

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 2 December 2019

Policing overview – Fylde and Wyre

Briefing paper by Chief Inspector Chris Hardy

Under the 2018/19 **Core Services Review** the force has reconfigured based on funding considerations and the need to resource the three priority areas of **Contact & Response, Local Policing** and **Investigation** based on threat and risk. This has resulted in additional staff into Contact Management and Response with a reduction in Neighbourhood Police Officer numbers. The national Modernising Neighbourhood Policing work has clarified the core role of neighbourhood.

- We've been forced to cut 800 frontline officers since 2010 and 350 staff role.
- Cuts have to date totalled over £84million pounds. During this time we have had to remodel NHP and cut staff from CBM roles. PCSO commitment has remained the same and unchanged.
- We still have 98 dedicated NP Officers and 45 Hybrid officers who work both NHP and Response in areas like Fylde – they are now grouped into teams to ensure we have 100% coverage of the county. Response officers are now working from Garstang station and are based there whilst on duty.
- In addition we have re-invested from Council tax Precept increase in to 40 NP taskforce police officers across the Force– Wyre and Fylde have a team of 4 they come on line 1st November.

Response Teams

- We no longer have IR and PR. The two teams were combined into a single response team a couple of years ago.
- Response teams received an increase of 45 officers in the Core Services Review.
- The primary role of response officers is to respond to grade 1, grade 2 and grade 3 calls for service. They will generally retain the investigation work associated with those incidents, unless it is serious or complex, when it should be passed to CID.
- We still have diaries (surgeries at police stations and diary cars) because it allows us to meet grade 3 demand more efficiently. This work now belongs to the unified response teams.
- Response officers will be aligned to a patrol area via their call sign and the FCR will attempt to deploy officers within their designated area whenever possible. There will be times when this is not possible because it is an emergency and the patrol is closest, or other patrols are unavailable due to high demand.
- When response officers are not deployed to an incident they will default to their patrol area and undertake proactive patrol/targeting as identified locally in conjunction with their NPT.

Neighbourhood Policing Teams

- NPT's now comprise either NPT PC's or PCSO's. The role of Community Beat Manager has been discontinued because we reduced 118 posts and it is no longer possible to expect neighbourhood PC's to operate at the ward level. In future they will cover a part of a district allocated by their local sergeant. We want this NPT (PC) role to become more proactive with greater emphasis on problem solving.

- The role of NPT's is to prevent crime and ASB by engaging communities, solving problems and undertake targeting activity. Dealing with appropriate incidents within their area of responsibility is compatible with this role.
- We expect NPT officers to assist in meeting demand by proactively identifying suitable outstanding incidents and self-deploying to them: by working to call signs at particular times e.g. Fri/Sat evening ASB patrols, for events; by assisting when it is an emergency call and they are the nearest available resource; and in a 'all hands to the pump' scenario.
- When NPT officers are engaged in problem solving or events that make them unavailable for deployment they will use their status messaging to make this clear.
- The FCR will start to decrease the use of tagging for neighbourhood with an aim to eliminate it completely.
- We have just under 300 PCSO's which have not been reduced in number and can be deployed to a wide range of incidents that do not involve the threat of violence e.g. neighbour disputes, minor theft or damage, anti-social behaviour. Dealing with incidents is complementary to the objectives of engagement and visibility.
- A key element of the role of PCSO's is visibility in their community, and they should try to be on patrol engaging communities and problem solving whenever possible. Time inside police stations should be minimised to briefing and refreshments.
- PCSOs may have a designated ward or group of wards for the purpose of problem solving and engagement, but this should not create a limit or boundary in the case of deploying to individual incidents that may be on adjoining areas, but within their wider team area. Common sense will need to be applied in terms of what is reasonable, for example when a PCSO is on foot.
- We will not ask PCSOs to perform the role of lead professional but they will be asked to contribute towards dealing with vulnerable persons through monitoring visits and by undertaking assessments.

Community Safety Teams

- The previous teams called MAPS, Partnerships, Early Action have been renamed Community Safety Teams. The number of dedicated Early Action officers has been reduced. The teams comprise Community Safety Sergeants, PCs, and police staff Community Safety Coordinators. Other roles such as ASB administrators and YOT PCs also form part of these teams.
- The purpose of these teams continues to be prevention through people based problem solving. When appropriate this will be as part of an integrated team with partners. They will specialise in dealing with vulnerable people who have issues relating to crime or antisocial behaviour, prioritising those whose behaviour is impacting on the community or who are causing/suffering the greatest harm.
- The teams will proactively identify suitable cases, but other officers and staff can also refer cases to the team via the sergeant. The community Safety Teams will record their partnership cases on the new Early Help Module which replaces HarMan, or other Local Authority system agreed locally. Less complex single agency cases will be recorded on Connect.
- Depending on the volume of cases and their complexity, Community Safety Teams may task actions to the local NPT officers.
- Further work is currently being undertaken to clarify how Community Safety Teams undertake their work, and this will be provided to those affected when it is available.

APPENDIX

Fylde & Wyre has –

CST has 2 PCs and 1x PCSO Supported by a Sgt and Insp.

Job Title	Team	Location	Permanent Budgeted
Police Community Support Officer	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP PCSO Team - Fleetwood	LC Fleetwood Police Station	13
Police Community Support Officer	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP PCSO Team - Garstang	LC Garstang Police Station	2
Police Community Support Officer	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre PCSO Team - Kirkham	LC Kirkham Police Station	4
Police Community Support Officer	LC West Place Fylde & Wyre PCSO Team - St Annes	LC St Annes Police Station	7

Job Title	Team	Location	Permanent Budgeted
Geographic NHP Inspector	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP Supervision Team - Fleetwood	Fleetwood	1
Geographic NHP Inspector	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP Supervision Team - Kirkham	Kirkham	1
Neighbourhood Policing Constable	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre Neighbourhood Policing Team - Fleetwood	Fleetwood	6
Neighbourhood Policing Response Constable	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre Neighbourhood Policing Response Team - Kirkham	Kirkham	15
Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP Supervision Team - Kirkham	Kirkham	3

Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP Supervision Team - Fleetwood	Fleetwood	2
Neighbourhood Policing Task Force Team Constable	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP Task Force Team – Kirkham	Kirkham	2
Neighbourhood Policing Task Force Team Constable	LC West Place Based Fylde & Wyre NHP Task Force Team – Fleetwood	Fleetwood	2