



Congleton Town Council

Historic market town

Chief Officer: **David McGifford**



29th January 2016

Dear Councillor,

Community, Environment and Services Committee – Thursday 4th February 2016

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Community, Environment & Services Committee, to be held in the Town Hall, High Street, Congleton **on Thursday 4th February 2016 at 7.00pm.**

The Public and Press are welcome to attend the meeting. There may be confidential items towards the end of the meeting which the law requires the Council to make a resolution to exclude the public and press.

Yours sincerely,

David McGifford
CHIEF OFFICER

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence. (Members are reminded of the necessity to give apologies in Advance of the meeting and to give reasons for absence).

2. Minutes of Last Meeting (Enclosed)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th November 2015 as a correct.

3. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

4. Outstanding Actions

None

5. Cheshire Police

To receive and consider a verbal report from a representative of Cheshire Police on Policing matters affecting Congleton.



Congleton
beartown
where friends are made

6. Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group (Enclosed)

To receive the minutes of the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group held on the 16th November 2015 and 19th January 2015.

7. CCTV (Enclosed)

To receive and consider a request from Cheshire East to implement a 3 year agreement to cover the contribution towards provision of CCTV in the Town.

8. Parking at the War Memorial Hospital (Enclosed)

To receive correspondence from the Chief Executive of the NHS Trust relating to car parking at the War Memorial Hospital.

9. Tour of Britain Cycling Race 2016 (Enclosed)

To receive and consider a request from Cheshire East for Towns to consider sponsoring and hosting the start of finding of a Cycling Race.

10. Emergency Services (Enclosed)

To consider correspondence from Cheshire Blue Light Collaboration scheme aimed at sharing resources and premises.

11. Meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner (Enclosed)

To receive minutes of the Police and Crime Commissioners meeting with representatives of ChALC (Cheshire Association of Local Councils).

12. Support for Refugees (Enclosed)

To consider correspondence from Cheshire East seeking support for Syrian refugees and asylum seekers.

13. DISC (Database and Intranet for Safer Communities) – Pilot Project (Enclosed)

To consider a report from the Town Centre and Marketing Manager on piloting the "DISC" system.

14. Welcome to Congleton Maps Project (Enclosed)

To consider a report from the Town Centre and Marketing Manager on the Welcome to Congleton Maps Project.

15. Speed indicator Device (SIDS)

To receive a verbal report on Speed Indicator Devices.

16. Dog Fouling/Dog Waste Bins

To receive a verbal report on dog fouling and dog waste bins in the Town.

To: Members of the Community, Environment and Services Committee

Cllrs:

Mrs S A Holland (Chairman), P Broom (Vice Chairman)
N Adams, Mrs A L Armitt, C Booth, G P Hayes, Mrs A M Martin, Mrs A E Morrison,
Mrs J Parry, G S Williams

Ccs: Appointed Members - Mr G Baxendale (Honorary Burgess)
Mr E Clarke (Honorary Burgess)

Other members of the Council and Honorary Burgesses (5) for Information; Press (2)
Congleton Library, Congleton Tourist Information Centre.

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES
COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Councillors

Mrs D S Allen
Mrs A L Armitt
P Bates
C Booth
G R Edwards
G P Hayes
Mrs S A Holland (Chair)
Mrs A M Martin
Mrs A E Morrison
Mrs J D Parry
G S Williams

1. **APOLOGIES.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Adams.

Apologies were also received from Cllr D T Brown who is not a member of this particular Committee.

2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

CES/23/1516 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st October 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are requested to declare both "pecuniary" and "non-pecuniary" interests as early in the meeting as they become known.

Cllrs P Bates, G P Hayes and G S Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in any matters related to Cheshire East Council.

4. **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

There were no outstanding actions.

5. CHESHIRE POLICE

There were apologies submitted by members of Cheshire police for not being unable to attend. However, Cllr P Bates reported that at a recent meeting held with Inspector Dickinson, he had confirmed that Congleton would retain a complement of 6 PCSOs but there was a need to ensure that they active in Congleton.

Some concern was expressed at the difficulty PCSOs were experiencing signing on for their shift at Macclesfield in terms of time lost and transport problems.

6. FLORAL ARRANGEMENT WORKING GROUP

CES/24/1516 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 27th October and 4th November 2015 were received.

7. BUGLAWTON POST OFFICE

Correspondence from the Post Office outlining the changes that were taking place to the Buglawton Post Office were considered.

CES/25/1516 RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

8. CCTV

An incident report produced by Cheshire East Council on issues that have been identified in Congleton by CCTV was discussed. It was noted that there are a relatively low number of incidents occurring and that Congleton is a very safe town to live, work and visit.

CES/26/1516 RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

9. PARKING AT THE WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

A letter from John Wilbraham, Chief Executive of East Cheshire NHS Trust concerning Parking Eye at the War Memorial Hospital was considered.

CES/27/1516 RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write to the Chief Executive requesting an explanation of why Parking Eye was selected as the operator of car parking at the hospital rather than using their own resources.

10. CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY

The Cheshire Fire Authority Integrated Risk Plan was discussed by members.

CES/28/1516 RESOLVED that:-

1. The Town Clerk to complete a response on the proposals.
2. The Fire Authority to be requested to consider providing advance warning when conducting safety calls.

11. STREETScape

A report on Streetscape performance was discussed. Concern was expressed at the cost of cleaning up fly tipping which was costing the Council around £2,500 per month. It was noted that Cheshire East Council are looking to make car parks such as Princess Street more secure.

CES/29/1516 RESOLVED that:-

1. The report be received.
2. Fly tipping hotspots to be reported to Cllr G S Williams.

12. POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (PCC)

A report on the Police and Crime Commissioner's meeting with Town and Parish Councils was presented to the Committee.
It was noted that concerns related to speed limits should be raised with the local Cheshire East Ward Councillor.

CES/30/1516 RESOLVED that the correspondence be received.

13. COUNTRY PARK LANDSCAPE

Cllr Mrs S Akers Smith provided a presentation on ideas to create a cycling and walking country park and was seeking a letter of support for the ideas from the Town Council.

CES/31/1516 RESOLVED that a suitable letter of support be presented on behalf of the Town Council and forwarded to Cllr Mrs S Akers Smith.

Mrs S A Holland
Chairman (In the Chair)

Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Monday 16th November 2015

Minutes of the Meeting

Present

Cllr Mrs S A Holland (Chairman)
Cllrs G Williams
J Parry
A Martin
R Burgess
PCSO Amie Gillet
Sgt Shane Owens

Apologies

Apologies were received from Lee Johnson, Plus Dane

1. Drug and alcohol abuse

Noted that there are problems in the usual locations which are Rope Walk, Congleton Park and with cars around the Skate Park. The park is a significant area for underage drinking

Princess Street is starting to calm down due to a number of police initiatives which include issuing yellow cards and dispersal notices. The problems when they do occur in this area tend to be after school and into the early evening. May consider installing signage in this area depicting that it is an alcohol free zone. Also consider placing the GO Pro camera in this area.

The bottom of Brunswick Street and the phone box outside the Highways Depot and the flats by Cross Lane are problem areas

Hotspot Areas

Brunswick Street and Cross Lane - drugs

2. Anti-Social Behaviour

Problems are being experienced around Clayton Avenue, St John's Road and the COOP at Buglawton

Again the police have issued yellow cards and dispersal orders to the group concerned which has calmed the situation down, although youths are complaining that there is nothing for them to do in the area.

May consider installing lighting in the play area, suggest that Buglawton Community Group is consulted about this idea, and also ask the young what they want.

Priorities and Hotspot Areas

Irresponsible parking outside schools

St John's Road

Clayton Avenue

Princess Street

3. Dog Fouling

CEC provided a check list of what is needed in terms of evidence so that offenders can be legally pursued

The issue of dog fouling though appears to have reduced.

There are though some concerns related to pet attacks and the police are looking into such incidents

4. Noise

There was a complaint relating to noise nuisance at the Tesco car park in Barn Road, but, there have been no recent problems reported.

5. Holmesville Avenue

The issue of gates which have been installed by some properties on Holmesville Avenue opening onto Mereside is a subject for the planning enforcement officer to deal with.

6. Date of next meeting

12.30pm Tuesday 19th January 2016

Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Tuesday 19th January 2016

Minutes of the Meeting

Present

Mrs S A Holland (Chairman)
D McGifford
P Bates
D Allen
J Parry
A Martin
R Burgess
J MacArthur
Sgt Shane Owens
Lee Johnson, Plus Dane

Apologies

Apologies from G Williams

1. Drug and alcohol abuse

Noted that there are drug problems ever present in the Town, but, there are no specific problem areas at the moment.

Princess Street is starting to calm down due to a number of police initiatives which include successfully prosecuting the ring leader who has received a custodial sentence for racially aggravated harassment.

The COOP in St John's Road is the focus of some issue with youths gathering in the area, but, the store manager has banned a number of them from entering the shop

Hotspot Areas

COOP St John's Road

2. Anti-Social Behaviour

Concern at some domestic disturbances in and around Fern Crescent and Burns Road, suggest Environmental Health is informed and the housing association if the disturbances emanate from Housing Associations property.

There appears to be a number of dog attacks taking place around Bromley Farm with one individual in particular causing problems with lurcher dogs which have been set onto other domestic animals.

These issues will be raised in the Bromley Farm newsletter and residents requested to log the incidents with the police. The police will also speak to the person who is causing the problem.

The issue of dog fouling though appeared to have reduced, but, is starting to become a problem once again in certain areas. The dog bags located in Town are being used and replenished regularly.

There is a continuing problem at Mereside with residents complaining that properties on Holmesville Avenue are leaving their bins on Mereside for collection. Suggested that PB take this up with CEC.

Priorities and Hotspot Areas

ASB in Fern Crescent
Dog attacks
Mereside

3. Other Agencies

Problems seem to have quietened down for the time being, but, Plus Dane are publicising the police alerts to the residents which are being positively received

4. Date of next meeting

TBA

MR BRIAN HOGAN,
CLERK TO CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL,
CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL,
TOWN HALL,
HIGH STREET,
CONGLETON,
CHESHIRE,
CW12 1BN.



Westfields,
Middlewich Road,
Sandbach,
Cheshire.
CW11 1HZ

Tel:
Email: steph.cordon@cheshireeast.gov.uk

5th. January 2016.

Dear Brian

Contribution towards CCTV Cameras

I am writing to you as an existing valued partner in our CCTV service to ask you to consider your position for the future.

We have demonstrated that by working in partnership and having the CCTV cameras in your area actively monitored has made a real difference to how safe our communities and businesses feel. In fact there has been several examples across Cheshire East whereby the evidence from the cameras has directly contributed towards providing evidence that has greatly helped the police.

A three year agreement, which could be index linked, is still an option which can be explored in the future. The obvious benefits to both parties would include both having a degree of certainty in the intermediate future and making the process of managing and building budgets a bit easier.

I know that your conversations and budget setting process is well underway and we are keen to continue our arrangements with you, but in the least bureaucratic way possible. Therefore, I would be grateful if you could contact Jan Griffiths, CCTV Manager jan.griffiths@cheshireeast.gov.uk with any questions that you may have and an indication as to whether you are willing to sign up with us in partnership to protect our communities and continue the contribution for next financial year.

Please can you respond directly back to Jan by 1st. February 2016.

Yours sincerely



PP Steph Cordon
Head of Communities.

CONTRIBUTIONS LETTER

I am writing in order to acknowledge receipt of the sum of £9,250.00 being the contribution that Congleton Town Council has agreed to make towards the overall cost of the Closed Circuit Television System (CCTV System) operated and maintained by Cheshire East Council in the Congleton Town Council's administrative area for the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 and which contribution is made on the following basis:

1. Cheshire East Council uses the contribution towards the operation of the CCTV System in the Congleton area in general and more particularly as set out in Annexe 1.
2. Whilst the contribution may have been calculated in relation to individual cameras, a proportion of the contribution will be applied towards the general administration, monitoring, technical and support functions carried out in order to operate the overall CCTV System, without which the individual cameras located in the Congleton area could not fulfil their function.
3. Cheshire East Council will:
 - a. in the event that a camera fault is reported, carry out repairs to that camera as soon as practically possible, and in any case no later than 10 working days;
 - b. undertake routine maintenance/cleaning of cameras on a quarterly basis, including an assessment of any foliage obscuring the camera;
 - c. provide 24/7/365 coverage via the CCTV System and liaise with statutory services with the aim of prevention and detection of crime and disorder;
 - d. provide reports identifying individual camera activity on a three monthly basis;
 - e. make available a twice yearly report produced via the Community Safety Partnership (giving crime statistics for each area).
4. In the event that circumstances prevent Cheshire East Council from operating the CCTV System in the Congleton area then Cheshire East Council will repay a proportion of the contribution to Congleton Town Council (calculated with regard to the number months in which the CCTV System is unavailable).
5. Cheshire East Council and/or Congleton Town Council may be obliged to disclose information relating to the contribution in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 or under any other requirement of law and will assist, and cooperate with each other as reasonably requested, to facilitate compliance with those requirements.

I would be grateful if you would sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as confirmation of your understanding and acceptance of the above.

Partnerships and Communities
Cheshire East Borough Council

SIGNED on behalf of:

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

In the presence of:-

Signature:
Print Name:
Position:



SIGNED on behalf of:

CHESHIRE EAST BOROUGH COUNCIL

In the presence of:-

Signature:
Print Name:
Position:

ANNEXE 1

- Contribution towards the operation of 5 CCTV cameras in the Area:-
 1. Bridge Street;
 2. High Street;
 3. Market Street;
 4. Lawton Street;
 5. Bromley Farm.

1ST. QTR '12ND.QTR '13RD. QTR 2 4TH. QTR 2015

Arson	1	1	0
ASB	19	21	19
Breach	3	1	0
Council	85	93	42
Damage	3	6	0
Drug/alcohol	23	11	10
Fraud	13	5	1
Observations	74	76	107
Sexual	0	1	1
Theft	22	25	18
Traffic	11	13	13
Violence	11	19	20
	265	272	231

Item 8

Our Ref: esd/JW/carparking/2015

24th November, 2015

Brian Hogan
Congleton Town Council
Town Hall
High Street
Congleton
Cheshire
CW12 1BN



Office of the Chief Executive
Trust Headquarters
2nd Floor, New Alderney Building
Macclesfield District General Hospital
Victoria Road
Macclesfield
Cheshire
SK10 3BL

Tel: 01625 421000
Direct Line: 01625 661501
Fax: 01625 661000
www.eastcheshire.nhs.uk
Email: Fionabaker@nhs.net

Dear Mr Hogan,

Re: Parking Facilities at Congleton War Memorial Hospital

Thank you for your letter dated 13th November regarding the parking facilities at the Congleton War Memorial Hospital.

Since the launch of the new Parking Eye ANPR system at the start of the year parking at Macclesfield Hospital has improved and there is better segregation of Patient and Staff policy.

Parking Eye manage the car parks based on criteria as set out by the Trust and this criterion is managed firmly but fairly by Parking Eye.

Historically management of our car parks was undertaken on foot by the small Trust Security Team. Due to the size of the site, this was time consuming, drew the team away from their main duties and realistically meant that only a certain proportion of motorists infringing the parking rules were ever detected. The Trust therefore had to either increase its own team or employ specialists in the parking business.

Last year the local bus company threatened to withdraw the bus service to the hospital until we managed our car parks effectively.

Parking Eye were appointed in 2014 following the normal NHS processes and I can confirm four companies respond to our invitation to tender.



Chairman: Lynn McGill

Chief Executive: John Wilbraham

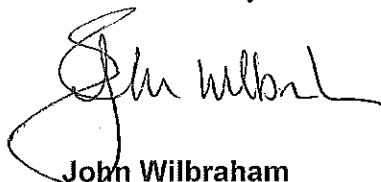


Parking Eye have invested significantly across the site replacing payment machines which were not fit for purpose, installed automatic number plate technology, introduced different payment options and refreshed the signage across the whole site. Signs with a yellow border indicating Staff Permit Holder Only car parks and signs with a blue border indicating Patient/Visitor car parks.

We can confirm that Parking Eye have a dedicated NHS team in place and as part of the appeals process as set out by the Trust will cancel any charge issued to a blue badge holder, errors with registration and cases of genuine medical emergency. The Trust can also intervene in extreme circumstances and cancel a charge on someone's behalf.

We hope that we have addressed the concerns raised within your letter and if you would like to discuss this further please make contact with the Facilities Department on 01625 663650.

Yours sincerely



John Wilbraham

Chief Executive



East Cheshire NHS Trust

Listening into Action

Chairman: Lynn McGill

Chief Executive: John Wilbraham



December 2015

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Re: Tour of Britain Cycling Race 2016

As you maybe aware Cheshire East has recently bid to host a stage of the 'Tour of Britain' cycling race which will be held September 2016. The bid is for the start and finish of the race with all 180km being held in Cheshire East.

The 'Tour of Britain' Cycle Race (www.tourofbritain.co.uk<<http://www.tourofbritain.co.uk>>) is estimated to generate between £3m-£5m for the local economy (the average per Stage in 2014 was £3.6m). It provides a number of areas of potential benefit, including business development, media profile, tourism and destination promotion. It provides opportunities to give a focus to cycling development and participation and promotion of cycle networks and sustainable cycling transport initiatives especially for cycle to work programmes, schools and public health.

The Tour has already seen eleven years of growth since 2004: The Tour of Britain is now a cornerstone of the UK's sporting calendar making it Britain's biggest and best, professional bike race. It has been upgraded to 2.HC (hose category) status by the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) and provides the biggest live attendance of any sporting event in the UK. It showcases approximately 20 teams from 10 different countries including 7 British teams, one of these teams being the national squad. The Tour also attracts world renowned riders including Mark Cavendish and Sir Bradley Wiggins.

As the UK's biggest free to attend sporting event it has more than 1.4 million spectators across the eight day event (Average of 180,000 spectators per stage). In 2014 data showed:

- 81% of spectators were from outside the local area, 13% of visitors stayed overnight •58% of spectators were inspired to cycle more often •The net additional economic impact from non-local spectators for the whole race was £29.4m (average of £3.6m per Stage).

It is broadcast on both ITV4 and British Eurosport in the UK.

- Stage One is live on ITV1
- Over 24-hours of coverage on ITV4, free-to-view, terrestrial television •Live coverage on ITV4 of Stages 2 to 8 (3-hours) plus one-hour highlights programme each evening, repeated following daytime.
- Live coverage on ITV4 attracts an average audience of over 400,000 viewers, whilst more than 1,500,000 watched stage 1 live on ITV1.
- Total viewers of 9.3m on all ITV1/ITV4 programmes •Live coverage by British Eurosport– all eight stages live plus nightly highlights. Additional post-Tour coverage by British Eurosport with 60-minute highlights programme, repeated on several occasions.

I am writing to you to see if you have an interest in sponsoring or contributing to achieving the potential benefits associated with the tour passing through a town or if there is specific interest in the start or finish of the race. As part of the bid the host area has to pay a licence fee to host the stage. For information, previous bid examples have successfully packaged different levels of sponsorship and contributions such as Premier level for £15k, Gold level for £10k, Silver level for £7,500 and Bronze level for £5k.

Obviously the tour will not be able to go through every town in Cheshire East therefore an early response would be appreciated. I would also be keen to hear your ideas on activities around the race involving business, schools and residents. If you could respond directly to Richard Milkins, Tour of Britain Project Manager Richard.milkins@cheshireeast.gov.uk<<mailto:Richard.milkins@cheshireeast.gov.uk>> as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Gardner', with a small dot below it.

**Cllr. Sam Gardner MA, PgDL.
Representing Tytherington
Portfolio Holder for Open Spaces**

(evaluation data courtesy of 'Tour of Britain' organiser, 'Sweetspot')

Cheshire Blue Light Collaboration

December 2015

Partner Briefing

The three emergency services responsible for protecting the communities of Cheshire are developing a collaboration programme aimed at sharing resources and premises.

In line with national moves for greater blue light integration, the aim is to achieve real efficiencies, deliver

a more joined-up service to local communities and ensure recent improvements in public safety can continue in the future.

We want to make sure that our staff and key partners are kept informed of progress and this briefing sheet gives an update on progress and sets out the next steps.

*Police & Crime Commissioner
John Dwyer*

*Chair of Cheshire Fire Authority,
Cllr John Joyce*

*Chair of North West Ambulance
Service (NWS) Trust, Wyn Dignan*

Chief Constable Simon Byrne

Chief Fire Officer Paul Hancock

NWS Chief Executive Bob Williams

Blue light talks get the green light

The leaders of the three emergency services have developed a draft Cheshire Blue Light Collaboration programme aimed at maximising the efficiency of the back office teams and systems which support the frontline emergency services.

At this stage most of the proposals for collaboration involve just the fire and rescue service and the police, with North West Ambulance Service involved where practical due to their wider regional responsibilities.

The Executive Board behind the programme has a vision of a single shared headquarters for police and fire based at the existing Cheshire Constabulary site in Winsford.

If the plans are approved, fire and rescue service staff transferring to the new joint headquarters would do so on their existing terms and conditions and would become police employees.

Proposals to bring together a range of transactional and professional services are being drawn up and final decisions will be made at meetings of the Fire Authority and the Police and Crime Commissioner and Constabulary Joint Management Board on 9th December.

Trade unions have been kept informed of progress and there will be specific consultation with those staff affected if the plans get the go ahead.

The Executive Board has stressed that there is no intention of a complete merger of emergency services in Cheshire - each organisation will be keeping their own identity and frontline emergency response services.



Cheshire backs consultation

Police and fire chiefs in Cheshire have responded positively to a new Government consultation on "Enabling closer working between the Emergency Services".

The six week consultation outlined proposals for a new duty on all three emergency services to actively consider collaboration opportunities to improve efficiency and effectiveness. It also highlighted options for local Police and Crime Commissioners to take on the duties and responsibilities of fire and Rescue Authorities if a local case was made.

Cheshire's Fire Authority and Police and Crime Commissioner have both responded to say that while they will continue to collaborate closely, they don't see a need to change the existing governance arrangements - *see back page for the joint covering letter to the PCC and Fire Authority's responses.*

Cheshire Blue Light Collaboration

Enabling closer working between the Emergency Services

Bluelight collaboration has a strong foundation in Cheshire and over recent years we have been looking at further ways in which we can work together to protect the communities of Cheshire and meet our shared commitment to improve the safety of our residents and businesses.

We welcome the proposed duty for emergency services to actively consider collaboration. We believe that we are already ahead of the game in Cheshire.

Building on collaboration, such as the shared Poynton Emergency Services Hub, a major programme of work is already underway under our leadership to develop closer joint working in a number of key areas.

Ambitious plans have been produced that, subject to formal approval by both organisations, join up a range of services and systems, such as human resources, finance, fleet and estate. Our aim is to maximise the efficiency of the back office teams and systems that support Cheshire Constabulary and Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service. There will also be a single headquarters site. These plans will not only enable us to meet future financial challenges, but also provide improved services to the public whilst maintaining the strong local identity that both emergency services enjoy and the public of Cheshire value.

We believe that greater collaboration can be achieved without the need for Police & Crime Commissioners to take control of the functions performed by Fire Authorities. The key is to build strong and effective working relationships between the two emergency services – we believe that we have this in place and that the work that we are developing will deliver a more joined-up service to our communities.



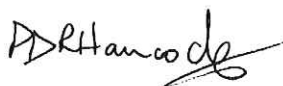
John Dwyer
Police & Crime Commissioner
for Cheshire



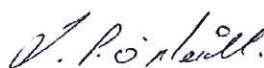
Cllr John Joyce
Chair, Cheshire Fire Authority



Simon Byrne
Chief Constable
Cheshire Constabulary



Paul Hancock
Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive
Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service



Cllr Terry O'Neill
Leader
Warrington Borough Council



Cllr Rob Polhill
Leader
Halton Borough Council



Cllr Samantha Dixon
Leader
Cheshire West and Chester Council



Cllr Michael Jones
Leader
Cheshire East Council



Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC) meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire – 6 November 2015.

Present

Commissioner John Dwyer	Police & Crime Commissioner for Cheshire
Deputy Chief Constable Janette McCormick (DCC)	Cheshire Constabulary
Assistant Chief Constable Mark Roberts (ACC)	Cheshire Constabulary
Cllr Terry O'Neill	Chair of ChALC
Representatives from ChALC members across Cheshire	

1. Introductions and welcome

- 1.1 The Commissioner welcomed all attendees to the meeting.
- 1.2 Cllr O'Neill thanked the Commissioner for hosting a meeting between himself, the Constabulary and ChALC and outlined that the meeting would be based on a single item; Police Community Support Officer funding.

2. Constabulary Update

- 2.1 DCC McCormick outlined that following the initiation of a root and branch review by the Commissioner, and having taken into account feedback from the public and partners, changes to the operational model had been implemented from July 2015. An overview of the model was provided which detailed:
- The creation of a single command unit for Cheshire Constabulary led by a Chief Superintendent
 - The creation of 8 local policing units (LPU) under the command of local Chief Inspectors
 - Each LPU having a dedicated deployment centre to support intelligence led briefings, enhance supervision and tasking of officers
- 2.2 DCC McCormick summarised a challenging summer for the Constabulary in view of major incidents such as the Bosley Mill fire, several major incidents on the

M56 and at Carfest North. She detailed that the Commissioner has continued to hold the Constabulary to account to ensure that the implementation of the new model delivers for Cheshire.

- 2.3 DCC McCormick highlighted the on-going funding provided to the Constabulary by the Commissioner to maintain the PCSO establishment and that a commitment had been given by the Chief Constable to align a PCSO with each of the 141 electoral wards. The contribution partners make to part-fund a number of PCSOs in Cheshire was acknowledged, as was the challenge of managing year on year part-funding. At present part-funding received from a partner for a PCSO represents approximately 33% of the cost of the PCSO. The remaining cost was provided by the Commissioner. Funding decisions for PCSOs from partners for 2016/17 are pending.
- 2.4 ACC Roberts provided further details on the implementation of the operational model. He highlighted that central briefings were providing enhanced tasking for officers and more effective use of resources. The Constabulary is 2 minutes quicker in responding to 999 calls and 30 minutes quicker responding to Grade 2 incidents than this time last year. Crime is at its lowest for 25 years and the Constabulary has recently received an 'Outstanding' rating from HMIC for efficiency.
- 2.5 ACC Roberts outlined that the current PCSO numbers total 220, which includes a considerable level of partner funded PCSOs. It was noted that some partners have indicated that they will not continue to part-fund PCSOs for 2016/17. Whilst PCSO deployment is subject to operational need, PCSOs who are supported by partner funding provide additional benefits to the Constabulary in terms of resilience and provide a focus on the priorities of the local funding area. ACC Roberts concluded by recognising that the public perception of the role of PCSOs in visible local policing is strong and the part they play in supporting operations such as Operation Shield is vital.

3 Commissioner

- 3.1 The Commissioner summarised the national picture of policing and outlined that the decisions made in partnership with the Chief Constable are bucking the trend. There is investment in the recruitment of additional officers; extra officers are being placed on the frontline and investment is being made into new technology. The Commissioner reiterated his commitment to funding PCSOs in Cheshire and ensuring that the Constabulary continues to be there where and

when they are needed. It was agreed that ChALC members would take this messages back to the communities they represent.

4. Question and Answer Session

The majority of the meeting was dedicated to enable ChALC members to ask questions of the Commissioner, DCC and ACC on both operational and strategic policing matters. The key themes and responses are summarised below:

4.1 Theme: Managing police funding reductions

The Commissioner outlined that feedback from the public has been that PCSOs are an important link to the community within local policing and that his intention is to maintain PCSOs at the current level for the next financial year, subject to partner funding. This includes a commitment of a PCSO for each electoral ward. The up-coming Comprehensive Spending Review was discussed and the Commissioner stated that given the uncertainty around the levels of budget reductions that will be implemented there can be no guarantees given around long term plans.

In response to queries focused on increasing the level of the policing precept, the Commissioner indicated that currently any precept rise over of 2% would trigger a Cheshire referendum and that he would not be willing to consider this due to the cost of such a vote; circa £2million. A greater flexibility in this regard has been a theme in discussions with Government on the future of police funding.

4.2 PCSO Service Level Agreements (SLA)

A number of representatives raised queries about the content and nature of PCSO SLAs and whether an increased level of local variance could be built in to agreements. DCC McCormick explained that there are a number of different versions of the SLA due to minor amendments over the years. There are no plans to build in further local variance as this could make the management of multiple small different agreements time consuming and overly complex.

4.3 Theme: Part-funded PCSO engagement with parish councils and the local community

In response to issues raised by a number of representatives with regards to the attendance of local PCSOs at Parish Council meetings DCC McCormick provided an overview of the multiple channels that were being used to communicate with the public.

These include the Constabulary website, neighbourhood alert, contact points and social media. LPU mailboxes are also available for Parish Councils to use to contact the Constabulary. ACC Roberts outlined that the Constabulary would support PCSOs to attend Parish Council meetings wherever possible and that Parish Councils should engage with local neighbourhood Chief Inspectors to make arrangements. This also extended to local community engagement events. The Commissioner provided an overview of the 'Working Together' programme that he and the Chief Constable undertake.

4.4 Theme: PCSO travel times from deployment bases

Concerns were raised by representatives from Culcheth & Glazebury and Poynton Parish Councils about the time and method of PCSO travel from deployment bases to beat areas. The Commissioner addressed the fact that such reports are often based on speculation rather than reality and that he has been ensuring that the Constabulary are tracking travel times and ensuring the appropriate resources are available so PCSOs are able to get to their beat as effectively and efficiently as possible.

DCC McCormick and ACC Roberts provided an overview of the software that is used to track officer movement and that this has been able to show that there has been no reduction in the time PCSOs spend on their beat despite some having to travel further but that their time is now more productive and focussed. There was challenge over the value of daily face to face intelligence led briefings from Poynton Parish Council and that deployment from Macclesfield LPU has led to the Parish Council considering alternative models. DCC McCormick outlined that in her professional opinion the approach to briefing and deployment was the correct one.

The Commissioner was requested to consider releasing data on PCSO travel times – the Commissioner outlined that he would consider what information could be appropriately shared with Parish Councils so further assurance could be given.

4.5 Theme: PCSO deployment in part-funded locations

A number of queries were raised with regards to the deployment of part-funded PCSOs within the locality of the funding partner. ACC Roberts outlined that part-funded PCSOs enable an enhanced focus to be given to priorities and the bulk of their time should be spent within the local area providing funding. It was explained that on occasions, and where operational need and threat requires, they are deployed to support other operations. Any specific concerns with individual PCSO performance are to be initially

directed to the local Chief Inspector prior to any further escalation being to the ACC and the Commissioner.

A query was raised as to whether a PCSO should be attending political meetings. It was confirmed that Police staff and officers shouldn't be seen to support any particular political group whilst on duty. It was agreed that this issue would be addressed outside of the meeting.

4.6 Theme: Traffic management

A number of questions were raised with regards to the Constabulary approach to traffic management issues specifically with regards to road closures linked to Christmas light 'switch on' events. ACC Roberts explained that PCSOs will be deployed to support the policing of community events but that traffic management issues, such as road closures, are the responsibility of the relevant Local Authority and traffic orders will need to be applied for through this route.

4.7 Theme: PCSO training

PCSO training and development was discussed. ACC Roberts confirmed that all PCSOs undertake a training regime prior to becoming operational and are then supported by the Constabulary and their supervisor in terms of personal development. ACC Roberts detailed that work is currently underway to ensure that appropriate training is provided to ensure that PCSOs can respond to the demand relating to road speed enforcement.

5. Next meeting

It was agreed that a further meeting will be arranged for November 2016.

Brian Hogan

From: Amanda Martin <amartin678@btinternet.com>
Sent: 19 January 2016 11:56
To: Sally Holland; David McGifford
Cc: Peter Broome; Brian Hogan
Subject: Syrian refugees
Attachments: CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL POSITION ON SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS.doc

Sally, David,

Brian Hogan

I would like to secure the Town Council's support for Cheshire East Council's participation in the government scheme to provide refuge to 2000 vulnerable Syrian refugees this year. The Cabinet minute about it is attached. We have been in discussion with the Council officers, so I can provide more information if I get permission from them. Please could you get the item put on the C E and S agenda.

Cc: Peter Broome
Best regards, Syrian refugees
Attachments: CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL POSITION ON SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS.doc
Amanda

Mrs Amanda Martin
 28 Hertford Close
 Congleton CW12 1TB
 Tel: 01260 275574

Mobile: 01260 275574

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From the Minutes of Cheshire East Cabinet Meeting on 10th November 2015**55 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL POSITION ON SUPPORT FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS**

Cabinet considered the following motion which had been moved by Councillor S Corcoran and seconded by Councillor I Faseyi at the Council meeting on 22nd October 2015:

"This Council would welcome an appropriate number of Syrian refugees to Cheshire East."

The report set out the current national arrangements for refugees and asylum seekers and what they might mean for local authorities. The Leader advised that the Council was seeking advice on the possible implications for Cheshire East. The aim would be to take a measured and proportionate response to the issue, addressing need on a case by case basis.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet agrees to

1. thank all of those that have offered help and publicly recognise the great community spirit of Cheshire East;
2. inform the Government that the Council is committed to supporting Syrian Refugees and will consider its position regarding VPR once the outcomes of the CSR are known;
3. aim at the consideration of people on a case by case basis under VPR criteria and to learn from the examples of best practice elsewhere to ensure that the Council provides effective support which is measured and proportionate and which takes into account the needs of existing communities in Cheshire East;
4. to work with partner authorities in the sub-region to establish a robust operational mechanism to oversee the scheme in Cheshire;
5. await the announcement in the Autumn Statement on financial support and determine any further engagement and contribution at this stage;
6. work with the Council's partners to deliver the best possible outcomes for asylum seekers and refugees that are sensitive to their needs;
7. volunteer to participate in COMPASS on a voluntary basis, working with the Regional Strategic Migration Partnership to consider procurement requests from Serco on a one by one basis, up to 15- 20 properties, before reviewing the scheme; and
8. support the motion "that this Council would welcome an appropriate number of Syrian refugees".

PAPER FOR APPROVAL**DISC (Database and intranet for Safer Communities) – Pilot Project****Background**

The Town Centre and Marketing Manager is investigating introducing 'DISC' to Congleton. DISC is a database and intranet for safer communities initiative that has proven successful for more than 120 'shopwatch' style groups. Information can be sent out quickly, effectively and securely to its members who receive information via a mobile or computer. Old style shopwatch meetings relied on paper reports, monthly meetings and traders attending a meeting. This system would allow for instant messaging when suspected shop lifters are in town, someone is creating a nuisance, fake notes are being used etc. It can also be used to alert and build up cases of anti-social behaviour and be used to securely hold photos of those on a pubwatch or shopwatch ban.

The scheme can be tailored to the needs of the community and enables fast and convenient mobile incident reporting. It is 100% DDA compliant and approved for secure data sharing by UK constabularies which means it can be supported by Cheshire East CCTV and Cheshire Police. (see attached sheet). It is also relatively cheap. It is also possible to share information with other DISC schemes.

Initial conversations with Congleton Police, Cheshire East Council (CCTV) and Congleton Traders have all been positive. In a meeting with Cheshire East (CCTV) and Cheshire Police that Congleton could pilot the scheme within Cheshire East.

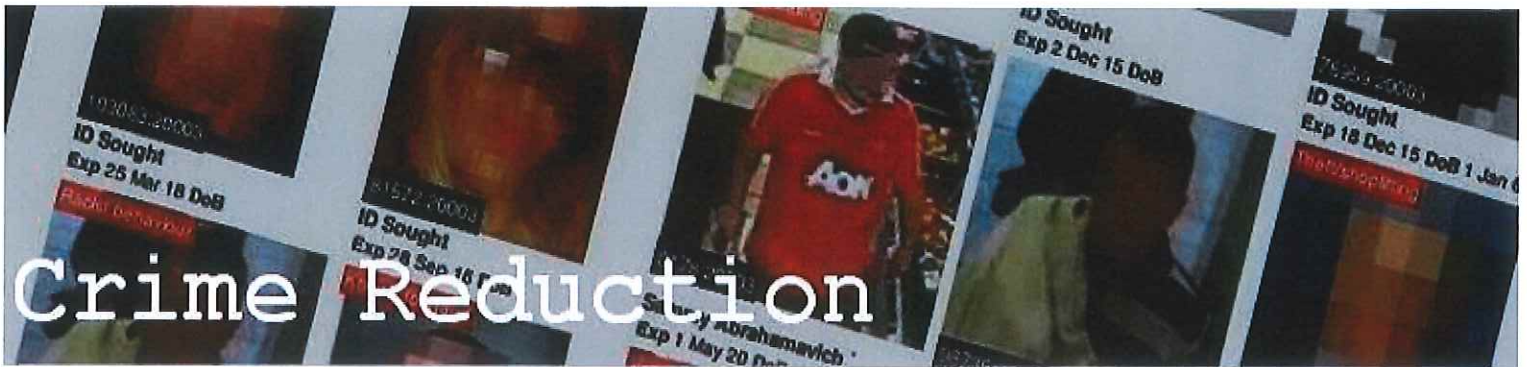
Costs

- The initial set up cost is £500. This is a one-off fee and is for the training and creating the templates that are need for the Congleton DISC
- The on-costs are £75 per month (£900 per year) licence fee for 150 licences. Additional licences can be added at £4.50 per year.
- Administrator Time – looking at 1-2 hours per week that the Town Centre and Marketing Manager would need to devote to the success of this scheme.

Proposal

- Carry out a survey monkey with traders and licenced premises to clearly identify need
- Traders Group to apply for Funding to meet the £900 for the first year pilot scheme (this allows unlimited number of users for the first year)
- Town Council to give administrator time and fund initial set up costs (funds from Town Centre Budget)
- If the pilot proves successful participating traders to cover the cost of the licence moving forward with any additional funds being used for town centre projects. The long term cost is £900 per year up to 150 users plus £2.40 per user for additional users.

INFORMATION FROM WEB SITE



DISC is by far the UK's most widely used system for local business crime reduction partnerships, made up of retailers and licensees in towns, city-centres and rural areas around the country.

Currently* DISC is used by over 120 of these partnerships. Throughout the UK, DISC helps them keep crime down, while enabling public agencies to more accurately target interventions before a troublesome youngster develops into a dangerous criminal. So it's not just local businesses that benefit - police, local social services and the wider community benefit too.

Partnerships like these have been using paper-based systems for sharing information about local offenders for many years. But here, as everywhere else, on-line systems are demonstrably more efficient, effective, and lower-cost to run than paper-based ones. DISC makes it easier to run such partnerships efficiently - and more economically.

Just as important as cost-effectiveness is compliance with the law. DISC is legally compliant to a degree that paper-based systems simply cannot be. Not only does it ensure fully-secure information-sharing; it also includes built-in processes that ensure compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and 'Best Practice' from Administrators as well as from their Members. Currently DISC is used by more than half the constabularies in England & Wales for information sharing with independent crime reduction partnerships.

Individual DISC implementations can link together into 'Data-Sharing Groups' so they can identify travelling or prolific offenders. Administrators can also be given 'Cross-DISC Authoring' rights to publish content simultaneously across any number of other DISC implementations. Data Sharing Groups and Cross-DISC Authoring are quick and easy to set up - but always require mutual agreement between all participating Administrators.

DISC's automated eNewsletter plays an essential part in increasing Members' engagement, typically increasing participation levels to 80% or more over a period of a few months. If the eNewsletter is important for voluntary groups, it's essential for partnerships run by Business Improvement Districts who must seek re-election by their levy-payers every three or five years.

By participating in Data-Sharing Groups and Cross-DISC Authoring, police forces can link into, and support, their own local crime reduction partnerships more efficiently and effectively.

DISC's 'Partnership Engagement Platform' (PEP) enables police to support ALL crime reduction partnerships across their force area - not just DISC-equipped ones. PEPs enable police to distribute personal data in compliance with MOPI (Management of Police Information) obligations and Information Sharing Agreements (ISAs), and include automated ISA management.

PAPER FOR INFORMATION/APPROVAL WELCOME TO CONGLETON MAPS PROJECT

Background

Many towns have welcome maps in their car parks to inform residents about the location of key attractions and to help people find their way around the town. This can help enhance people's experience in a town. It is also important for towns like Congleton where many of the assets are hidden. A stranger arriving in the fairground car park wouldn't realise that there is a fabulous Victorian park just five minutes' walk away, or a Paddling Pool or even where the main shopping area is located.

After looking at various maps in other towns one of the most effective ways of producing maps for car parks appears to print directly onto an aluminium based back with special protective coating on the front to help prevent scratching, vandalism, sun bleaching etc

Initial work on the map has started thanks to the support of the Congleton Partnership. The most up-to-date version will be available at the meeting.

Once the artwork has been approved funding will be needed to turn the artwork into maps which can be placed in the Public Realm. The outline cost I have been given (based on recent ones installed in Knutsford) is £500 per location. Cheshire East Planning Part 12 of the General Permitted Development Order allows development by local authorities (including Parish Councils) to erect such street furniture without the need for planning permission.

The areas being considered for installing the maps are:

- Back Park Street Car Park
- Fairground Car Park or Market Street near the bus station
- Antrobus Street Car Park
- West Street Car Park
- Congleton Railway Station (need to speak to Northern Rail about space and if they can fund)
- Pedestrian Area (build into public realm work)
- Possibly in Barn Road area

In addition there can be A3 versions to hand out at the Tourist Information Centre and the map can also be loaded online. The Town Council and Congleton Partnership will have ownership of the map.

Boundaries : would be contained within the town centre area – Park Lane Roundabout to the East, Fire station Roundabout to the West, Park to the North and St Peters Church to the South.

Map to Include: Bus Station, Fire Station, main shopping area, hospital, library, car parks, paths and walkways, various places of interest, police station, post office, railway station, doctors surgeries. The map is largely a 2 D map with a number of 3-D drawings.

Costs Total cost of the project is likely to be in the region of £4,500. Permission is being sought to use £1500 from the Congleton Town Council tourism budget to help fund this project. Cheshire East Council has been approached for funding for the maps in the car parks. Congleton Partnership will also help fund the project.

Recommendation

The committee supports the production of the Welcome to Congleton Maps and recommends that £1500 is used from the 2015/16 Tourism budget to put towards the project.

To give an idea of the size and scale of the map here's the Knutsford one. On the left hand side we would have a Welcome to Congleton panel with some key information about our town and its history and where to find out more.

