



SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED
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Police Headquarters, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich IP5 3QS

Tel: 01473 613500 Fax: 01473 613737 (24 hrs)

Calls may be monitored for quality control, security and training purposes.

Ms Shona Bendix – Town Clerk
Lowestoft Town Council
Hamilton House
Battery Green Road
Lowestoft
NR32 1DE

3 September 2018

Dear Ms Bendix

Thank you for your letter of 20th August 2018.

Considerable research, analysis and consultation was undertaken during the development of the proposed policing model recommendations. There has been significant scrutiny and oversight throughout the process and, whilst the decisions I have taken have not been easy, they have been taken to ensure that Suffolk Constabulary is best able to continue to provide the best possible police service to all of its communities. Decreases in police funding have resulted in reductions in both police officer, PCSO and police staff numbers not only for Suffolk Constabulary but across all police forces.

The changes we are making are as a result of the changing nature of demand on the Constabulary, the nature of the threats we are facing, and the public consultation we have undertaken and the feedback received. The increasing threats from youth gang violence and County Lines have been one of the key considerations in the changes I am proposing and we are moving more than 100 constables into the Safer Neighbourhood and Locality Teams that provide our local policing. In addition, we are moving additional officers into our Neighbourhood Response Teams.

Our PCSOs have carried out excellent work across the county and I am confident that this work will continue but this will be focussed on preventative work and supporting multi-agency interventions addressing high threat and high demand local issues. The combination of PCSOs police officers and police staff in the right roles and locations will ensure that we continue to deliver a high quality service to our communities.

The additional police officers at a local level will be working both days and evenings and weekends. They will be focussed on preventing crime in addition to investigation and other core policing functions. These local officers are supported by both detectives and other teams of officers targeting crimes such as burglary. We have also introduced nine Community Engagement Officers who are a dedicated and accessible resource who will be building local links and ensuring that timely and relevant information is provided, and this will include prevention advice and information on crimes. Our Safer Neighbourhood Teams will remain visible and accessible to the communities they serve.

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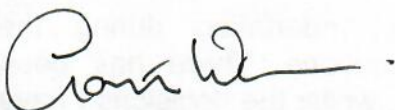
We have invested significantly in new technology to enable us to more effectively manage the increased demand we are facing and I am confident that this will improve our ability to answer non-emergency calls.

I can assure you that Lowestoft has not been neglected in terms of its resourcing. I have maintained our current policing command structure to ensure that all of our districts, towns and parishes are given the same focus and policing leadership. The way in which we allocate resources is based on affective analysis and professional judgment and we have appropriate processes in place to ensure we can move officers quickly to address any developing issues.

I am confident that the changes will add to the visibility of police officers to our communities and, as I have said many times before, local policing is the bedrock of our service, and the decisions I have taken to move additional officers into this area reflects this commitment.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Wilson
Chief Constable

Cc: Peter Aldous MP