



East Cambridgeshire Councillor Brief

11th January 2021 via Microsoft Teams

Acting Police and Crime Commissioner, Ray Bisby held a virtual briefing for East Cambridgeshire councillors on Monday 11th January.

He was joined by Police Sergeant Mark Rabel from Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Charlotte Homent from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership.

Mr Bisby began by welcoming those Councillors attending and outlined his confirmed period of office, now until May 2021, following the cancellation of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) elections in May 2020 (due to the pandemic).

He invited councillors to be aware of his public survey, launched on 5th January asking members of the public about how much they are willing to support police funding for 2021/22.

Councillors were asked to share the survey with their residents. Mr Bisby reminded councillors that it is his job to set the budget for the Constabulary and that part of that is about determining how much people contribute through their council tax.

The survey enables local people to tell Mr Bisby their views on what matters to them in terms of policing and crime and will help inform the Acting Commissioner's final decision on how much to raise the policing part of the council tax.

The survey asks people's views on an increase of £1.25 per month (based on a Band D property) to council tax which would enable the Chief Constable to implement a number of improvements to the service the public receive. These include:

- Additional call handlers
- Additional support for responding to calls for service from the vulnerable
- Cyber, online prevention officers
- Digital Media Investigators
- Increased capacity for handling digital contact from the public
- Additional Support for the development of frontline officers
- A link to the survey is here: <http://bit.ly/38VitXS>

The survey runs from Tuesday 5th January until 17:00 on Tuesday 19th January.

Community Road Safety schemes

Connie Anker, Communications and Engagement Officer for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner then provided an update on what councillors can do to build local community resilience and encourage local people to support community safety activities. She reminded

councillors about the volunteer organisations set up across Cambridgeshire, namely Speedwatch, HGV Watch, and Neighbourhood Watch all of which continue to support partnership initiatives to keep residents safe. She also outlined the benefits of councillors and residents signing up to ECops to receive regular updates from the Constabulary and/or the Commissioner's Office.

Issues raised by councillors on the issue of road safety included: whether SpeedWatch Schemes are still running during the lockdown (the schemes are currently on hold in line with government restrictions).

Police Sergeant Mark Rabel, Cambridgeshire Constabulary then provided an update on crime in East Cambridgeshire and reminded attendees that East Cambs is a relatively safe place to live. Statistics were presented in relation to calls for Police service. PS Rabel outlined the importance of partnership working and also informed councillors that given the nature of the local roads and smaller villages that Road Safety also formed part of Constabulary focus and that the local officers and Special Constabulary support local SpeedWatch teams.

Councillors were asked to provide details of speeding concerns through to Mike Brookes, the Constabulary's Watch Coordinator who will liaise with local Speedwatch coordinators.

Contact details: Mike Brookes, (Speedwatch, HGV Watch and Neighbourhood Watch), email: speedwatch@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Speedwatch: <http://speedwatch.info/>

Neighbourhood Watch: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/>

To sign up for Ecops visit: <https://www.ecops.org.uk/>

Against Scams Partnership

Charlotte Homent (Cambridgeshire County Council) then provided an update on the progress of the countywide Scams partnership, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership.

A copy of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership's presentation can be found on this page.

More details can be found on the Partnership website which contains a range of downloadable assets: <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/capasp/>.

Other issues raised by Councillors included: which local force responds to 999 calls in border areas - PS Rabel responded that whichever force is closest responds however the local force (where the incident takes place) owns the crime and any subsequent investigation. PS Rabel also asked if Councillors could promote the local Eyes and Ears project which supports local and vulnerable people.

Eyes and Ears Project: <https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/community-safety/community-eyes-and-ears>

Police and Crime Commissioner social media channels:

Twitter: @PCCCambs

Facebook: @CambsPCC

Instagram: @PCCCambs

