
Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel

Chairman: Cllr. Trevor Egleton

Adrian Neighbour

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Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel Secretariat

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9/07/14

Dear Mr. Neighbour,

Thames Valley Road Safety Speed Camera Scheme

I apologise for the delayed response to your letter dated 9th June 2014.

When responding to your letter I feel that it is important to provide the background to the establishment of the Panel's topic scoring criteria. This was initially discussed at the Police and Crime Panel's (PCP) meeting on 14 September 2012. The covering report for this item stated that:

'The non-statutory, discretionary, component of the PCP's work programme will consist of topics that PCP members decide to scrutinise on behalf of Thames Valley residents. This report outlines criteria that the PCP could use to prioritise and refer such topics.'

This line is important inasmuch that it clearly states that items outside of the Police and Crime Panel's statutory work will '*consist of topics that PCP members decide to scrutinise on behalf of Thames Valley residents*'. For information the statutory elements of the Panel's work programme are as follows:

- Contributing to the development of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) police and crime plan
- Reviewing the PCC's proposed precept
- Reviewing the PCC's proposed appointments of chief constable, chief executive, chief finance officer and deputy police and crime commissioner and holding public
- confirmation hearings for these posts
- An informal role in investigating complaints about non-criminal behaviour of the PCC
- Making comments on the PCC's annual report at a public meeting

The Panel's Rules of Procedure, which were initially agreed in July 2012 and subsequently reviewed and agreed in July 2013, also support the view that the setting of the work programme is the responsibility of the Panel:

8.0 Work Programme

8.1 The Panel will be responsible for setting its work programme. In doing so it will have regard to:

- c) The ascertainable views of the public on Police and Crime matters;
- e) The views of its members and advisers;
- f) The resources available to support the delivery of the work programme.

As stated in my previous letter to you (April 2014) the Panel made a decision based upon the information presented to them at the meeting and their local knowledge that the topic of the reform of the Thames Valley Road Safety Speed Camera Scheme is not one of local concern in the areas they represent. In addition to this the Panel has limited resources to carry out additional in-depth work above and beyond its core work and therefore must prioritise requests as it sees fit to ensure that these resources are maximised to the best effect.

In the case of your request, the Panel had to consider it as a request from an individual living within the Thames Valley, not as one that is representative of the majority of Thames Valley residents. In addition to this, the fact that the topics of speed cameras, speeding or the Thames Valley Road Safety Speed Camera Scheme are not included within the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan and did not form part of his election campaign would suggest that these are areas that are not high on the public agenda across the Thames Valley at present.

If you are concerned about the scheme in Buckinghamshire alone, then may I suggest that you write to the Chairman of the Environment, Transport and Locality Services Select Committee Warren Whyte (wwhyte@buckscc.gov.uk)? This committee is designated as the 'crime and disorder' committee in Buckinghamshire.

Yours Sincerely



Trevor Egleton
Chairman, Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel