

Wellbeing Van Policy

Welfare of officers at any scene is of vital importance and the wellbeing van will provide relief to those deployed at scenes or other operations/events for long periods of time.

The wellbeing van will be located at Victoria House (end of gravel area) and the keys will be at CWUN. The FCR Inspector will approve its use if it falls within this policy (unless already approved at DMM/GRIP).

The primary objective of the wellbeing van is to provide a place for staff at scenes of incidents the ability to have a rest break from the scene/event with the necessary provisions of seating, microwave, toilet, wash facilities, food, water boiler. It should never replace the return of an officer to the station or other venue for a proper rest break in the correct surroundings.

The wellbeing van is not to be used for general patrolling.

Officers cannot sit inside the van whilst they are active on a scene as this will prevent full visibility of the scene. There must always be a spare officer to replace the officer at scene so they can take a break in the van.

Whether an incident meets the threshold for on scene support will be dependent on many factors (see below).

Discussions at the morning DMM and GRIP meetings should discuss scenes and whether the van should be utilised. Where there are multiple scenes from separate incidents it should also discuss which location the van should be utilised at and (where it is already in use) whether it needs to be moved to a separate incident.

Sometimes a welfare car is all that is required to drop off supplies to officers at scenes but it may be that the van is also used to allow an additional officer to take it from scene-to-scene (where there are multiple ones) and to provide a break for an existing officer.

Factors to be considered when deciding if the wellbeing van is required

The duration of an event – Officers at scenes for long periods of time with no facility to return to the station

The Location of event - Remote locations in areas where no other venue is easy or convenient to take a break

Type of event – There are smaller scenes in many locations across the force area a great deal of the time. These should be managed locally with officers

being able to return to the station for a break and it would not be expected that the van would be utilised in these circumstances.

Number of scenes in place and rotation of officers- If there are multiple scenes, the van can easily be moved around scenes to provide breaks.

Weather/time of night- Inclement weather/ cold conditions and also hot conditions may require more shelter/ rest than usual.

Festivals/Events

Wellbeing events with no facilities for rest and relaxation nearby.

If you wish to use the van for an event in your area please email the Federation Mailbox where we will assess any bids for its use at wellbeing and informative events, although operational scenes will always take primacy and it may need to be withdrawn at short notice or whilst at your event to a scene if the need arises.

Maintenance

The van is part of Hampshire Constabulary's fleet and will be insured, MOTd and fuelled as all other vehicles are. It will have a log book and IDR.

There will be water on board but this will need replacing and whoever is managing the welfare at any scene or event should ensure supplies are replenished daily and toilet not full. There will be tea and coffee on board. Some immediate snack-type food is also available.

There is a finite amount of water on board to service the water boiler, taps and toilet. This will need to be replenished to prevent it being taken off the road through lack of water and a potential toilet failure.

There is a checklist in the van to be completed prior to its return to Netley.

Ps 796 Nicki Bell