

# Agenda Item 10a

Ordinary Council Meeting of: 18 July 2023  
Cllr Boshier/Cllr Atkins

## **AGENDA ITEM 10a - Neighbourhood Policing Matters**

Amendment:

To add a new paragraph 2:

'This Council further notes that the funding formula is based on Cities and is currently under review with the Home Office and is expected to include rural areas which will benefit Hampshire and IOW Constabulary.'

To add new paragraphs 5 and 6:

'This Council welcomes the recent announcement of a 7% pay rise across all ranks as recommended by the Police Remuneration Review Body and accepted in full by the Government, with the most junior officers getting a £5000 boost.

This Council notes the comments of the National Police Chief's Council lead for pay and conditions who said "We welcome that the Government has accepted the PRRB recommendations on Police Officers pay in full"

To amend former paragraph 4 (now paragraph 7):

This Council ~~regrets~~ **notes** that ~~successive~~ **previous** Police & Crime Commissioners have closed Police counters across Portsmouth including Southsea, North End, Cosham and City Central and notes the only public counter is now on the Airport Industrial Estate with no public transport, so out of reach unless you have a car or can cycle there.

To add new paragraph 8:

This Council notes that the current Police & Crime Commissioner Donna Jones has halted the sale of Cosham Police Station and has publicly stated her plans to reopen Police Counters.

To amend former paragraph 11 (now paragraph 15):

~~Therefore the Council invites the Police & Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable to a future meeting of this Council to inform us about~~  
**requests that the Cabinet Member for Safety in the Community and**

**Council representative on the Police and Crime Panel writes to the Police and Crime Commissioner to inform him on:**

Recommendation (i) to be amended as below:

- (i) the current state of recruitment and retention of Police, staff and PCSOs, especially how many extra Police ~~each part of our city will be getting~~ **Portsmouth will be getting;**

New recommendation (v) to be added:

- (v) That the Cabinet Member for Safety in the Community brings a report back to Full Council.

Therefore the amended motion to read:

This Council notes the allocation of funding for each policing area is worked out using a formula. At present Hampshire and IoW Constabulary serving Portsmouth, is disadvantaged by this formula and it has been calculated that as a result the force is underfunded by £41.6 million a year compared to the national average.

This Council further notes that the funding formula is based on Cities and is currently under review with the Home Office and is expected to include rural areas which will benefit Hampshire and IOW Constabulary

Furthermore this Council notes in 2019 the Chief Constable and the Police & Crime Commissioner wrote to the Government demanding more funding pointing out Hampshire and IoW Constabulary receives a quarter less funding than is needed.

Hampshire and IoW Police Federation commenting on the 'England and Wales Pay and Morale' survey state: Hampshire and IoW is underfunded by £43 million and that its members say morale is low.

This Council welcomes the recent announcement of a 7% pay rise across all ranks as recommended by the Police Remuneration Review Body and accepted in full by the Government, with the most junior officers getting a £5000 boost.

This Council notes the comments of the National Police Chief's Council lead for pay and conditions who said "We welcome that the Government has accepted the PRRB recommendations on Police Officers pay in full"

This Council notes that previous Police & Crime Commissioners have closed Police counters across Portsmouth including Southsea, North End, Cosham and City Central and notes the only public counter is now on the Airport Industrial Estate with no public transport, so out of reach unless you have a car or can cycle there.

This Council notes that the current Police & Crime Commissioner Donna Jones has halted the sale of Cosham Police Station and has publicly stated her plans to reopen Police Counters.

This Council notes in January 2021 the Chief Constable and Police & Crime Commissioner argued for and secured an increase in the police precept levied on local homes of 7.1% to “take the fight to criminals and those blighting our neighbourhoods with anti-social behaviour.”

This Council notes that at the recent Police & Crime Panel they approved a rise of 6.34% sought by the current Police & Crime Commissioner arguing similar reasons as the 2021 needs.

This Council is concerned that, despite ongoing police precept increases, at police/public meetings across Portsmouth residents describe how nothing seems to have changed, how they are kept waiting on 101; that reports of crime and anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhoods are not investigated. Hampshire and IoW Constabulary publicly admit they prioritise ‘High Harm’ and ‘County Lines’ offences.

This Council welcomes and supports police investigation of High Harm and County Lines crimes and continues to invest in citywide safeguarding cameras to help prevent and detect crime in partnership with city police. Furthermore the Council notes the creation of a new permanent post in the current budget of a specialised Anti-Social Behaviour officer.

This Council supports Hampshire Police Federation, the Chief Constable and the Police & Crime Commissioner's calls for fair funding for Hampshire and IoW Constabulary.

However this Council is concerned crime and anti-social behaviour is overwhelming our local Neighbourhood Police Teams, and that residents report neighbourhood crimes and anti-social behaviour are not being properly investigated if at all.

Therefore the Council requests that the Cabinet Member for Safety in the Community and Council representative on the Police and Crime Panel writes to the Police and Crime Commissioner to inform him on:

- (i) the current state of recruitment and retention of Police, staff and PCSOs, especially how many extra Police Portsmouth will be getting;
- (ii) how Neighbourhood policing will be improved. This should be through extra neighbourhood Police officers that reflect local people's priorities;
- (iii) how 101 will be improved;
- (iv) how they will open accessible police public contact counters in the accessible locations in the north and south of Portsmouth; and
- (v) That the Cabinet Member for Safety in the Community brings a report back to Full Council

Proposed by (Name) Councillor Simon Boshier

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by (Name) Councillor Matthew Atkins

Signed \_\_\_\_\_