

Meeting of the Council, Thursday, 21 February 2019
Public Question Under Standing Order A24

Public Question (1) from Nigel Penny to the Council's Representative on the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel (Councillor Excell)

There have been incidents of violent and potentially violent related crime around Paignton Town Centre. Recent examples only: robbery at BetFred and Tesco Express, a knife attack in Parkside Road, the incident in Courtlands Road – this one at 3.30pm in daylight. There are also incidents of non-violent crime especially shoplifting, causing distress and loss to local traders.

The Police reacted promptly to these violent cases. Two additional PCSO's have been allocated recently to Paignton, acknowledging Paignton's under-resourced issues. Nevertheless, these crimes directly affect peoples' lives and raise real concerns among Paignton residents more widely.

Given the background above, my three-part question is:
To provide Paignton with a professionally comprehensive police service involving preventative as well as reactive actions:

- 1) Can you confirm the assessed number of Police Officers/PCSOs required, and how does this compare to current figures?
- 2) What actions are being taken to help the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary rebuild operational numbers by:
 - i) the Police & Crime Commissioner, and
 - ii) Torbay Borough Council in its declared duty of safety to residents and visitors to the Bay? and
- 3) When will the impact of the recently formed South Devon Police Unit be evaluated and will this evaluation be made public?