

**Summary of issues submitted at 'Policing the Future' Public Meeting  
Held at Rutland County Council, Oakham on 16 June, 2011**

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You asked about

**The role of the Police Authority Chairman**

Response

The role of the Chairman is to provide leadership for the Authority's members. A Police Authority ensures that the public receive an effective police service and that public money spent on policing is spent wisely.

The Chairman and the Police Authority members represent local people, holding the Chief Constable to account for policing.

You asked about

**Deployment of resources from Rutland to higher crime areas such as Leicester City.**

**The impact of cut backs on the way officers are deployed in rural areas?**

**The impact of cutbacks on the way officers patrol, e.g will this be in cars only rather than on foot?**

Response

The reality is that police numbers are shrinking, but we aim to deliver this in a way that meets threat and harm across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland as we seek to preserve the Neighbourhood Policing Structure.

There will always be a need to deploy resources to areas of greatest need, but we can tell you that the latest results from the British Crime Survey show that overall crime rates in Leicester City are falling as they are across the force. However, we want to cut crime across all our areas, whether these are rural or urban, and we are focussed on this aim.

We understand how important Neighbourhood Policing is to local people and we are seeking to preserve this as far as possible. Neighbourhood Policing is one part of policing though, we have response teams, we have specialist operational support teams, such as Scene of Crime Officers, and we have many centralised teams at Head Quarters to support the work of those in the community.

Our response needs to be proportionate to the risk whilst recognising that there still needs to be a local service available. We need to get the balance right.

Police officers use a variety of methods to patrol their beats including pushbikes, cars and on foot. Whilst foot patrol or pushbike patrol are both useful I am sure you appreciate it does not give officers the ability to respond as quickly to incidents. Therefore the Constabulary has tried to strike a balance between a number of

different methods of patrol that keep us accessible to the community. We also rely on the back up of colleagues such as Scenes of Crime Officers for example.

We also have to balance the desire for visible policing with the need to deliver those areas of policing that are often not visible to the public such as child protection and counter terrorism work.

You asked about

**How we deal with police corruption**

Response

Integrity is fundamental to our service. People must trust us and what we do. We do have an in-house Anti Corruption Unit to investigate any allegations of misconduct and this is under the management of the Deputy Chief Constable. Depending on the nature of the allegation it is either dealt with as an internal investigation or in some cases referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission. The IPCC can either return it to us to investigate, refer it to another force to investigate or look into the issue itself. The Police Authority has a process to ensure the correct procedure has been followed and undertakes regular checks on a random sample of files.

You asked about

**Will cutbacks affect the priority the police give to local issues such as catching poachers?**

Response

Priorities change across the force area, depending where you live, and what matters to people locally will always be a priority for us. Reducing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour is our target everywhere, so if that crime is poaching, we will seek to reduce that.

You asked about

**What are the regulations that govern road markings and who is responsible for interpreting regulations governing road markings?**

**How we deal with speeding?**

Responses

Road Safety is a partnership responsibility including the police and the Local Authority.. Decisions around road markings and speed limits are based on a number of factors including the number of Road Traffic Incidents, the amount of traffic using the road, other factors such as schools and residential houses etc.

There are a variety of methods used to stop people from speeding which include education workshops, penalty points and fines as well as safety cameras, speed bumps and road markings.

You asked about

**ASB**

Responses

Anti Social Behaviour is one area we know affects people. We will work to resolve local issues and the Local Policing Unit Commander has initiatives in place to deal with any such issues as they arise.

In fact, a targeted team will be in place to address specific issues over the next few weeks, following public concerns.

You asked about

**Working in partnership with the Fire Service to help prevent the theft of lead from buildings such as church roofs.**

Responses

We recognise partnership working as a way forward for many issues and already work with the NHS, Fire Service, Probation and Local Councils. We will consider this opportunity.

You asked about

**Our role in educating people about stereotyping of young people as being the cause of Anti Social Behaviour.**

Response

Young people are our future and we understand the need to challenge stereotypes on their behalf. Young people are in fact more likely to commit crime, be a victim of crime or be a witness. We need to engage effectively with young people and we need them to engage with us.

We do try very hard to communicate with all our communities including young people and we believe that we need discussions with representatives from all sides to educate and inform people about the positive things that young people achieve and the perceptions of their behaviour

We accept that one person's acceptable behaviour is very anti social indeed to others. Is football in the street acceptable, or is it deterring people from going outside.

This is why we need to work in partnership with the right people at the table. We already embrace new technology such as using social media networks and we also have dedicated youth Initiative Officers and the Police Authority have a lead member for young people.

You asked about

**Recruitment and training of Special Constables and possible use of private security companies.**

Response

We are currently working on a strategy around the use of volunteers. Volunteers and Special Constables are an important part of our business. They provide vital support to our organisation, and we value that

Working with private companies would need to be discussed as this would use money from the public purse. We are open to suggestions and happy to consider other options.

You asked about

**The time taken for the police to respond after thefts from farms such as metal gates etc**

**Stock theft and whether trailers travelling about late at night be investigated**

**Tractor theft**

Response

We respond to incidents dependent on a variety of factors and we have many initiatives to deal with this type of crime. Any complaints around delays will be followed up by the local Police Unit Commander.

These are valid points and we recognise that rural crime can have a major impact on the livelihood of local people. If there is more that we can do, we need to look into it. We already work with the local NFU and maybe we need to look further outside the box.

We also recognise that tractor theft is often connected to organised crime groups and major operations are underway to address this with our colleagues in other forces. An example of the work already complete by Operation Ball was given at the event.

You asked about

**The resources used to transport people in police custody**

Response

We recognise that transporting people in custody can be very resource intensive and therefore we are currently conducting a review of custody and looking for other ways to solve problems.

You asked about

**The current staffing levels for Rutland against past staffing levels at Rutland and the impact this has on how much the Council has to pay for policing.**

**Has lower staffing levels impacted on sickness rates?  
How we covered required staffing levels?**

Response

The precept has been set locally, there is no change in what the council has to pay locally

Rutland has a very good sickness record one of my officers has not had a single days sickness in his fifteen years service. ...

You asked about

**Targets  
Do we have targets relating to detention?**

Response

Although we do not have targets to arrest and detain people we do target particular individuals who commit the majority of our offences causing the most harm with in our community. Rutland has recently been highlighted as dealing with offenders with out the need to arrest through restorative approaches in neighbourhoods (RAINs)

You asked about

**The extent of car tyre slashing in Rutland and what is the solution?**

Response

Within Rutland we have no tyre slashing incidents. Any reported incidents will be dealt with locally by the Local Policing Unit.

You asked about

**Can consideration be given about traffic calming on Brooke Road, Oakham?**

Response

All of the agencies are already aware of Brooke road particularly parking issues outside the school. The Road Safety Partnership are currently working on improving signage to make the location safer. Traffic calming measures can only be implemented by Rutland County Council Highways Dept in consultation with police and traffic management. Speeding was assessed on Brooke Rd by traffic management and the overall average speed was less than 30 mph the average was 26 mph.

You asked about

**The impact if all Strategic decisions are made at Police Headquarters and if Oakham Police Station could be free to make their own decisions?**

Response

All Local Policing Units tailor their policing service to deliver neighbourhood policing and response to emergencies. .

The panel was asked ...

**If a magic wand could take away one thing what would that be?**

Response

- Remove bureaucracy
- Changes in the Police Reform Bill
- Criminals