



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Further to your information request FOI/EIR 21/22-202 please find your question and our response below.

Request:

1. When did the council learn of the legal clarification which confirmed the potential conflict of interest (paragraph 4.2 of the report)?
2. Precisely which powers will the new Road Safety Volunteers gain which are not available under the existing Speed Watch Scheme?
3. Precisely which powers will the new Road Safety Volunteers have at their disposal to address illegal parking when driver education messaging has failed?
4. Has there been a reduction in the number of PCSOs allocated to Cambridgeshire Constabulary since the full council meeting in October 2020 (in relation to paragraph 4.4 of the report)?
5. What KPIs have been defined in order to measure the effectiveness of the pilot scheme proposed in the report for the report-back to committee April 2022?
6. Who will be responsible for collating and maintaining these KPIs and will interim results be reported?
7. Has a risk assessment been completed for the pilot scheme?
8. Can the risk assessment be shared as part of this FoI request?
9. What are the top risks which have been identified with the pilot scheme?
10. What specific risks have been identified with regard to the personal safety of volunteers and how will these be mitigated?
11. How will the volunteers be insured when undertaking the role and who will provide this insurance?
12. Will volunteers conduct their parking enforcement individually or will they need to be accompanied by at least one other volunteer?
13. How many volunteers are estimated to be required to provide an effective parking enforcement solution across the district?
14. How many hours a week on average will each volunteer be expected to contribute?
15. Will it be mandatory for volunteers to wear a uniform?
16. Can you provide further details of the uniform to be worn by volunteers?
17. Which body or organisation will provide the training of volunteers?
18. How many hours of training is required?
19. Will the Police Standard of Professional Behaviour apply to the volunteers?
20. Assuming they are subject to the 2012 Conduct Regulations, will volunteers be provided with support if they are subject to a complaint?
21. What disciplinary action can be taken against volunteers who are found to have breached the regulations?
22. Who will organise and manage the volunteers? Can council officers take on this role or are they excluded due to the potential conflict of interest?
23. Have Cambridgeshire Constabulary representatives expressed a preference to officers between Civil Parking Enforcement and Police Service Volunteers to enforce on-street parking regulations?
24. Have Cambridgeshire Constabulary representatives been asked to compare the expected effectiveness of Civil Parking Enforcement versus the Police Service Volunteers scheme to address on-street parking regulations?
25. Have officers had any discussions with officers from any of those authorities that have adopted Civil Parking Enforcement and which also retain some free off-street car parking?
26. Have officers had any discussions with officers at Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the feasibility of implementing Civil Parking Enforcement in East Cambridgeshire whilst maintaining the existing split of free and paid off-street car parking?

27. Have officers had any discussions with officers from neighbouring Cambridgeshire district councils to understand their plans to introduce Civil Parking Enforcement?

Response:

1. We asked for a legal opinion from Trowers and received a response on the 1st March 2021 which confirmed that an employee of the council cannot be treated as a police volunteer under S38 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017.
2. The pilot would create a new Police Service Volunteers role of Road Safety Volunteers whereby the Chief Constable would bestow powers under Section 38 of the Policing and Crime Act 2017. Community speed watch do not have *any* powers available to them. Powers being explored by the program include excess speed enforcement and parking related offences.
3. As per question 2
4. Chief Constable wrote a service review report which reduced the number of PSCOs in East Cambs from officers to 1
5. It will be a police initiative. Therefore, it will be for the police to identify, manage and monitor their KPIs
6. As answer to Q5
- 7- 10. The risk assessment and mitigation will be carried out by the program which is still in the design phase. There will be no issue with sharing this risk assessment once complete.
11. All volunteers are insured by the police.
12. All volunteers will be at a minimum, double crewed.
13. There is no estimation of how many are required to be effective: this will form part of the program evaluation. It is expected that a small cadre of volunteers will initially be recruited and trained.
14. There is no minimum number of hours expected of PSVs
15. Yes
16. No, the program is still in the design phase.
17. It is a police initiative and therefore they will provide the training.
18. The program and therefore the training is still in the design phase. Further details will be available in due course
19. PSVs are not subject to the same regulations as warranted officers but are expected to abide by the Code of Ethics
20. PSVs will be supported by their line-management in relation to any complaints
21. For serious cases PSVs can be removed from the organization. Less serious matters would be dealt with by line-management through reflective practice and learning. Criminal complaints would be investigated as such.
22. It is a police initiative and therefore they will organise and manage their volunteers.
23. Cambridgeshire Constabulary has consistently supported the civilianisation of parking enforcement across the county and that remains their position. However, the constabulary recognises that the decision to adopt parking enforcement is for the individual local authorities.
24. No
25. No. The remit was as per the Council Motion on 22nd October 2020 which did not authorise this action.
26. No. The remit was as per the Council Motion on 22nd October 2020 which did not authorise this action.
27. No. The remit was as per the Council Motion on 22nd October 2020 which did not authorise this action.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 21/22-202

If information has been refused please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.