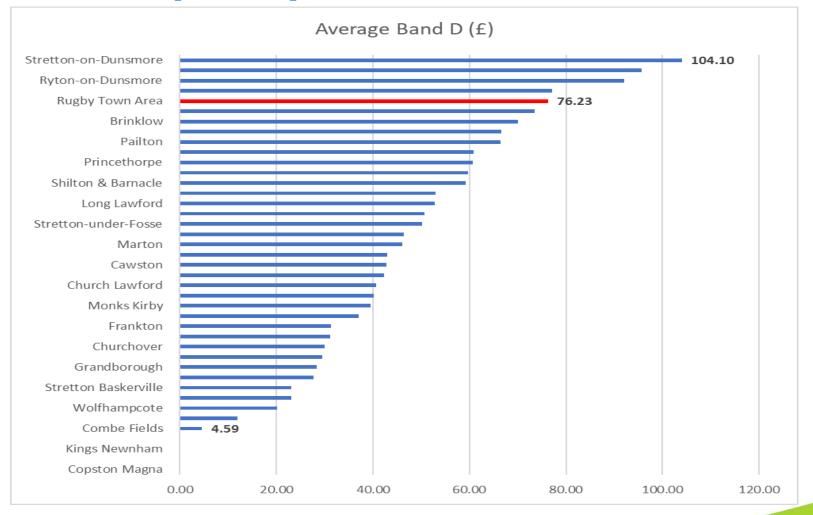


Background – Council Tax Precept

- In addition to the general Band D Council Tax, residents will pay additional amounts depending on:
- whether they live in the Town area where they will need to meet the costs of the Special Expenses activities shown above, or
- whether they live in a Parish area that has planned spending and has set a precept.
- Residents who live in a Parish area that has not set a precept i.e. Copston Magna, Cosford, Kings Newnham and Wibtoft, only pay the general Council tax amount.



Band D precept - Parishes v Urban Area^{Annex 1}



Average Band D for the Borough - £44.09



Annex 1

Purpose and Outcome of Review

Purpose

- Review of concurrent services across the Borough.
- Determine Services chargeable to urban area.

Outcome

 Introduce any changes in Council Tax Setting for2020/21



What is a special expense scheme?

Special Expenses are an adjustment to the council tax charges to reflect variations in service provision between RBC and Parish Councils, to avoid double taxation of residents in parished areas.



What is included within Special Expense service costs?

- Direct cost of Services
- Salaries
- Premises
- Transport
- Supplies and services
- Service Income
- Indirect cost of Services -
- Overheads
- Capital Costs
- MRP



Annex 1

Wards within Urban Area/Town Area^{Annex 1}

CODE	NAME
E05010758	Admirals and Cawston Ward
E05008974	Benn Ward
E05008975	Bilton Ward
E05008976	Clifton, Newton and Churchover Ward
E05008977	Coton and Boughton Ward
E05010759	Dunsmore Ward
E05008986	Eastlands Ward
E05008979	Hillmorton Ward
E05008980	Leam Valley Ward
E05008981	New Bilton Ward
E05008982	Newbold and Brownsover Ward
E05008983	Paddox Ward
E05008984	Revel and Binley Woods Ward
E05008985	Rokeby and Overslade Ward
E05010760	Wolston and the Lawfords Ward
E05008988	Wolvey and Shilton Ward



Special Expenses Calculation

A specific calculation is needed to ensure residents do not pay twice for special areas and this is as follows:

(a) Calculate the average Band D Council Tax resulting from total Borough and Parish (precept) spending combined,

(b) Calculate the Band D amount for Borough Special Expenses including Parish (precept) spending combined, and

(c) Deduct the result of calculation (b) from calculation (a) to give a general Band D Council tax.

 Every resident in the whole of the Borough Council area will pay the "general" Council Tax amount adjusted depending upon the actual banding of their property.



Annex 1

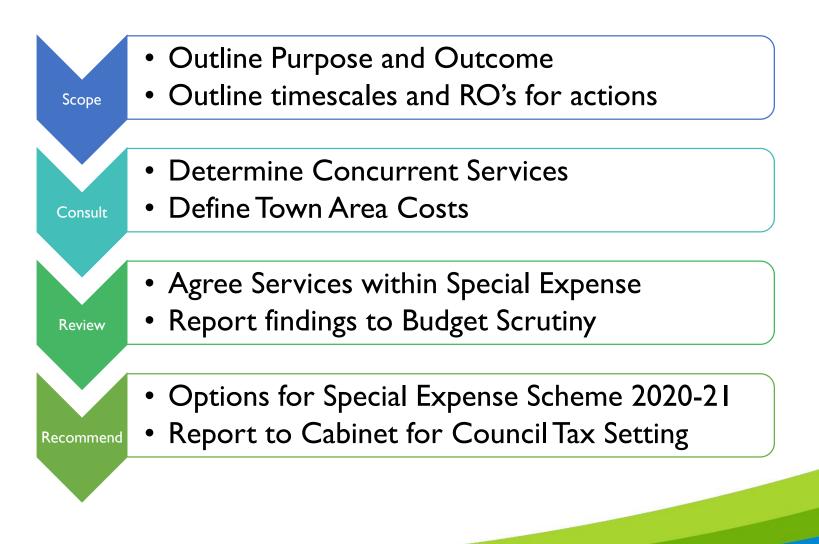
Special Expense for Rugby 2019/20

<u>Urban Area</u>	2019-20
Average Band D Tax Base	22,702
Current Precept	£76.23
Cost of Services Included	
Parks, Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces	£1,345,061
Cemeteries	£103,490
Town Centre Management & CCTV	£282,080
Total cost of Services	£1,730,631



Annex 1

Action





Next Steps - Recommendations

- June Liaise with Parish Councils briefing on the work currently taking place.
 - Prepare a questionnaire to assess concurrent services across the borough.
 - Initiate consultation on the services to be included within Special Expenses.
- September Review output and reassess what the general fund should be paying for.
 - Re-evaluate the impact of proposed changes and options
- October Report on options for special expense 2020-21.





Risks

- Increased cost to the Council from the changes in precept through any re-evaluation of concurrent services categorised as special expense.
- Dependency Risks surrounding the information and support required in the assessment of concurrent services.



Update on the work of Rugby Borough Neighbourhood Watch

'Rugby Borough Neighbourhood Watch has had more enquiries in the last 12 months than I have seen as a member of the committee for the last 15 years.

We have acquired an excellent committee that is very proactive and is determined to see the movement become an integral part of the crime prevention initiatives that are being generated in Warwickshire.

We have acquired a van and exhibition trailer and have attended eight different events in the last year.

Our plans, moving forward, are to involve more communities in Neighbourhood Watch and we have four new area Watches currently being set up including the Houlton Park development.

We have already got eight events booked for the coming season starting with the Spring Fair and including village fetes.

We intend to go to even more events as we find they are organised.

All the committee are committed to making Rugby Borough Neighbourhood Watch successful and interactive with the communities and all the partners involved in crime prevention and aftercare.

One other aim is to work with the police to try and get involved in something along the lines of School Watch to help young people protect each other against bullying and problems like knife crime. That is a big task and we are currently assessing the possibility of how it might work.'

Edward Palusinski Chairman

Annex 3



Brooke Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Thursday 11th April 2019.

Report of the

Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner

1. Intention.

The purpose of this report is to provide the members of the Brooke Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an appreciation of my priorities and key activities as the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

2. Warwickshire Police and the Alliance.

On the 8th October 2018 West Mercia Police formally served notice of their intention to terminate the Alliance with Warwickshire Police. This decision had not been anticipated and is take effect from the 9th October 2019.

Since this time, delicate negotiations have continued to take place between West Mercia and Warwickshire to agree an 'exit strategy' from the Alliance, to ensure that the arrangements for separation are both planned and orderly. I am in daily contact with Chief Constable Jelley regarding these hugely important issues.

It should be noted that Local Policing (accounting for 55% of the Warwickshire Police budget) is due to be financially devolved from the Alliance as of the 1st April 2019. This arrangement was already agreed before West Mercia's decision to terminate the Alliance.

Warwickshire Police have established a Change Team, led by Chief Superintendent David Gardner, to explore the future costed model and collaboration arrangements for Warwickshire Police. My office are represented at the weekly meeting held by the team to discuss the challenges and progress of the programme.

At the end of March 2019 the Change Team reported their findings and options. These have been discussed with CC Jelley and are in the process of being further progressed. It is my intention to share the information with elected representatives at the appropriate time.

A series of engagement seminars for the Warwickshire workforce are being planned for May 2019, at which I will be presenting alongside the chief officers, with the intention of providing an update on the work that has been completed to determine the future direction of the force.

3. Improved Support Services for Victims of Crime.

One of the key objectives of my Police and Crime Plan 2016 - 2021 is to put 'Victims and Survivors First'. This aspiration is also complemented by my 'Victims and Witness Charter', which includes the pledge that 'victims of crime are offered appropriate support to help them cope and recover from any effects of the crime'.

I am therefore pleased to announce that as from the 1st April 2019 a new service, which I have commissioned and funded, provided by the independent charity Victim Support goes live across Warwickshire.

This initiative will mean staff from this independent charity being co-located within Warwickshire Police's Integrated Victim Management Units (IMV) at Learnington Justice Centre and Bedworth police station. They will work alongside police officers and staff providing free victim care, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year across the county.



It will also allow the police to work more efficiently and effectively with partners in order to improve the service they are able to provide to victims of crime.

The development of the new victims' support services follows consultation with residents affected by crime as well as key partners. The consultation showed victims want services to be joined up with the police but retain independence at the same time. Under the new contract Victim Support will deliver: -

- Victim-focused services, to include assessment of practical support needs of victims.
- Single points of contact for victims to access updates on progress into their crime.
- Advice on security and other crime prevention advice to help avoid re-victimisation.
- Referral and signposting to other appropriate agencies and services.
- Emotional support services to help victims to recover from the effects of crime.
- Restorative Justice Services.

The initiative will deliver key improvements based directly on the feedback victims have given us by building on the strengths of what we do now, whist providing continuity and familiarity with the expertise Victim Support offers. The transition to the new Integrated Victim Management Unit will be seamless as far as victims are concerned, but will offer a more joined-up service that can offer support to greater numbers of people, especially for those considered vulnerable and for the most impactive of crimes on the victim.

4. Precept 2019/20.

At the meeting of the 4th February 2019 the Police and Crime Panel unanimously approved my proposal to raise the council tax precept by the maximum amount of £24 per annum for a Band D property. My decision was not taken lightly and only reached after extensive engagement and consultation demonstrated significant public support for such a rise.

This extra funding will enable Warwickshire Police to finance the recruitment of 100 additional police officers, PCSO's and investigative staff. A decision has yet to be reached by CC Jelley as to the geographical locations where these staff will be allocated, however an additional 40 police officers will be deployed in to Patrol that provides uniformed, visible, responsive policing to live incidents.

5. Force Establishment.

The process for the recruitment of the additional police officers funded by the precept for 2018/19 has been challenging due to time scales involved in advertising, application, selection and training. The information provided below illustrates both the current and projected position in terms of police officer numbers.



Graph 1. Police Officers – Current Position





Graph 2. Police Officer Establishment – Projected 2019/20

Role	Present Number	Establishment
Police Officer	797	878
Police Staff	654	718
PCSO	86	82
Specials	147	NA
Volunteers	77	NA

Workforce in Numbers – March 2019

As can be seen, the number of police officers presently remains below the 2018/19 establishment level, but an ambitious programme of recruitment should deliver full 2019/20 establishment by October 2019.

I appreciate that this issue is of significant public interest and I will provide updates to the Police and Crime Panel at future meetings throughout the year.

6. <u>Road Safety.</u>

At the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel on the 20th September 2018 I presented a report on road safety, prepared by Mr Chris Lewis from my office. The report identified considerable reserves of funding available to Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council (WCC) to promote and enforce road safety.

Since this time I have been in consultation with road safety strategic leaders at WCC to ensure there is complete clarity on roles and responsibilities for road safety. The statutory responsibility rests with WCC and I am cautious to not usurp this position.

Clarity has been achieved both at senior officer and elected member portfolio lead levels and a collaborative position has been achieved. There has also been good dialogue with WCC Traffic and Road Safety Management and WCC Community Safety Managers to further integrate road safety into a wider community safety culture.

The impending termination of the Alliance has put the future model of roads policing (including police led road safety roles) has led to some uncertainty. Further clarity is required as a priority. In addition, the prospect of local council elections on the 2nd May and purdah on the 26th March 2019 has also added to the need to maintain momentum behind these matters.

On Friday 22nd March 2019, Chris Lewis (OPCC road safety lead) and Paul Taylor (WCC Traffic and Road Safety Manager) presented a briefing and proposals to the Safer Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership regarding the significant financial reserves available for road safety initiatives and identifying a collaborative approach between the OPCC and WCC to start utilising these funds.

This served to support and endorse the reforming and revitalising of the Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership (WRSP) and to define an effective and accountable relationship between WRSP and Safer Warwickshire CSP. It is important that the membership of the WRSP has all the stakeholders who have an interest in promoting road safety and can bring about positive change.

From the OPCC perspective, Chris Lewis is working with Abby Simkin to design a 'Road Safety Grant Scheme' that will utilise up to £500k that I have set aside to be awarded to successful grant applicants. Road safety priorities and the criteria for viable applications are currently being researched and as part of this process there will be a 'meet the market' event on Friday 12th April 2019. Its purpose is to discuss with road safety professionals, practitioners and charities the priority areas for viable investment and development. It is anticipated that the grant scheme will be launched during May 2019.

In terms of fatal road collisions this calendar year, I have been notified of seven so far by WCC. There are no common themes, other than the vulnerability of the deceased as they include motor cyclists, a pedal cyclist and a pedestrian.

7. <u>HMICFRS</u>

During March 2019 HMICFRS (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services) undertook its annual independent inspection of Warwickshire Police to assess its effectiveness and efficiency. It is anticipated to formally report on its findings in June 2019.

8. <u>Performance</u>.

My office scrutinises Warwickshire Police's performance through an extensive performance framework and I hold the Chief Constable to account through the mechanism of asking specific written questions at our monthly performance review meeting.

The force's quarterly performance summaries, together with the questions I pose and the formal response provided by the Chief Constable are published on the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) website for public access.

9. <u>Summary of Activity.</u>

Since West Mercia's decision to terminate the Alliance, repeated concern has been expressed as to the effect that this will have on Warwickshire Police and the communities it serves. I have sought to provide reassurance in this regard and have undertaking an extensive programme of engagements to inform and reassure. The list is not exhaustive, but I have attended the following engagements and events since December 2018: -

01/12/2018	PCC Selection
01/12/2018	WCC Chairman's Festive Open Evening & Reception
03/12/2018	Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board
04/12/2018	Blue light Innovation 2018 Conference
04/12/2018	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting-cancelled
06/12/2018	Neighbourhood Watch AGM
07/12/2018	Dinner with the Headmaster at Warwick School
11/12/2018	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
17/12/2018	Budget and Alliance Consultation Meeting

20/12/2018	Carol Service at HMP Onley
08/01/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
09/01/2019	PCC Budget Consultation Meeting with Staff Associations
10/01/2019	Budget Consultation with the Business Community
11/01/2019	Warwickshire Blue Light Collaboration Joint Advisory Board
15/01/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
15/01/2019	Citizens Academy Graduation 2019
16/01/2019	AGG Meeting
17/01/2019	Tackling Serious Violence event
17/01/2019	'Passing Out Ceremony' for new Student Officers
18/01/2019	Briefing for Warwickshire MPs on Budget Consultation
19/01/2019	'Meet your MP,' event with Craig Tracey MP
21/01/2019	JAC meeting
22/01/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
22/01/2019	IPLDP Confirmation in Rank Ceremony
24/01/2019	Police and Crime Panel Pre-brief
29/01/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
04/02/2019	Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel Meeting
05/02/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
04/02/2019	Warwick District Council Group meeting
05/02/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
06/02/2019	Stratford upon Avon Overview and Scrutiny Meeting
06/02/2019	APCC Strategic Command Course
07/02/2019	External Overview and Scrutiny Panel Nuneaton and Bedworth
08/02/2019	Meeting with Sue Gallagher and Jeremy Wright
12/02/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
13/02/2019	LCJB Board
13/02/2019	AGG Meeting
13/02/2019	Warwickshire Youth Parliament
15/02/2019	Emergency Services Working Collaboration Group
18/02/2019	PCC Visit to Harm Hub
19/02/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
23/02/2019	Youth IAG
26/02/2019	Weekly Holding To Account Meeting
27/02/2019	Rural Crime Training Event for Officers

28/02/2019	Hate Crime Charter Launch
01/03/2019	Rugby Police Station Visit
04/03/2019	Stratford Police Station Visit
06/03/2019	Nuneaton Justice Centre Visit
06/03/2019	Rugby Farmers Visit
08/03/2019	Womens Network Conference, Birmingham
11/03/2019	Greys Mallory Police Station Visit
11/03/2019	Shipston Council meeting
12/03/2019	Wellesbourne Council Meeting
18/03/2019	Operation Tramline with BTP
23/03/2019	Long Itchington Supported Village
26/03/2019	N.Warwickshire Citizens Academy
28/03/2019	Commissioned Service Launch
29/03/2019	Leek Wootton Parish Council Meeting
01/04/2019	Tysoe Parish Council Meeting
03/04/2019	Gypsy and Travellers Summit
08/04/2019	Stretton-on- Dunsmore Parish Council Meeting

More recently I have been conducting an engagement programme of visiting the county's police stations to see and hear for myself the operational successes, challenges and issues that officers and staff experience on a daily basis. The impression left was one of a committed workforce who have a real desire to make a positive difference to Warwickshire's communities.

The issue of increased demand with limited resources has been prevalent throughout my visits and the precept funding made available for the additional recruitment of officers, PCSO's and investigators will undoubtedly make a significant difference going forward to the quality of the service provided and the health and wellbeing of the workforce.

Whilst there are significant challenges ahead given West Mercia Police's notice to terminate the alliance, there is determination by all to make a success of these new arrangements and to take a renewed pride in being Warwickshire Police.

Philip Seccombe. TD

Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner.