POLICE and CRIME PANEL REPORT

The number of Police officers has been an ongoing problem for some time. With the increase in specialist teams (such as the new neighbourhood teams) the number of officers has been insufficient for all teams to be fully operational. Avon & Somerset were losing more officers than they were recruiting. This has now improved with more officers being retained plus new recruits finishing training, at the current rate the force expects to meet the uplift target of 3291 by end of March.

There is a national shortage of detectives, this means C I D are unable to investigate all crimes as they would wish, therefore this has been prioritised to fill the gap

Some of these new teams.

There is a new Rural team, working in liaison with Villages and the Farming Community, this has also involved local volunteers, watching for and reporting on crimes around farms.

Team leading on Speed watch is having success, there are now 1700 volunteers, they have held 4500 sessions and issued almost 59000 letters.

A&S are part of a scheme targeting unlicenced, uninsured and vehicles with no MOT

Training scheme operating training Motorcyclist to be more aware this is undertaken by trained M/cyclists

Commissioner's Crime Prevention Fund

A new fund has been set up for community projects aimed at reducing crime £200,000 is available, groups can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £5,000. This fund will be administered by Somerset Community Foundation.

Crime Prevention

The focus of crime prevention with work between the Police working in collaboration with other agencies to drive down crime. PCC comments "with a renewed focus on prevention I know, together, we can make A&S communities safer for all".

A single day in A&S Police

Statistics for one day in A&S

380	recorded crimes	848	999 calls
65	domestic abuse crimes	1931	101 calls
6	rapes	1130	incidents
37	offences with violence and injury	223	ASB incidents
242	victims	83	safeguarding referrals
113	suspects/offenders	14	calls re missing persons
5	assaults on officers/staff	25	road traffic collisions

Drug offences and County Lines

A&S are below the national average

Burglary and Vehicle offences

A&S seem in line with national average and on a downward trend

Personal Robbery

A&S running above the national average and slightly rising.

This is extracts from a 54-page report I thought would be of interest, the full report could be made available for anyone that would like it.

Peter Crew