

**Police and Crime Panel**

**13<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**Report of the Police and Crime Commissioner**

**NATIONAL INVESTMENT IN 20,000 NEW POLICE OFFICERS**

1. Since the investment of 20,000 additional police officers over the next three years was announced at the end of July, work has commenced both locally and nationally to prepare for this significant upscale in officer numbers. The new National Policing Board met at the start of August and has made this their number one focus.
2. An uplift of 20,000 officers for England and Wales has been widely reported nationally. To date there has been no written confirmation of funding from the Home Office. It is anticipated that more information will be available prior to the panel meeting and, therefore, a verbal update will be provided to the Panel if required.
3. The main aspects of the uplift that are known are as follows:
  - a. 20,000 officer uplift for England and Wales announced by the new Prime Minister – these are to be warranted officers.
  - b. Additional officers will be recruited over a three year period to March 2023.
  - c. The phased implementation is proposed to be 6,000, 8,000 and then 6,000 officers over the respective years. It is likely that the first year of the uplift will cover September 2019 to March 2021 with additional officers being recruited in this financial year.
4. A new National Police Board chaired by the Home Secretary has been set up to oversee the uplift. Representatives of both the Association of PCCs (APCC) and the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) are members of the new board. The APCC is represented by its Chair, PCC Katy Bourne. Work is being undertaken by the NPCC to assess the full cost of the uplift and the support requirements necessary to achieve it and all police forces are working on recruitment plans to achieve the uplift.
5. The distribution of the additional 20,000 police officers has not yet been decided and will ultimately be a matter for Ministers to determine. The Commissioner is in no doubt that our communities will expect this investment to deliver tangible and visible increases in policing presence locally. The Commissioner is lobbying with our MPs to make the strongest possible case for allocation of these resources in a way that brings maximum benefit to the communities of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

**Frances Hughes**

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