

## **Tonbridge Forum – 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

### **Kent Police Services Update**

Apologies to the Chair for non-attendance on this occasion. I am happy to receive relevant questions and to answer personally post forum, if contact details can be obtained.

#### **Staff Increases**

Tonbridge has seen the introduction of town centre PC Stewart Ballard who has been in post for 4 months.

A further post has been created to have town centres in The Mallings covered by a designated PC. PC Levi Caruana is due to start in November.

PC Hugo Woollam - Police Now is a two-year programme that offers top graduates the opportunity to become neighbourhood police officers and transform communities. A key feature will be analysing problems within the Tonbridge and Malling Borough and leading on problem solving activities. Hugo is undergoing intense training and will join the Community Safety Unit at the end of the year.

PCSO interviews continuing with PCC's pledge to maintain establishment of 300 PCSO's in Kent. Tonbridge and Malling are at full establishment presently and will not benefit from the current in-take, but always under review.

A further role for a Problem solving PCSO role is currently being advertised and this officer will specialise in the use of SARA - A problem solving model.

#### **Travellers**

Since the last meeting there have been two unlawful encampments. Firstly at Ightham Recreational ground, S61 served. They then moved on to Platt Memorial Hall playing field where they were immediately issued S61 notices.

#### **Crime Trends**

Spike in crime in and around Borough Green/Platt currently– theft from motor vehicles and a spate of shed breaks. Possible suspect being looked at and crime prevention through media, parish alerts, visibility and default patrolling.

Regular discussions are carried out on serious and organised crime. This process addresses the management of recidivists and crime trends.

## **Good Work**

All out day Tonbridge.....PCSO's wardens, police, TMBC CSP and Tom Tugendt MP took to the streets at end of July

PCSO Coe, in conjunction with a police constable, uncovered a number of stolen motorbikes whilst investigating reports of unlawful and anti-social use of the bikes in and around Hadlow. Persons arrested.

## **Burglary Attendance**

As per local policy PCSO's continue to attend all burglary dwelling victims, safeguarding them where appropriate and offering safety advice.

## **Safer Towns Manager**

Recruited an ex-police officer called Gary Smith to recover a scheme that was left to decline by the previous manager. Will work closely with town centre officer. Might be potential to extend scheme to West Malling should there be any interest as this was explored a number of years ago.

## **Summer Plan**

Focus on Burglary, Nuisance cycling, nuisance vehicles, ASB at Town Lock, ASB and violence, rough sleepers dealt with in Tonbridge, seasonal issues with motorbikes at Oakdene Café, cold caller advice for vulnerable residents through PCSO's, Licencing checks and enforcement, knife crime OP Pulpit targeting those known to carry knives. Lots of positive work. Results will now be subject to review as to what worked well, what could have been done better.

## **Autumn Plan**

Nuisance cycling and motor vehicle use. Burglaries. Violent crime. Anti-social behaviour. Youth engagement. Licencing enforcement. Halloween / Brexit?? Fireworks. VAIO to safeguard potential vulnerable victims.

Truancy 'sweep' was a joint initiative between Kent Police and Youth Groups and work would continue in November supported by Youth Engagement Officer Toni Matthew.

Home Office Funding continues to tackle knife and violent crime across the district.