



**Kent  
Police**

# **Neighbourhood Policing Review**

Public briefing note

## Background

The most recent financial grant from the Government has been ringfenced for the Police Uplift Programme to secure an additional 185 police officers for Kent by March 2023. This will take the Kent Police officer establishment to 4,145.

The increase in police officer numbers – the highest in the force’s history – gives us an opportunity to examine whether we have the right mix of officers, staff, and PCSOs, and the roles they are performing to ensure we are as efficient and effective in the way we serve the people of Kent.

## The review

The Chief Constable has directed the force carries out a review of neighbourhood policing, with the remit that the service provided to the public has to be enhanced where possible and not fall below the high standard we currently provide.

There will likely be changes to how we are structured and deliver business, but local policing will continue to be at the heart of everything we do and our commitment and dedication to the victims, witnesses and communities of Kent will remain unchanged.

Kent Police remains committed to providing a visible police presence and to ensuring its local policing provision is as efficient and as effective as it can be.

The review is being led by the Assistant Chief Constable for Local Policing and supported by the Kent Police Change Team. The engagement phase is expected to last approximately three months and will see officers, staff, stakeholders, and the public consulted and updated appropriately throughout.

No decision will be made with regards to any future establishments until the review is completed. It is anticipated that options will be submitted for Chief Officer consideration and approved within six months. The implementation of any changes may take many months to ensure the high quality of service to the public is maintained.

## Ensuring a quality service

We are currently exploring how we can ensure that the review process and changes to officer and staff numbers or roles does not impact on the service being provided to the public. This includes options to re-deploy resources to support teams involved in neighbourhood policing.

We will also commit to Chief Officer-set expectations of quality of neighbourhood policing. This will include our commitment to maintaining and building on our engagement activities during this period, maintaining our support for the vulnerable, and our commitment to working with partners to problem solve with our communities.