
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Memorandum CDS-M01-2018 OPP Responses to Policing Resource Questions



For Consideration by Council in Committee on December 11, 2018

To: Mayor Hewitt and Members of Council
From: Karen General, CPA, CGA, General Manager, Corporate Services

Over the past many years, there have been questions and concerns raised regarding the level of policing resources provided to Haldimand County by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). The ongoing challenge, for both Council and the Haldimand Police Services Board (PSB), has been to assess whether the policing service provided is in line with the contractual requirement and also relatively consistent with other OPP policed municipalities. Complicating this issue was the Province's introduction of a new OPP Cost Allocation Model in 2015. This new methodology meant that the local cost charged for OPP policing have limited relationship to the actual OPP resources that are deployed in Haldimand County.

To better understand how the OPP administers their resources, given the new costing methodology, staff submitted a number of questions to the OPP in October 2017, on behalf of the PSB. The OPP utilized resources from several branches in order to develop the answers to these questions, which the County received in July 2018. This information, as outlined in Attachment #1, was reviewed at a meeting between the General Manager of Corporate Services and the OPP Western Region Chief Superintendent, John Cain, accompanied by the Haldimand Detachment Commander and Staff Sergeant. The OPP subsequently confirmed that the responses could be made public.

At the October PSB meeting, a motion was passed directing that this information also be presented to the incoming Haldimand County Council at its December 2018 meeting. As many of the responses are fairly technical, staff draw particular attention to the following outlined in Attachment #1:

- Page 2, Question 2: Total Uniform Approved Staff Complement = 70 for Haldimand County (this includes the Detachment Commander, Staff Sergeant, Sergeants, Constables; it excludes auxiliary members and civilians). Vacancies, long term leaves/secondments, work accommodations, etc. mean that fewer than 70 uniformed members are available for active deployment at any given time.
- Pages 2-4, Questions 4, 5 and 6: How vacancies are managed
- Page 7, Question 4: Analytics for comparison to other OPP Detachments
- Page 8, Question 1: Proactive patrol
- Page 9, Question 2: Impact on POA charges
- Page 10, Question 1: Physical locations in communities & visibility
- Page 11-12, Question 4: Platoons and deployment #'s, including auxiliary officers
- Page 13-14, Question 2: Reporting to the PSB on policing effectiveness

County oversight of the contractual issues related to policing will be assumed by the General Manager of Community & Development Services, upon the retirement of the General Manager of Corporate Services, who has historically dealt with all municipal policing matters. Craig Manley has already made contact with Phil Carter, local OPP Detachment Commander, in order to improve the reporting to the

PSB, using information from the dashboard analytics that Inspector Carter receives regularly. This will be a work-in-process initiative, but should improve the County and PSB's understanding of local police resourcing issues facing the Haldimand Detachment.

With the OPP's seamless, integrated approach to policing in Ontario, municipal boundaries and interests will continue to create a challenge for both the local governance bodies and OPP detachments. A better understanding by all parties of the business relationship between the local policing resources and the billing model should help in finding common ground. Ultimately, this made lead to political action to seek changes to OPP policing policy, resource allocation practices, technology deployment, etc. – all with the goal of more effective and efficient policing service delivered to the citizens and businesses that pay for it.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. OPP Resource Allocation – Haldimand County Detachment
 - Questions posed by Haldimand County October 2017
 - Answers received from OPP July 2018