

## Member questions for Chief Inspector Carter, January OSC

### Cllr Barratt

1. Since March 2018 the Police precept has increased by around 30% during which time the CDC increase has been around 9.6% and WSCC around 7.6%. Noting that both Councils provide extensive services and there has been little improvement in Police presence, why has there been a need for an increase way above inflation.
2. When a PCSO has to deal with residents with mental issues what provisions are there in place to provide rapid support from a mental health specialist as at present the PCSO is left alone to deal with the situation.

### Cllr Sharp

1) I understand that the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill seeks to introduce 51 weeks' imprisonment for simply protesting while locked or even just holding on to anything and allows named people to be banned from protesting. I'd love to hear your views on these things, but I understand that, professionally speaking, you would probably have to be considered in your comments.

However, one other thing the Bill introduces is a new power to stop and search without suspicion. Do you see this having any impact on the way Sussex police operates? And, given how this power has alienated communities in the past, do you fear it could alienate even more communities and see this country moving further away from a climate of "policing by consent"?

2) What effect has the re-opening of the Nightingale Court had on police time/resources? If positive, would you support the courts staying open in Chichester?

3) Do you feel that providing more activities for young people especially in the holidays would reduce anti-social behaviour? In other words, is prevention better than a cure as a way to prevent anti-social behaviour from developing?

4) Speeding and anti-social driving is of great concern to many of my residents. Patrolling 1 day a month in the District is less of a response than many of my residents would like. Would you like to be able to give more officer time to this issue?

5) Part 4 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill (PCSCB) outlines measures to introduce a new criminal offence of trespass with the intent to reside, and to extend existing powers in the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (CJPOA).

There is a national shortage of places for nomadic Gypsies and Travellers to safely and legally stop. The new regulations under the PCSCB Bill mean that people who have a nomadic way of life could face time in prison, a £2,500 fine and a family's home and possessions seized.

The measures outlined in the PCSCB will further compound the inequalities experienced by Gypsies and Travellers, for example needlessly pushing people into the criminal justice system and making it harder for children to attend school.

The powers will disproportionately affect specific minority and ethnic communities and are likely to be in conflict with equality and human rights legislation. An enforcement approach to addressing the number of unauthorised encampments overlooks the issue of the lack of sites – there is an absence of places where Gypsies and Travellers are permitted to stop or reside.

Encampments in Chichester City have proven unpopular with the public and measures are being taken by this Council to prevent access to certain sites.

What in your view should we as a District be prioritising to protect the Gypsies' and Travellers' way of life, and to ensure better outcomes for everyone - residents and travellers alike?