

**Policing - Abbey with Battle Reading Neighbourhood Policing Team  
(town centre) Establishment  
Service Manager**

**Service Provided, Number of Staff &  
Equipment**

Inspector Keith Stacey

- 1 x Inspector
- 1 x Sergeant
- 2 x Neighbourhood Specialist Officers
- 5 x Neighbourhood Officer (*Central Reading allocated as home neighbourhood but deployable elsewhere*)
- 2 x Police Community Support Officers (*PCSOs ring-fenced to the Neighbourhood*)

**Specification**

Reactive demand that is generated within the Town Centre will continue to be met by either the Neighbourhood Teams or the LPA based patrol staff. The Neighbourhood teams are not expected to fulfill all functions and good examples of additional support are shoplifting and policing the night-time economy.

**Performance Measure**

Police officers and PCSO's will enter a summary of their daily patrol activity onto TVP I.T. system and this will be copied across to the BID manager monthly with any operationally sensitive details sanitised where appropriate. There will be a regular meeting scheduled between BID manager and either Inspector or Sergeant to agree tasking priorities.

**Begging in the town centre:**

Since 2004 begging has been reduced by about 75%. A partnership approach towards tackling begging and street drinking has seen the setting up of the street population group where these issues are addressed by the different service providers and statutory authorities. The issues are addressed through both enforcement and diversionary tactics and whilst court based action has proved challenging this will be addressed through the forthcoming BID period with new ASB legislation. Discussions are being held

around a pilot court diversion scheme for a separate crime category and if successful this may be rolled out for other crime types.

Begging is one of the TVP Central Reading Team's 3 NAG priorities, therefore it is regularly discussed at NAG and tasking meetings.

### **Shoplifting**

This has been highlighted as a priority by the Community Safety Partnership following a 12% increase in incidents although this figure is reflected nationally. This will be managed through the Town Centre Delivery group and will report back regularly to the CSP.

### **Existing Value of Contract/Service**

The annual staff cost for the established Central Reading Neighbourhood Policing Team is £498,137.

### **Boundary Area**

Central Reading Neighbourhood is the area within the IDR and includes a small part of Oxford Road and Chatham Street.

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