



**Accountability and Governance Board
28th October 2025**

Questions from the Board on Matters not on the Agenda

Question 1: Cyber Security (to be asked by Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Wasim Ali)

As the force upgrades its IT systems to Windows 11, what assurances can the Chief Constable provide that West Midlands Police is taking all necessary steps to ensure that cyber risks to policing are fully understood and well managed?

Question 2: Community Tensions (to be asked by Victims' Advocate Natalie Queiroz)

What can West Midlands Police do to address increased community tensions arising from the terrible attack on the synagogue and the Jewish community in Manchester?

Question 3: Flying of Flags (to be asked by Police and Crime Commissioner Simon Foster)

Concerns have been expressed to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, by way of correspondence and in person to the Police and Crime Commissioner at a public meeting in Stirchley, Birmingham, that the erecting of flags in public places and attached to public street furniture, without the permission of Birmingham City Council, has been causing harassment, alarm and distress to members of the local community and has been contributing, to a significant and unwelcome rise in community tensions.

What action is West Midlands Police taking, to proactively prevent a rise in community tensions, promote trust and confidence within the local community, work in partnership with Birmingham City Council, communicate the action it is taking to the local community and enforce the law, in an appropriate and proportionate manner?

Question 4: Dedicated Neighbourhood Officers (to be asked by Police and Crime Commissioner Simon Foster)

Firstly, can the Chief Constable provide an update, on the extent to which Dedicated Neighbourhood Officers are being ringfenced for the communities they are supporting, so as to ensure they are available, to provide an accessible, visible and reassuring presence in communities; and

Secondly can the Chief Constable comment on the adequacy of the method, by which DNO's are named and contactable for members of the public, as is required. At the moment, this is through Single Online Home and it requires a considerable number of clicks to make contact and even then, does not actually provide a single email address or phone number for each DNO, as had been expected to be the case. Are there plans to ensure that DNOs are not only named, but also contactable?