Agenda item – 9.1 Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Deployment

Dear Parish Council Clerks,

I am writing to share some changes to the way Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) will be allocated and deployed from Monday 4 November.

The precept uplift this year was an exciting opportunity to strengthen key areas of the force to meet increasing demand and new challenges, while adhering to our priorities: keeping people safe, protecting the vulnerable and responding to harm.

As part of this uplift and in line with our rolling four year Transformation Strategy, the Police and Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne agreed to fund an additional 100 PCSOs taking the total number of PCSOs to 296.

We have delivered PCSO recruitment campaigns in March and August this year, with a view of intakes of PCSOs in July and September 2019 and January and March 2020. This means that with an uplift in PCSOs, communities will start to see and feel a difference as these roles are deployed to strengthen local policing.

The bolstering of PCSO numbers will help us; working with our partners and local communities to address low level issues before they can escalate into more serious crime as well as identify and keep safe the most vulnerable people in our communities.

This decision complements on-going plans to strengthen local policing and improve how the public can contact the police.

If you have any further local questions or concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch via:

crawley@sussex.pnn.police.uk

midsussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Yours sincerely,

Chief Inspector Shane Baker

District Commander