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January 19th 2016

Dear Councillor

A series of changes to Suffolk Constabulary's local policing model have recently been announced which will help deliver significant savings required by government, whilst improving the efficiency of our services. These changes will be implemented on April 1 2016.

Our deployment of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) plays an important part in this local policing review as we revise our workforce mix to ensure you have the best balance of police officers and support staff, and in the right locations to meet demand.

Details of the updated Suffolk Local Policing Review are attached.

We're confident that the level of police officers and PCSOs in the county will provide the service that the people of Suffolk need, however the Constabulary is inviting parish and town councils to join with other town and parishes to jointly fund a PCSO if they wish. These PCSOs would provide additionality to your town/parish and could carry out services such as agreed between yourselves and the Constabulary, focussing on the issues that your council considers to be important.

The cost of a PCSO is around £32K per year and can be funded by more than one party working together, e.g. neighbouring councils may wish to consider clustering to fund an additional PCSO for their area. Based on the cost of a fully funded PCSO being £32K, if those funding a PCSO had 1000 rateable dwellings, it would cost each dwelling circa £2.66 per month to fund a dedicated PCSO for their area.

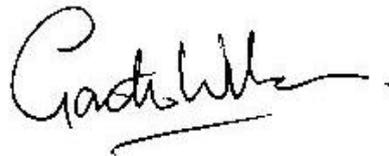
We have had to make some difficult decisions but we want to reassure you that extensive demand analysis and consultation with staff, communities and partners has been undertaken to inform the re-design, which has been guided by the fundamental aim of protecting communities and enhancing services, achieving savings and improving efficiency whilst delivering the Police and Crime Plan. The important message for our communities is that Suffolk Constabulary will continue to respond to you in an emergency and your safer neighbourhood teams will continue to serve you locally, supported by the neighbourhood response teams and enhanced investigation teams.

Finally, we are both confident that the new policing model will continue to provide a high quality service and we will of course continually review how the model is operating. We are committed to listening and if you would like to discuss the content of this letter or have any questions about the proposed changes then please do not hesitate to contact the Review Team on 01473 613560 (email suffolkchangeteam@suffolk.pnn.police.uk).

Yours faithfully



Tim Passmore
Police and Crime Commissioner



Gareth Wilson
Chief Constable