



Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commission

Freedom of Information Act

Request Response

No. 002036/14

Question

Dear Northamptonshire Police,

It is stated by Northamptonshire Police under the headline

<http://www.northamptonchron.co.uk/news/local/anti-hate-unit-to-be-disbanded-by-northamptonshire-police-1-6022531>

Anti-hate unit to be disbanded by Northamptonshire Police

"Although the unit has only six officers, the force maintains disbanding it would provide useful savings as it seeks to save £23 million over five years."

6 Officers on £35k a year equate to savings of £210,000 a year, if the size of the force is reduce by 6 officers

a- Please release the documents on the reduction of the force by 6 officers

b- Please release the evidence to back up the statement how the further £21,500,000 will be saved

5 years at 210,000 a year = only £1,500,000 total, £21,500,000 is missing?

Answer

This was an operational policing decision based on an internal business case that continues to provide the best possible service to victims of hate crime.

Partnerships are now more mature, we have geographic ownership of crime with an inspector in overall charge and is in the unique position of being able to mobilise a host of resources including response, safer community teams and detectives from the criminal investigation department to undertake a thorough and professional investigation, but more importantly to link in with other partners to adopt a problem solving approach and reduce repeat victimisation and also manage the victim care aspect of the investigation.

Incidents of hate crime feature prominently on a daily briefing on both the county and Northampton districts and will be brought to the attention of the most senior officer on duty to ensure that an appropriate and proportionate response is implemented. The same senior officers will be held to account in terms of the number of hate crime incident, the resolution and also the victim care directly by the Deputy chief constable on a monthly basis.

Meanwhile the strategic lead for hate crime will remain with the Head of Crime Investigation who will oversee the day to day co-ordination of hate crime and the professional development of staff undertaking such investigations.

This is not necessarily driven financially although we are mitigating against the budget deficit by reducing the number of supervisor and increasing the number of constables to enhance our service delivery where it matters at the front line – In Northamptonshire we will see bigger more omni-competent teams, less supervisors and managers and we will strive to enhance our service to victims of crime.