

1. How many school-based police officers (including Safer Schools Officers or personnel bearing other titles that may cover police staff who spend some of their time on a school site) are there currently in your police force?

If possible, please can this be broken down by:

(i) The name of the school

(ii) The number of officers based at the school currently

2. Are there plans to introduce or add more in the 2022/2023 academic year, if so, how many?

3. Has there been any consultation with any of the listed school-stakeholders (below) in decisions to introduce or add school-based police officers (including Safer Schools Officers or personnel bearing other titles that may cover police staff who spend some of their time on a school site) to any of the schools:

- **School governors**
- **Parents and carers of school children**
- **School children**
- **Local community groups**

If yes, please can you provide details of the consultation and any minutes/reports that were compiled.

West Midlands Police is broken down into neighbourhood policing units (NPU) as follows:

Sandwell; Coventry; Solihull; Dudley; Walsall; Wolverhampton; Birmingham East and Birmingham West.

Each NPU has a slightly different approach to the matter of school-based Police Officers. Please see below responses for each area.

Birmingham East and Birmingham West:

There are currently 11 School Liaison Officers across Birmingham supporting our schools (breakdown of schools attached).

We are looking to increase numbers of officers working with education establishments as well as reviewing how they currently work to build on best practice from across the region.

In terms of wider community consultation; we are currently in consultation with a number of stakeholders as part of our uplift proposals.

Coventry:

On the NPU there are currently 5 police officers that are tasked with dealing with the schools in Coventry.

They are not based in any school, but form the links to deal with issues from any school based in the city. They work with the schools on their respective sectors but are not based at one particular school.

No specific consultation has been conducted with the school governors, parents, or children.

Dudley:

Dudley have one “unofficial” school-based officer who covers schools in the Dudley Town area.

Dudley will be getting an uplift for schools-based officer which equates to 4 officers; 2 will go into traditional schools and 2 will go into the specialist referral units (PRUs). There is some work currently being done to decide how these officers will be deployed so I cannot say which school/s they will be deployed into.

I am not aware of any wider consultation in Dudley.

Sandwell:

3 School Link Officers (SLOs) and 1 Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) officer. All Neighbourhood Team staff have links to schools on their area and may, from time to time, deal with issues or attend schools to deliver inputs to pupils. These schools would be those not listed below.

Tipton – 1 officer

Q3 Tipton

Gospel Oak

West Brom – 1 officer

Phoenix

George Salter

West Brom Collegiate

Smethwick – 1 officer

Shireland

Holly Lodge

Sandwell Academy

PRUs - 1 officer

Sandwell Community School

Impact

Dudley Port School

Sandwell Valley School

Brades Lodge

Primrose Centre

There are plans to introduce 3 extra SLOs – this will provide 1 per Sandwell Town and 4 extra PRU officers.

Sandwell SLOs have been in post for around 18 months – I am not aware of what, if any, consultation took place at this time. The proposed uplift above has been discussed as part of the Police and Schools panel over recent months and will continue to feature on the agenda.

Solihull:

We do not have officers based in schools. We have school liaison officers (SLOs) who on an adhoc basis visit the schools when there is a need.

Each NPU is having an uplift at Solihull - we are getting 6 schools intervention and prevention officers but they will not be based in schools specifically, they will work agile.

No consultation has taken place locally. However, the Force recognize that working with schools is a key consideration (hence the force uplift).

Walsall:

Walsall currently have 1 dedicated Safer Schools PCSO. They are not based physically in a school but perform an information sharing role for all schools. Additionally, there are 3 PRUs and 2 schools-based officers.

No consultation has yet occurred.

Wolverhampton:

Attached is a list of officers and schools.

In addition to our early help officers and school link officers, we have a YPO (Young Persons Officer) who is mainly office based but is the link between police and all the schools.

As part of the uplift, we will have three additional officers for the PRUs.

No consultation has occurred.