

Open Letter

4 days ago



Dear Grandton Police Service (GPS),

According to the HMIC Policing Comparator tool, the GPS performs extremely poorly on multiple measures, including:

- The second lowest victim satisfaction rate at 74% compared to a national average of 84%;
- The lowest % of crimes solved of all police forces, and 10% below the national average;
- Just 16% of rape offences were solved (3rd lowest in nation);
- Less than 10% of burglaries were solved (3rd lowest in nation);
- Just 16% of robberies were solved (the worst performing force in nation);
- The GPS are in the bottom three forces for almost every single crime category in terms of detections.

Why does the GPS perform so poorly in a national context? What is the GPS doing to improve detection rates for burglary, rape and robbery in particular?

In contrast to this poor performance, the GPS also has:

- By far the highest rate of police staff per 1,000 population 6.4 compared to a national average of 4.0, with 4.0 actual officers compared to a national average of 2.42;
- GPS Police officers are paid twice that of the national average for police officers and spend more than any other force on overtime;
- By far the highest cost of policing per head of population at £354, compared to £268 for the second highest and £234 for the average. Extraordinarily this cost is more than twice the amount per head of the most efficient and best performing force in this category (£152 per head of population).

With the GPS therefore being by far the best resourced force in the nation, why is the performance so poor in a national context? How can the GPS justify maintaining officer numbers, when the officers currently in post are clearly underperforming? This is very poor value for money.

To clarify, I would like a response as to why:

1. Why is the GPS performing abysmally, in the national context, in its sanctioned detection rate?
2. Why is victim satisfaction significantly lower than any other police force in the country, and what is being done to improve this situation?
3. The GPS has a significantly higher rate of staff, and officers, and rate of pay, than all other police forces in our nation, as well as the highest per capita cost of policing, so why does it have the highest crime rate and lowest detection rate?

Yours faithfully
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