



ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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24th January 2022

Councillor Tarmey

Via email: drew.tarmey@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Councillor Tarmey

Council Meeting – Wednesday 12th January 2022

Thank you for submitting a question to the Council Meeting on Wednesday 12th January. I have detailed the question below along with my subsequent response for your information.

Residents are rightly concerned about the lack of rural policing in villages such Anston, Woodsetts and Thorpe Salvin. Domestic burglary and elements of anti-social behaviour remain a significant issue in our communities. Does the representative agree with me that South Yorkshire Police and the Police and Crime Commissioner need to do more to prioritise rural policing?

You may be pleased to know that rural crime will be a priority in Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, due to be published in the next few weeks.

I have been made aware that a series of residential burglaries has been identified in the Anston and Woodsetts areas which has resulted in positive action being taken by the local neighbourhood policing team in conjunction with Rotherham CID and specialist resources.

This joint working has included:

- The distribution of smart water, which has been installed at over 60 homes with more planned
- Crime prevention talks at Neighbourhood Watch and Parish Council Meetings being held
- Two crime prevention/engagement stalls have been arranged where SYP's Design Out Crime Officer (DOCO) will be giving away window alarms.



And importantly increased patrols have been taking place in the area, including patrols by plain clothed officers, supported by Council CCTV.

Following that activity, I am advised that to date, South Yorkshire Police has not received a report of residential burglary in Woodsetts since 24th November last year.

I should be happy to raise any concerns with the Police and Crime Commissioner through my role on the Panel, but I must remind colleagues that police resources have been stretched more thinly over the last decade as a result of cuts from central government and that does mean that difficult choices have to be made.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rukhsana Haleem'.

Cllr Rukhsana Haleem
Designated Spokesperson for South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel