

BRIEFING FOR SOUTH CAMBS / CAMBS CITY COUNCILLORS – 16TH JULY 2020 virtual meeting

Opening points:

- The OPCC will be holding virtual briefing sessions for councillors every two months. It is an opportunity for the OPCC to update you on work undertaken by the office, how you can support keeping your community safe and for you to highlight any areas of concern
- There will be three presentations before an opportunity for councillors to raise questions at the end. If councillors would like to ask a question, please use the “raised hand” button on Teams and a members of the OPCC Team will call on councillors to ask their question when it is their turn

Agenda item key points:

Milton Police Hub Consultation

- Request for councillors to support the Constabulary’s public consultation on proposals for a new police station on the outskirts of Milton.
- The nature of policing and crime in Cambridgeshire is changing. The population is growing, and the current police facilities at Parkside Police Station in Cambridge City Centre do not provide officers and staff with the tools they need to fully respond to today’s demands.
- The new site will serve as a base for officers in the south of Cambridgeshire enable the Constabulary to expand custody capacity, doubling the number of cells, reducing the need for officers to take detainees to out of town police cells and giving officers more time to do casework.
- The OPCC and Cambridgeshire Constabulary are committed to maintaining a city centre police station – the exact location of which will be shared in due course.
- The OPCC fully supports the Chief Constable’s operational requirement to have a new police station which can meet the needs of Cambridgeshire’s growing population, it is important that the views of the public are heard. Request for councillors to share the link to the consultation with their local residents: the link is www.cambspoliceconsultation.co.uk and the consultation closes at 5pm on 31st.

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Community Speedwatch

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Topics which may come up

Issue	OPCC response	Call to action
Policing response to Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet regularly with the Chief Constable, stakeholders and community representatives to relay public feedback, ensure any policing response is proportional and we are policing by consent.• Support the force's "Four E's" approach of <i>Engage, Explain, Encourage, Enforce</i> to ensure that we are not accused of over-zealous policing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should councillors have any queries or issues regarding the police response to Covid-19 to contact the OPCC as a first point of call
Neighbourhood policing / police visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We must have a police force that can respond to the ever- changing nature of crime• Just because you do not physically see the police or physically see arrests on the spot, rest assured they are gathering as much information as they can, behind the scenes to secure prosecution• Both Cambridgeshire Constabulary and the OPCC also work tirelessly to prevent crime from occurring in the first place	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cambridgeshire Constabulary and local neighbourhood teams post regularly on social media to update our community on their work. Please follow them and share their posts
Black Lives Matter movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrity must be at the heart of policing and we have a number of checks and balances in place to guide this and to protect the rights and welfare of BAME people• There is always room for improvement and as the public voice to the Chief Constable it is important that I listen to the concerns of the Black Lives Matter movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should councillors have any concerns or queries regarding the movement they should contact the OPCC as a first point of call
Learning that has been undertaken following XR protests earlier in the year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The review has been concluded and we will be taking the recommendations forward• To reassure the public we intend to disseminate a press release which outlines the key recommendations which will be taken forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should councillors have any concerns or queries regarding the movement they should contact the OPCC as a first point of call

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Local drug issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are clear that low level drug dealing is symptomatic of a larger and more complex issue of organised criminal gangs and county lines• It is important that we consider the wider community response to tackling this issue• The OPCC utilises its Youth and Community fund to support projects that work to prevent young people from slipping into crime in a number of ways.• The OPCC works in partnership with other organisations to break the cycles of crime. E.G. working to support a comprehensive package which can be delivered to the homeless population which provides them with substance misuse support amongst other things.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote the Youth and Community fund to active community members and support the projects which have been awarded funding to carry out their preventative work
Domestic violence and sexual assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PCCs are responsible for commissioning local victim support services and advocating for the needs of victims and witnesses.• The OPCC approach to this responsibility in the early days of Covid-19 lockdown was to proactively offer support to all local services in changing their delivery models.• A true partnership approach was taken with services supporting each other. The OPCC ensured all victims had access to support – the Victim and Witness Hub stepped in when gaps emerged.• The OPCC worked hand in hand with the local authority DA Partnership Team to ensure the most vulnerable victims could continue to access the help they need.• The OPCC also led a local process to ensure local providers of DA/SV services could access emergency funding to reimburse costs incurred as a result of implementing new ways of working and bolster services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The OPCC social media feeds regularly post and share content signposting potential victims to organisations where they can access support. Please follow and share those posts

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Fire Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The OPCC have received a copy of a letter from the Policing Minister informing us that owing to the time that has passed they will need to pause and revisit the issue after the next PCC elections.• It is disappointing not to be able to move forward now, especially when I hear about progress being made in other places where this transfer has been made and the benefits to their local communities.• The Home Office was clear that it still feels the original decision, upheld in the courts, was the right one and in the interest of the local community. It also reiterated its commitment to supporting PCCs to take on fire governance where a case is made.	
Generic issues around offending	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High numbers of those in contact with the criminal justice system have a mental health issue and it can be difficult for them to access support• Volunteer police boxing clubs, like those in Peterborough and Cambridge, have seen strong results in reducing anti-social behaviour within young people. It's a preventative approach which strengthens police relationships often within hard to reach communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publicly support the OPCC in their work to simplify the routes to mental health support as it can be a cause for re-offending• Utilise the best practice model of volunteer police boxing clubs and support other youth and sports clubs within their area which target hard to reach communities and can prevent anti-social behaviour
Speeding / Road Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide funding for a "Watch Co-Ordinator" post within the Constabulary. This post provides support to various watches, including the 2000+ volunteers in Speedwatch• Provide funding for a Casualty Reduction Officer, who works with vulnerable sections of the community to deliver Road Safety education• Funding has been agreed for an innovative "Speed-meter Money Box" initiative. Once in place it will provide a means of community fundraising through speed compliance – for every car that goes past the speed monitoring device under the speed limit, a certain amount will be donated to a pot of money the community can bid for / use to run their own initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the "Think-Communities" approach to reducing speeding and promoting road safety.• Promote and participate in the Speedwatch scheme and welcome the Speed-meter Money Box when it is launched.
Bike theft	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•

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