



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

AM/ns
21st June 2022

Dear Clerks and Councillors,

Thank you to those who were able to attend our Police Hub meeting on Thursday 16th June at Moreleigh Village Hall. The purpose of this letter is to provide a record of that meeting for those who attended and an update for those who were unable to make it.

There was widespread agreement that providing village halls as outposts for police officers to use during routine patrols was a worthwhile venture. Since there has been no push back or disagreement with this concept, I would therefore like to outline the next steps.

Inspector Ben Shardlow's approval of this initiative and his updates on increasing police officer numbers and operating producers were all very welcome. His buy-in will be essential to ensuring we can create a model that is effective in enhancing police visibility, as well as tackling crime across our communities.

As was discussed we are intending to create a network of police hubs within towns, parishes and village halls for police officers to use while on patrol. These hubs will not only offer themselves as a refuge stop for officers but also provide a close-to-hand base for them to operate out of while on rural patrol. Additionally, these identified halls as police hubs will also assist in creating a "emergency procedure network" for our emergency services to use in the case of disaster.

The actionable points of the meeting were as follows.

First, that all Parish Councils and Councillors should be encouraged to sign up to the *Councillor Advocate Scheme*. This initiative has been created by Alison Hernandez the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall and has been designed to enhance liaison between councils and police officers. <https://www.devonandcornwall-pcc.gov.uk/take-part/councillor-advocate-scheme/>

For more information on this scheme please contact Insp. Ben Shardlow on email at:

benjamin.shardlow@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Page 1 of 2

Secondly, given the approval of the police hub idea from both local councils and Inspector Shardlow, we must now provide the necessary information to ensure that these hubs can be utilised in an effective and cohesive manner that helps to drive up visibility and help tackle crime.

Therefore, could I please ask your Council to respond to the following questions:

1. Are you content to be part of the South Devon Police Hub initiative?
2. What building would you like to nominate as police hub? (i.e., village hall, schoolhouse, church etc)
3. How is the building accessed? (i.e., keypad, lock and key, electronic lock etc)
4. What facilities are available in the building? (Kitchen, bathrooms etc)
5. Is Wi-Fi available?
6. Who is the named individual responsible for the nominated building?
7. Please provide the named individuals contact details

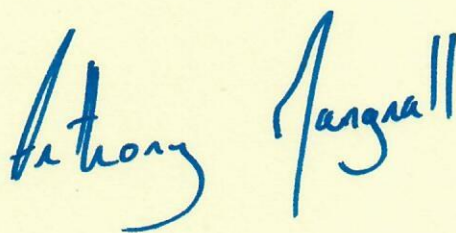
These questions will help us to build up a database and to ensure that the scheme is up and running by September.

Could I therefore request that Councils willing to be part of this initiatives respond to this letter no later than **29th July 2022**.

I am most grateful to all the work councils, clerks and councillors have done thus far and the overwhelming positive response to this concept. If any part of this letter does not make sense or you would like to discuss this initiative with me then please do let me know by calling 01803 868 378 and I will come to see you or call back.

On another topic, I would also like to try and attend as many fetes over the summer months as possible, if there are any fetes taking place in your Parish, I would be most grateful if you would share the details.

With best wishes,



Anthony Mangnall MP
Totnes and South Devon Constituency