

Name of Meeting:	Sussex Police & Crime Panel
Date of Meeting:	28 June 2019
Report by:	Councillor Mrs Gill Yeates
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing

This was my first attendance at the Police & Crime Panel, held at East Sussex County Council offices in Lewes. Several members of the Panel were also new, and we were advised that there will be a training day prior to the next meeting in September.

The Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne OBE and Mark Streater, Chief Executive & Monitoring Officer, were in attendance to answer questions from the Panel. Public questions are now only responded to in writing and, although the public are still welcome to attend, very few did, perhaps because the meetings are webcast.

Two external visits are also planned; firstly, to see Policing at Gatwick Airport in action which will be in September and, secondly, a visit to the control centre which handles 101 calls and manages the CCTV systems.

The substantive part of the meeting revolved around the PCCs' annual report and questions thereon. The questions which I took to the meeting were covered within this section:

- 1 How many police officers have 'body cams' (body worn video)? I didn't need to ask this as it is covered on page 28 of the annual report. The answer is that all frontline officers and staff are now equipped with BWV. I planned a supplementary question as to whether there were statistics available to assess its efficiency, but it is probably too early. However, the Commissioner did refer us to a report produced by Hampshire Constabulary in advance of the national roll out.
- 2 The situation with regard to the 101-reporting service. There were many questions on this topic, so I will summarise some of the main points:
 - Most Police forces are experiencing slow response times
 - The Panel's Chairman has requested that the service continues to be kept under review
 - There are an average of 2689 contacts per day with Sussex Police
 - Additional funds have been made available to increase staffing, but turnover is high as staff move to other roles
 - Emphasis is being placed on training of call handlers
 - There is no restriction on the time each call takes – some are extremely complex and result in multiple issues being reported
 - Experienced inspectors are now working within the call centres to assist with the more involved reports

Within the Annual Report is an item about the PAMs (Performance & Accountability Meetings) which the PCC holds monthly. These are webcast and available at <https://www.sussex-pcc-.gov.uk/get-involved/webcasting/>

