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# **Council Meeting**

18 January 2022

**Booklet 1**

Answers to Written Questions

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**QUESTION SUBMITTED BY: Councillor J Lepoidevin**

**TO BE ANSWERED BY: Councillor AS Khan, Cabinet Member for Policing and Equalities**

**TEXT OF QUESTION:**

“Does the Cabinet Member welcome the additional 39.4M funding for West Midlands Police? Can he confirm how much will be spent in Coventry and what priorities this will be spent on?”

**ANSWER:**

We have not been able to quantify the amount of additional funding that has been specific to Coventry. West Midlands Police was the most affected force in terms of the cuts circa 2008 – 2010 so a lot of this additional investment will simply backfill officers we lost as a force. We have seen an uplift of 14% (just under 22 FTE) in terms of Constables ‘boots on the ground’ since the start of this financial year.

In addition, the force has invested in several ‘waves’ of officers that come to us on uplift programmes each year. Currently the force has invested its additional officers in a programme called SOCEX which is an exploitation team that manages that crime issue from start to finish. There will be additional areas of investment across the city in terms of extra officers over the coming year in support of this team.

The force will continue to make decisions as to what each uplift will be dedicated towards, but this may change next year when the current Chief Constable departs but a significant amount of investment will be directed towards local policing.