

## **Police and Crime Panel Report**

At the meeting of the Police and Crime Panel on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the Commissioner gave a presentation on the new operating model of the police service. As an investment to save, the police will be provided with Samsung Galaxy phones that will enable them to carry out a number of functions without having to return to their base. The initial roll-out in Autumn 2015 will include an electronic police notebook facility and number plate look up. Additional applications will be go live in quarter 1 of 2016. The time saved in not having to keep returning to the station to prepare reports and make enquiries will result in a saving of £4M pa and the loss of approximately 80 officers.

There will also be some changes to the estate. The intention is still to move out of Lansdown Road and find another location within the town. Currently the police are implementing a police point in the municipal offices and the commissioner expressed a firm desire to co-locate with the borough council should it move to another central site within Cheltenham. The implementation of the police point at Waddon is proving difficult due to the proposed legal obligations to be placed on the police as a sub-lessee. The Commissioner emphasised his wish to have a presence in Waddon and if the problem could not be resolved he would be looking for an alternative location in the area.

Grants available for projects related to the police and crime plan now number 146 and in the latest bidding round a further 88 projects are under consideration.

Local elections across the county coincide with the general election on 7<sup>th</sup> May. Both the chair and vice-chair of the Police and Crime Panel are not seeking re-election and other membership is also likely to change. The next meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July will have a completely new look.

Cllr Helena McCloskey