

On Tue, Jan 5, 2016 at 11:44 AM, El-Chantiry, Eli <Eli.El-Chantiry@ottawa.ca> wrote:

Dear Mr. Sealey,

I am writing in response to your letter dated January 2, 2016 addressed to members of the Police Services Board and sent to Board Assistant, Lynn Kennedy. Thank you for sharing your ideas about how to improve public access to neighbour-level crime statistics.

As you note in your letter, the Board heard a presentation on this subject at its July 2015 meeting from Mr. Grabowiecki of the Lowertown Community Association. At that meeting it was noted that the City's open data system is not linked to the Ottawa Police Service (OPS), but the OPS is moving in the direction you wish to see. One of the key priorities identified in the OPS' IT budget is to make investments in the infrastructure that will provide open sources and readily accessible information. However, it will require a significant investment of cost and time.

Board Member Tim Tierney, who chaired the City's IT Sub Committee last term and fully supports access to open data, advised us at the July meeting that there is much to consider in making this a reality and the costs to the tax payer would be substantial to implement it all at once.

The Board was also advised by staff that general occurrence reports and police reports must go through a final validation process by the Canadian Centre of Justice Statistics which results in a time lag and is the reason crime statistics are only released annually. Tying these pieces together is a resource and technology challenge, but it is the direction the Service is headed in.

As you are aware, the Chief will be bringing the IT Roadmap Strategy to the Board in the near future. I have copied the Chief and his staff on this email so they are aware of your request and specific suggestion of making available five years of crime data for each neighbourhood in Ottawa, broken down by month, type of crime, and time of day.

I thank you for your continued interest in improving safety in your community.

Regards,

Eli El-Chantiry

Chair, Ottawa Police Services Board

Councillor, West Carleton-March

www.eliel-chantiry.ca

Ph: [613-580-2475](tel:613-580-2475)

Fx: [613-580-2515](tel:613-580-2515)