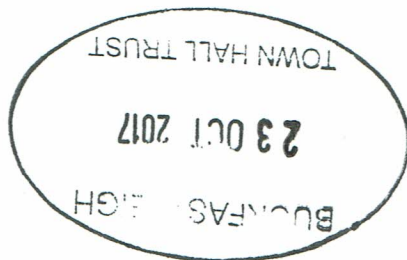


Correspondence Now TC



Devon & Cornwall Police

Ms M Hart
Town Hall
Bossell Road
Buckfastleigh
Devon
TQ11 0DD



Inspector A Tomlinson
Police Station
Exeter Road
Teignmouth
TQ14 9FN

Telephone: 01626 326641

Our ref: SDEV 099 17

19 October 2017

Dear Ms Hart,

Thank you for your letter of 19 September 2017 detailing your concerns about levels of police cover in Buckfastleigh.

As you correctly identify PC Will Young has sustained an injury which will result in him being off work for some time and this has reduced the dedicated Neighbourhood cover in Buckfastleigh to PCSO James Yates.

Policing for Buckfastleigh is provided in a number of ways, in common with most rural towns of this size. The neighbourhood team will respond to live incidents whilst on duty, however the majority of such incidents are attended by officers from the twenty four hour response teams based at Newton Abbot and Totnes. In addition serious offences will be investigated by officers from the crime department or other specialist units as appropriate. The primary function of neighbourhood officers is the long term problem solving and local knowledge that comes from having a geographic responsibility. At present the Neighbourhood Sergeant Seth Saunders and Constable Andy Dudley from Ashburton are working with PCSO Yates to address the problems in Buckfastleigh, but I do acknowledge that overall there has been a reduction in the level of neighbourhood cover across the two towns.

During PC Young's absence I am seeking a short term replacement. Unfortunately the only potential source is from one of the response teams, who have been unable to release any one to date without creating a risk to their primary role of providing an emergency response. I will continue to pursue this option.

14172@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

Contact the police

Emergency 999

Non-emergency www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/reportcrime

✉ 101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

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I apologise for the delayed response to your letter. I was hoping to have more positive news on a temporary replacement, but do not feel I can delay further awaiting this.

I am aware that you will be disappointed with this response. Unfortunately we have experienced a significant reduction in our resources over the last few years. Please be assured we are doing all we can to focus our resources on the highest priorities such as emergency response and ensure no areas are disproportionately disadvantaged by these reductions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the initials 'A. T. L.' followed by a stylized flourish.

Sector Inspector – Coastal and Rural Teignbridge