



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
For Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland

Your Communities - Your Commissioner

Police and Crime Panel for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

18th June 2024

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) Update Report

Report Date	18 June 2024
Report Author	Lizzie Starr, Director of Governance and Performance
Security Classification	Official

Purpose of Report

1. In his role as the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) the Commissioner is required to establish a Police and Crime Plan and deliver such a plan and bring together community safety and criminal justice partners to make sure local priorities are joined up.
2. The PCC brings this report to outline for the Police and Crime Panel how he fulfilled his duty through his work or the work of his deputy and office throughout the period from January 2024 to the April pre-election period.

Request of the Panel

3. In their role to scrutinise the actions and decisions of the PCC, the Commissioner requests that the panel examines the contents of this report. He would specifically like to ask the panel their opinion on the following questions;
 - a. Is the Panel supportive of the work update provided by the PCC?
 - b. Would the panel like to make any recommendations to the PCC in relation to any of the work outlined within the report?

Summary

4. It is the continued opinion of the PCC that there is good progress being made against a key number of workstreams within the office. The PCC receives regular oversight of the workload through weekly meetings with the Chief Executive Officer, Bi-monthly briefings with the Senior Management Team and other briefings as appropriate. There has been an enhanced focus on community engagement and consultation with the public over the past 6 months as evidenced by the additional detail provided below regarding public meetings, parish council engagement scheme and community Thursdays.

Background, Relevant Data and Trends

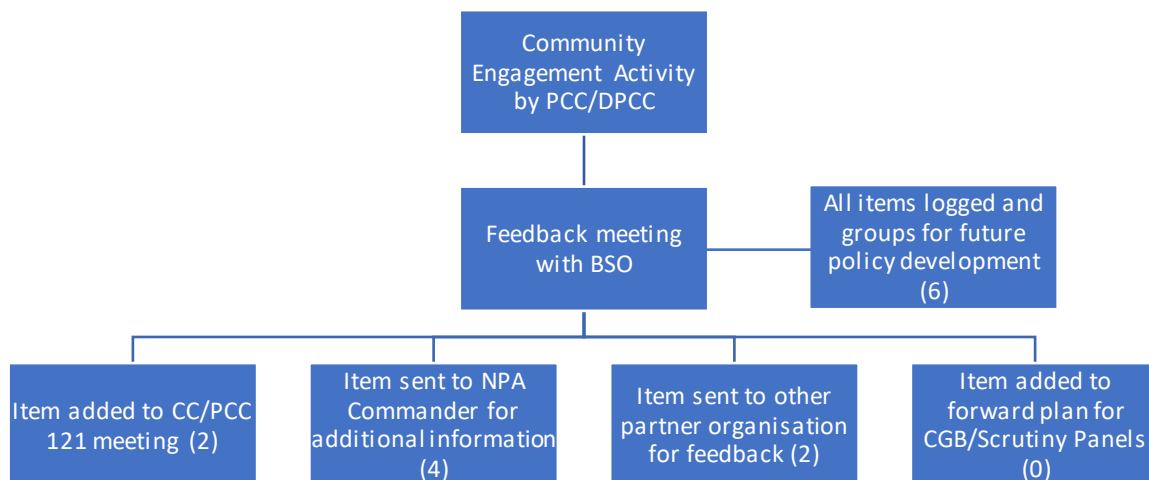
Community consultation and engagement (PCC)

5. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRSRA) places a statutory duty on the Police and Crime Commissioner to regularly engage and consult with the public. This has been a key priority for the Commissioner, and to that end he has created dedicated 'Community Days', enabling him to listen to the views of local people.
6. Due to the election on 2 May 2024 the OPCC/Commissioner entered the Pre-election period on 24 March. Please note therefore, this report concerns the period from 24 January (the last panel report) until 24 March. Eight Community Days took place during this time period.

7. In line with best practice convention, communications and engagement undertaken by the OPCC were then restricted until the election results had been announced.
8. The map below shows the coverage of the community days in the relevant period.



9. As per the OPCC standard internal practices, engagement activity and follow up actions are tracked and all feedback, both positive and negative, is relayed to the appropriate personnel in the force or partner organisations. The PCC debriefs the team on his visits from which a number of actions are logged from each visit, these are actioned and tracked by the team for completion as per the diagram below.



10. Following community engagement some examples of the items raised through the PCC's meeting with the Chief Constable and follow up enquiries with the NPA Commanders include, activity planned for tackling Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), especially the intention for the new funding and areas of focus, activity required on sheep worrying, car cruising and road safety.

11. Following on from this the PCC has requested and received a number of briefings on the new Hotspot Funding for ASB. Partners, via the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) have been engaged if the data shows their area to be a hotspot (selection of which must be data and evidence based).

12. A business case came forward for support to rural communities to raise awareness of the impact of sheep worrying, this was approved by the PCC and activity put in place.

13. The PCC continues to talk to the Chief Constable regularly about the impact car cruising has on communities and is fully supportive of the actions that the Neighbourhood Policing Teams are planning to put in place for those areas. He has also already reached out to the Road Safety Partnership as he would like the OPCC to work closer with this organisation to the benefit of road safety during his new term.

Community Consultation and Engagement (DPCC)

14. The Parish Council Engagement Programme led by the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner concluded in March.

15. The surgeries in Northwest Leicestershire were attended by a total of seven parish councils out of a total of 23 Parish Councils across the district. Key

topics raised included issues relating to road safety, suspicions of substance abuse and motorbike speeding on By Ways Open to All Traffic.

16. A total of six out of 25 Parish Councils from Charnwood attended their surgery and key topics raised included issues relating to road safety such as: speeding, suspicions of substance abuse, and inconsiderate parking. E scooters on pavements have also been a common concern in Charnwood parishes.
17. From the 26 Parish Councils across Melton Borough, five attended the surgeries. Key topics included issues relating to road safety due to the increased traffic brought by festivals as well as resulting anti-social behaviour and substance abuse.
18. The surgeries in Hinckley and Bosworth resulted in the attendance of six Parish Councils. There were a number of complaints received regarding speeding, and road safety appears to be the largest concern in this district.
19. Out of the 19 Parish Councils in Blaby District, six attended the surgeries. The key concerns raised were road safety, due to speeding on the Bypass and HGVs passing through villages; inconsiderate parking and the use of e scooters.
20. From the 46 Parish Councils across Harborough District, there were a total of 46 Parish Councils attending the surgeries. Dangerous speeding and traffic were the common concerns raised by the Councillors in addition to anti-social behaviour.
21. Road safety was clearly the strongest concern of the councillors who took part in the programme.
22. All of the information collated will now feed into the creation of the new Police and Crime Plan alongside other engagement activity.

Due Diligence Activity (PCC and DPCC)

23. The PCC/DPCC continued to carry out visits to projects funded via OPCC to talk about progress of project delivery. Throughout the Spring, visits have taken place to a number of funded initiatives, including, but not limited to, those summarised in Table One.

Table One

Organisation	Area and Work	Funding	Output
Turning Point	Reducing Substance Misuse	Circa £462k	The PCC was impressed to hear about the hard work being done in custody with vulnerable people.

Charnwood CSP	Community Safety	Approx £90k	The PCC welcomed hearing about the projects funded through the CSP annual funding.
Oadby and Wigston CSP	Community Safety	Approx £33k	
Blaby CSP	Community Safety	Approx £53k	
City CSP	Community Safety	Approx £272k	The PCC had a very impressive meeting on the projects the funding has enabled.
CSP Project Warwick Way Football	Community Safety	In above	The PCC was pleased to hear the project was going well and looked forward to an update in due course.

Commissioning and Partnership Activity

24. The OPCC is supporting the mobilisation of the Victim First contract, this is underway through a staged approach over the first six months. We are working in partnership with the Force on the joint Victim Service Pathway.
25. The new Community Leadership Programme cohort have commenced the training, members of the VRN and OPCC with varied experience are supporting relevant sessions. There are 19 new Community Leaders on the programme, 5 of which are from within the People Zones areas.
26. Safer Streets Activity continues to be delivered as detailed below:
- a. Project 1 – Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) – LLR Wide - The OPCC has delivered a grant round to secure community-based groups to develop co-produced resources to take the Under 25 VAWG Prevention strands of delivery forward. Six organisations have been commissioned to support co-production.
 - b. Project 2 – ASB – Melton - delivery of both young people interventions completed within the necessary timescale for year 1. Delivery for both these projects began in December 2023. The physical CCTV and lighting improvements are all on track to be delivered well in advance of the March 2025 deadline as all equipment has been purchased and it is simply a case of installation. Majority have been installed. Target hardening items purchased and due to be rolled out imminently with support from the Melton Police NPA across up to 250 homes.
 - c. Project 3 – Neighbourhood Crime – Oadby and Wigston - progress for this workstream included a live Crimestoppers campaign targeting winter months and burglary offences and other neighbourhood crime types. This campaign has now concluded, and a report has been provided by Crimestoppers outlining its results. As with the target hardening element of project 2, the promotion of the target hardening offer has commenced with residents and mobilisation is underway with deliveries to qualifying addresses starting to reach homes. The re-deployable and fixed CCTV

elements are being led by the Community Safety Partnership and are all on track to be delivered before March 2025.

27. Below are two updates relating to the progress of two key projects across the People Zone (PZ) areas;

- a. We are holding a 'People Zone Network Meeting' in May with stakeholders, residents and partners from all three PZs. This event aims to bring partners together from all areas to network and discuss best practice. The main focus of the event will see us hold a 'grants process workshop' where we will co-design the PZ grants funding process with partners at the event, taking into account their feedback and opinions on how we can streamline the process and include them in decisions making when it comes to grant awarding. The workshop will focus on the application process, project commencement support, monitoring of project and end of project support. This event aims to ensure we are listening to the communities in PZs and co-designing processes across all zones.
- b. Crimestoppers Zones were launched across the three People Zones from Monday 15th January. During the Forcewide Week of Action, on Tuesday 23rd January, the team, along with residents & Officers from North West Leicestershire Police carried out a leaflet drop around the hotspot zones. There was another event in New Parks on Friday 26th January and in Bell Foundry on 8th February. The Crimestoppers Zones were launched by way of a three phased campaign across all three zones. The first stage of the three-stage campaign has just finished in each area, evaluation data can be seen below.

28. The key objectives of the campaign activity were to raise awareness to the community of Crimestoppers' alternative and anonymous reporting line, highlight the Fearless online service for young people to access information about crime types and to empower the local community to report information in relation to those who are involved in criminal activity. The campaign ran for a two-week period and had great success in achieving the directive and desired impact, particularly in reaching young people.

29. Crimestoppers social media posts were sent out across Instagram and Facebook targeting people aged over 18 in the Bell Foundry, New Parks and Thringstone and Whitwick. These posts focussed on:

- a. Crimestoppers anonymity;
- b. How to report information anonymously online and by phone;
- c. Reporting in different languages.

30. Social media posts reached over 44,000 people with over 340,000 impressions.

31. The Fearless social media campaign reached over 137,000 young people with over 620,000 impressions. Over 13,000 young people 'swiped up' to find out more about the campaign.
32. The increase in activity was primarily seen across New Parks and Thringstone and Whitwick areas as well as Leicestershire as a whole, with over 17 new pieces of information received and 12 reports. Drugs and drink driving were the most reported crime types, with additional information received regarding Knives, Environmental and Wildlife Crime, Firearms, Vulnerability and Safeguarding issues and Trading Standards.
33. The People Zones team work very closely with the Community Payback team within Leicestershire Probation. The team have been actively approaching community groups, local authorities and charities to identify potential projects to undertake next. Some examples of the positive work completed by the community payback team include; Bell Foundry mural, Autumn antisocial clean up, Thringstone and Whitwick (community orchard), Fearon Hall (planter project) and New Parks community hub.
34. The hours accredited to Community Payback projects in partnership with the OPCA totals to a rising 1,717 hours, five completed/ongoing projects and nine potential ones within the People Zones.
35. Following on from a report of the Designing Out Crime Officer (DOCO), where recommendations were made to improve the safety of the Bell Foundry estate, Charnwood Borough Council have recently agreed to collaborate with People Zones & Leicestershire Probation's Community Payback team to carry out a pilot project to reduce the height of some bin stores in key hotspots for crime & ASB.
36. The People Zones team are also currently piloting the rolling out the First Phone 360 VR Headset project around online safety for young people as a prevention tool. An educational toolkit has been developed to compliment the film, where teachers in schools are trained on utilising the provided resources to educate children in online safety, using the Virtual Reality (VR) film as reference. The toolkit spans six sessions which teachers can rollout in their school however they see appropriate.
37. A tender process has concluded and awarded to Mapping for Change (MfC) who are currently undertaking the evaluation of the PZ project which will be completed in June this year. MfC are undertaking the evaluation using a mixed methods engagement approach including surveys, workshops, interviews, focus groups, forums, attending events and data analysis. A full report with results will be released in July, as well as a short summary report

for lighter reading. Evaluation results will be used as a baseline for the future of the project including the budget.

38. MfC will be delivering Evaluation training to OPCC members of staff to enable us to undertake internal evaluations of the project in future. The training will also be offered to residents and stakeholders within the People Zone steering groups to support them with future bid writing and project evaluation approaches.

Scrutiny and Governance Activity

39. The OPCC continue to achieve 100% of scheduled ICV Visits, via their volunteers, equating to twenty-five visits undertaken over January and the end of March. No serious issues have been observed within these visits.
40. The team are working on a training package for the newly recruited 15 custody volunteers with a view to having them fully operational by September.
41. The volunteers continue to also achieve 100% of animal welfare visits, with one visit taking place each month, similarly no serious issues have been observed within these visits.
42. A previous paper came to Police and Crime Panel outlining an enhanced structure for the independent scrutiny panels. Following the introduction this structure, work has been ongoing to recruit to all panels and train members in the new functions.
43. Since the last update to the panel, there has been one meeting of the Out Of Court Resolution Panel, one complaint review session and one custody detention scrutiny panel. The recruitment for the Hate Crime Scrutiny panel members has concluded and the first meeting has been set for 10th July 2024.
44. The team hosted the Police and Crime Panel members to Force Headquarters (FHQ) to outline the methods and performance in which the OPCC scrutinise force performance to support the PCC in holding the force to account.
45. Thirty-six Force complaint reviews were received by the OPCC in the period January-March. The team have been working to improve the turnaround time for these complaint reviews and have seen steady improvements in the last few months, with 100% turnaround within 28 days within March.

----- **End of Report** -----

This page is intentionally left blank