

Staffordshire Police plan to put more bobbies on beat



By [Carly Baldwin](#) | Wednesday, February 06, 2013, 10:39

Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis has set out his stall to get more police officers on the beat, as figures reveal the effects of budget cuts on the number of officers employed in the county.



Ellis wants more officers on the beat

1,915 police officers currently work for the Staffordshire force, down from a peak of 2,347 in 2006.

The figures also show that up to 40 fit bobbies are working desk jobs, something which Ellis is determined to put right.

"Unless there is a very good reason for a warranted officer doing something that an unwarranted member of staff can do then they should not be doing it," he says.

"This is something I have inherited and it will take time to solve. One of the 21 reviews I have initiated is looking at exactly this area."

He continues: "It isn't always black and white, but warranted officers need to be doing jobs that a warrant is required for because they are more expensive, have quite a lot of powers and the public want them out there policing."

Ellis has also pledged to free up more officer time by providing new technology to help cut time spent on paperwork, adding that he estimates that only eleven per cent of police time is spent 'out and about'.

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