

Advanced Member Questions for Alison Hernandez

Questions received from Cllr Mike Benson:

1. I understand that a number of warranted police officers are being taken of front line duties to enable the downloading of information onto computers .Why are these duties not being handled by civilian staff?
2. On another matter I also understand that a number of Police Officers have been seconded to the badger cull .These two issues must mean we have even less police on our streets ,what is being done to rectify these issues?

Questions received from Cllr Neil Jory:

1. One of the stated aims of PCCs is to provide the local link between the Police and communities, working to turn the desires and ambitions of the public, in terms of policing and crime reduction, into action. How do you plan to bring that about and how can local councils help?
2. In a large, rural area like Devon and Cornwall many crime and community safety issues are often localised and particular. How will you ensure that the PCC acts in the best interests of local communities rather than centralising power?
3. How is the policing budget, and the ability of the service to respond in the way that you would like to policing and crime matters, affected by current policies promoting the care in the community of people with significant mental health problems? In your view, is there a danger that savings in one part of the Government's budget might incur costs, or the diversion of resources, in other budgets?
4. What is your view of the proposed powers of the National Crime Agency which, as I understand them, enable the Agency to require support from local police forces? Are these powers an opportunity or is there a risk that they could divert resources from regular operations?
5. What is your view of the Government's Prevent strategy for tackling radicalisation? Is there evidence of intervention in the region and, if so, how effectively is the force working with the other agencies that would provide information about individuals? Taking a broader view, and bearing in mind the size and rural nature of the region, are you satisfied that resources are sufficient to deal with a terrorist incident should one occur?
6. There is a view, held in some quarters, that the appointment of PCCs could politicise the police and community safety services. We are led to believe that this view is prevalent among senior and junior police officers and staff. Have you experienced this and how are you addressing it?

Questions received from Cllr Annabel Roberts:

1. Is rural policing a priority, and if so what changes or improvements will this actually mean on the ground for rural communities? Some rural communities have particular and unusual problems (e.g. Princetown).
2. Speeding on country roads is a real problem (e.g. A386 through Mary Tavy and across the moor), can resources be better used to address this?