

Panel Questions to the Commissioner

9 October 2026

Report by the Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel

Below is a schedule of the questions received prior to this meeting and where possible responses have been included. Responses will be tabled at the meeting that were not available at the time of despatch. Written questions must be received two weeks before a meeting of the Panel and the Commissioner or Panel Chairman is invited to provide a response by noon of the day before the meeting.

Questions relating to operational matters of Sussex Police are passed to a relevant officer at Sussex Police for a response, with a brief summary of such questions provided below.

1. Written question from Cllr Paul Keene, Lewes District Council.

Question:

'What assurance has the Commissioner sought and received from the Chief Constable on Sussex Police's preparedness for coordinated protest and disorder at Sussex ports and on the open coast, and whether the Sussex Resilience Forum holds a specific plan for Newhaven and Shoreham?'

Answer: TBC

2. Written question from Cllr Paul Keene, Lewes District Council.

Question:

'Is the PCC satisfied that Sussex Police has assessed the westward shift in crossing routes evidenced by the Baie de Seine launch of 06 September, what maritime awareness activity is current at Newhaven, at Shoreham, and along the open coast, and what arrangements exist with Border Force and the port authorities?'

Answer: TBC

3. Written question from Cllr Paul Keene, Lewes District Council.

Question:

'Can the PCC reassure the Panel around what mutual aid and national mobilisation arrangements Sussex Police can call upon, and within what timeframe, in the light of the inspectorate's finding of 18 December 2024 that national mobilisation was activated four days too late in the summer of 2024?'

Answer: TBC

4. Written question from Mrs Karen Pryer of Worthing

Question:

'E-bikes and scooters are now presenting a real, and potentially dangerous, problem.

Just one example: walking along the seafront from Perch/Parade in Worthing today, an electric bike, with 2 people on it, shot past us on the cycle lane, at a speed of about 20mph.

Someone inadvertently crossing that lane, e.g. a young child, would not have stood a chance.

Clearly, those riders - that's just one of many examples - do not care that this behaviour is both dangerous and illegal. (This time, the riders were not wearing balaclavas though I have seen quite a few with those on.)

Sadly, we never see police officers around to act as a deterrent to this behaviour, which is on the increase.

Is the Commissioner satisfied that the relevant laws are being enforced in Sussex? Has consideration been given to confiscating these vehicles?'

Answer: TBC