

DAPTC Executive of **- Agenda Item:**
ADW Conference – 27th September 2022

On the 27th September, I represented DAPTC at a conference held by the Association of Dorset Watches (ADW), to which both the Chief Executive and I were invited by Pat Halliday, who chairs the ADW at Kingston Maurward – Neil was unable to attend, so I was “flying solo”. It was an all-day conference, starting at 10am (with registration from 09:30 and scheduled to finish at 16:00 (it actually finished at around 16:10).

In common with the DAPTC conferences held at KM, there were some exhibition stalls in one of the front rooms, whereas speakers addressed delegates in the main conference room. In addition, the Rural Crime Team Engagement Van was at the front of the building and the Dorset “Bobby Van”. This latter team also had a stall inside and they visit victims of burglaries and other domestic security crimes to offer support, counselling and advice on how to improve security <https://asaferdorset.org.uk/bobbyvan.html>.

The Deputy Chief Constable, [Sam de Reya](#) (referred to by others as “Ma’am de Reya), opened the conference and presented a video on theme of “Creating a Safer County”, which is a motto adopted by the PCC, David Sidwick, and the new Chief Constable, [Scott Chiton](#) (aka Mister Chilton). Due to changes in government policy, Dorset has been able to recruit an additional 166 officers in the last year. Mention was made of the problems caused by the estimated 24 million visitors to Dorset in a typical year.

New “watch” initiatives:

- Hotel Watch - has taken off well with 250 members already
- Harbour Watch – principally to counter terrorism and drug offences
- Student Watch – to protect our 22,000 students

There followed a presentation by Sgt. Dan Galloway and PC Matt Young of the Dorset Police Drone Team. Dorset has two drones with a third ordered, though we also partner with Devon and Cornwall on some operations. Dorset currently has 7 part-time drone “pilots”, based in Weymouth, Poole and Bournemouth with a planned unit at Ferndown. There is shortly to be two full-time drone team members. Unfortunately Kingston Maurward had disallowed the drone flying demonstration, due the possible effects on their animals, however delegates watched another video, which showed some of the various uses of drones – including flying internally within buildings in order to assess threats.

The third presentation was from [Inspector David Parr](#), who heads up the neighbourhood police team in Weymouth and Portland. He explained that there are two other neighbourhood policing teams in the Dorset Council area – West and Purbeck, headed by [Inspector Ged Want](#) and a North and East team, headed by [Inspector Joe Turner](#). There is a renewed emphasis on Neighbourhood Policing across the pan-Dorset policing area.

Somewhere in this presentation we learned that the new [Dorset Police logo](#), which has already been rolled out onto many of the vehicles, documentation and other materials, now has to be restarted due to the sad demise of our late queen.

A fourth presentation was by Inspector Richard Jeffrey of the Rural Crime Team

Cllr. KD Johnson
6th October 2022.