

Policing of Falmouth and Penryn – Service Baseline

Responsible Authority: Devon and Cornwall Police

Responsible Officer: Inspector Ian Thompson

Service provided	Policing of Falmouth, Penryn, Helston, and Porthleven
Number of Staff & Equipment	<p>Local Policing and Partnership Officers Falmouth Policing Sector encompasses four towns and many parishes, with staff divided between stations at Falmouth and Helston. The Neighbourhood Policing Team (NBT) consists of: One Team Leader (NTL Sergeant), four Beat Managers (NBM Constables), and eleven Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's). The NBT mainly focus on long-term problem solving, safeguarding the vulnerable, and reducing ASB.</p> <p>Response Function Falmouth and Helston stations are Response Hubs for the Sector, with five response sections comprised of a Sergeant and ideally five Police Constables between the two towns. Response Officers have diverse and broad roles, attending dynamic incidents, dealing with scene management and evidence gathering, and conducting patrols.</p> <p>Local Investigation Function Falmouth has a dedicated non-uniformed investigation team (CID), comprised of a Detective Sergeant (DS) and five Detective Constables (DC's). Although CID deal with most serious, complex, or protracted investigations, other investigation teams exist across the force area to provide support for certain specialist offences or types of suspect.</p> <p>Supplementary Resources Falmouth has a small but active Special Constabulary who assist mainly at the weekends. If additional resources are required for specific events then these can be requested through a tasking process. An example of this would be New Year's Eve which is a significant event for Cornwall and for which support comes from other stations and functions. Falmouth has a well-established Cadet section with 20 plus young people regularly attending and supporting a variety of events throughout the area.</p> <p>Point of note Due to national recession, budget cuts across the Public Sector, and regional workforce realignment the number of Officers in Devon and Cornwall Police has decreased in recent years. The service continues to streamline, resulting in a projected reduction in PCSO numbers to</p>

	<p>200 across the Force by 2020, which will inevitably be reflected in the number of local staff. Staff work tirelessly to ensure our service quality and delivery is not negatively affected by changes.</p>
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Service
Delivery &
Structure

Falmouth and Helston Sector have long been at the forefront of innovation and systems improvement. National recognition that Policing budgets would be squeezed, prompted early action in the local Sector, with many staff undertaking training as 'Lean' practitioners to promote waste reduction and maintaining the Customer at the centre of our service delivery. Natural wastage within our human resources has driven 'blue sky thinking', with necessity prompting the trial of a new Crime Tasking System, which has been adopted force-wide as best practice. Staff continue to innovate and improve working practices to maintain standards and meet demand.

Falmouth and Helston Sector is a microcosm of the region, boasting a full range of Policing environments. Geographically we have urban, rural, and coastal settings, with pockets of social deprivation alongside very wealthy and affluent areas. Although this Sector remains popular with retired people, it also boasts a growing population of young adults and families seeking a better quality of life. The University in Falmouth has greatly added to the Diversity and cosmopolitan feel of the Town, with many former students remaining in the area following graduation. The popularity of TV programs such as 'Poldark' has reinvigorated the tourist industry, with Falmouth and Helston Sector being particularly buoyant. Many large events take place throughout the year, Helston Flora and Falmouth Week being just two of many which bring even greater numbers of visitors into the towns. Such events briefly increase the population, add to congestion on the roads, and require an enhanced Police presence, but remain crucial to the local economy and make the sector a great place to live and visit.

Locally we have set organic priorities, which can grow and adapt with the problem. Falmouth, in line with national trends, had a historic issue with street drinking and associated ASB, while Helston suffered a spree of vehicles broken into at beauty spots. Increased patrols, positive use of stop checks, and public information campaigns all helped to reduce these issues, increasing customer confidence and public satisfaction in the process. The Neighbourhood Team are committed to working with partners and the community to improve the life of the town and its residents. 'Falmouth Safe' is one such group with wide-ranging influence, allowing the Police to engage with several partner agencies and charities in one place. By being part of such groups the Police can view problems holistically, supporting the priorities of local councils, housing authorities, and welfare providers, as well as our own. By looking at a problem from every angle there is far more scope to make a difference and improve people's lives.

Falmouth, Penryn, Helston, and Porthleven are all very old towns, steeped in history, tradition, and folklore, with the local Police proud to hold a position at the centre of such heritage. In a sector known globally for its scenery, wildlife, and Cornish culture, it is easy to understand why so many Officers choose to live on the area they police, and why it holds such a special place in their hearts. Falmouth Sector remains one of the jewels in the crown of West Cornwall.

Specification	Personnel and Functions as described above
Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 03/2017 and 03/2018 Falmouth had 110,378 recorded crimes, equating to 55.6 crimes per 1000 population, giving the town the 7th lowest crime rate in England and Wales. • Falmouth currently boasts 81.3% positive Public Confidence. • Households in Falmouth have only 5.2% risk of experiencing crime, helping the town achieve 1st place out of 42 other forces.
Boundary Area	Falmouth and Helston BID Areas.