




Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

**Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough**

John Campion

West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner


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Dear John.

I hope this letter finds you well.

I write to discuss the need for more police officers in Telford and Wrekin.

Recent commitments to increasing officer numbers is a welcomed start to reassuring our communities. In addition, the recent confidence survey also shows ways we could support and help improve relationships between Police and residents.

While some of the data is positive, the need for more police is a theme evident throughout with three-quarters of respondents feeling there has been no change in policing levels.

This is backed by residents telling us they don't see enough officers on the streets or an adequate response when a crime is committed.

Over the last 12 months, areas in and around Telford town centre have seen recorded crime increase by 9% year on year, with a 71% increase in theft offences which as we both know, is often linked to other criminal activity.

We'd like your support in changing residents' everyday interaction with Police. As a council, we are committed to continual improvement in tackling crime, anti-social behaviour, and fly-tipping. I also know that when we work together, we achieve good things - the latest performance data relating to Building Safer & Stronger Communities shows this.

To demonstrate that we are on the side of our residents, we will publicly call for;

- More officers on the beat.
- Community focused safer neighbourhood teams.
- Office numbers to be restored to 2010 levels.
- More Police focus on our high streets.

In summary, do you agree that;

- Crime plans should be developed for each high street, in partnership with Police, town/parish and the borough council.
- Safer neighbourhood policing teams should reflect community needs and revert back to smaller areas.
- Real term policing numbers should be greater than those in 2010 and increasing in line with growing population of Telford and Wrekin.

The borough faces unique challenges compared with other areas. Between 2011 and 2021 our population grew by 11.3% - the fastest growth in West Mercia.

Telford and Wrekin is also the most deprived authority within West Mercia, evident in the crime domain measuring the risk of personal and material victimisation. 13% of LSOAs in the borough are in the 10% most deprived nationally for crime, compared to 4% of LSOAs in Worcestershire and 0% of LSOAs in Herefordshire and Shropshire.

The suggestion of additional police officers is welcomed and await details about what their roles will be and delivery timescales.

We look forward to continuing to work together on delivering for our residents and building on our achievements to date such as the £2.5m Building Safer & Stronger Communities, successful Safer Streets bids and CCTV infrastructure that is beginning to have a positive impact.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Shaun Davies
Leader- Telford & Wrekin Council
Councillor for Malinslee & Dawley Bank (Labour)
Senior Vice Chair of the Local Government
Association



Cllr Richard Overton
Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for
Homes and Enforcement (Labour)
Elected Councillor for St Georges