

BY EMAIL

18th December 2025

Dear Parish Council,

I am writing to inform you of an important decision regarding the future of neighbourhood policing in Cheshire.

Following conclusion of consultation and careful consideration of a counter-proposal as well as our current understanding of the difficult financial forecast, the proposal to reduce the number of PCSO posts from 87 to 27 will now be progressed.

This decision has not been taken lightly and all those affected by the changes are being supported throughout the process.

We fully recognise the valuable contribution that PCSOs make to our communities, and we are grateful for the support and partnership of parish councils in helping to keep Cheshire safe. However, the ongoing financial pressures facing the force, combined with the changing nature of crime and public expectations, mean that we must adapt our workforce model to ensure we remain fit for the future.

We have had a cumulative reduction in our budget of £115m since 2008/09 and currently need to make a further £13m in savings by 2029.

Reducing the number of PCSOs is essential to future-proofing the force, enabling us to balance our budget while maintaining our commitment to neighbourhood policing. These changes will also allow us to redeploy warranted police officers into local policing teams, ensuring we have the right resources and powers in place to tackle the issues that matter most to our communities. The sentencing review for example, will increase our demand to manage offenders in the community which requires more warranted police officers.

We understand that this news will be of significant interest to you and your residents. To ensure you are fully informed and have the opportunity to discuss the new neighbourhood

policing model, your Local Policing Unit Chief Inspector Daniel Reynolds will be in contact with you in the new year to provide further details and answer any questions you may have.

In the meantime, should you have any specific questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely



Alison Ross

**Assistant Chief Constable
Neighbourhood Policing
Cheshire Constabulary**