

Police Liaison Representative Q&A

1. Where has this project come from?

The idea came from Sergeant Sam Dobbs, who is the Police Sergeant for Daventry District. Following a meeting with Northants CALC to discuss the role that parish and town councils can play in community safety, it was agreed to ask each council in the district of Daventry to consider appointing a Police Liaison Representative.

2. What will a Police Liaison Representative do?

Essentially, the Police Liaison Representative will act as a single point of contact between the Neighbourhood Policing Team and the council to ensure a two-way flow of information on community safety matters. A draft role description has been prepared and sent to all councils.

3. Who can be a Police Liaison Representative?

It is envisaged that the majority of Police Liaison Representatives will be parish councillors, but who the council appoints is up to the council. It could be a councillor, an officer, or a member of the public.

4. What are the benefits to the council?

By appointing someone whose job it is to understand how the Neighbourhood Policing Team works, who to contact, and what the current community safety issues are it is hoped that councils will feel more connected to the Neighbourhood Policing Team. This in turn will lead to better sharing of information, which will impact positively on community safety and crime reduction.

5. What are the benefits to the police?

The police need eyes and ears and need to be able to work positively with communities. Establishing a single point of contact makes it easier for the police to engage with communities and makes communication more efficient and effective.

6. Why is the project happening now?

It is no secret that staffing of neighbourhood policing teams has reduced in recent years, so it is more important than ever that resources are used as intelligently as possible. The new Neighbourhood Policing Team in Daventry is now in place, led by Sergeant Sam Dobbs. One of the key roles of the Police Liaison Representative is to develop an understanding of the policing resources available locally, and to work in partnership with the police to make the most of them.

7. What does success look like?

There are 53 parish councils in Daventry and the aim is to recruit 53 Police Liaison Representatives; one for each parish. If a parish council is not able to appoint a Police Liaison Representative it will be important to understand the reasons why, so that the project can be developed further. If the project is successful it may be rolled out in other districts in the county.

8. What do councils need to do?

Put *"To appoint a Police Liaison Representative to act as a single point of contact with Northamptonshire Police"* on the council's next agenda and then send the name and e-mail address of the person appointed to info@northantscalc.com. All Police Liaison Representatives will receive an introductory welcome e-mail at the end of October 2017.