



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

Your Communities - Your Commissioner

Police and Crime Panel for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

September 2024

Deputy Police and Crime Commissioners Update Report

Report Date	September 2024
Report Author	Rani Mahal, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Security Classification	Official

Purpose of Report

1. In his role as the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) the Commissioner is able to delegate certain tasks and priorities to a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (DPCC).
2. The DPCC brings this report to outline for the Police and Crime Panel how she is fulfilling her delegated duties.

Request of the Panel

3. In their role to scrutinise the activity of the PCC and DPCC, the DPCC requests that the panel examines the contents of this report. She 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 DPCC?
 - b. Would the panel like to make any recommendations to the DPCC in relation to any of the work outlined within the report?

Summary

4. As described in the papers provided for the DPCC Confirmation Hearing, the Police and Crime Commissioner requested that I took responsibility for the portfolio of activity detailed below:
 - a. Victim Liaison, creation of a victims focus group programme that enable the voice of victims to feed into the Commissioners commissioned services.
 - b. Local prevention, development of a programme to engage local networks (parish councils, neighbourhood watch etc) in activity to prevent crime in their own area.
 - c. Development of activity that enables lived experience to be embedded through the OPCCs commissioning processes.
 - d. Due diligence activity on commissioned services.
 - e. Ensuring that the Ethics and Transparency Panel operates to the highest standard and that they consider matters of importance to the communities of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
 - f. Attendance at internal and external meetings and appearances as required by the PCC.
 - g. Liaison with the Association of the Police and Crime Commissioner in the PCCs absence.

Portfolio Updates

Victim Liaison and Lived Experience – can include road traffic collisions caused by dangerous driving drug/alcohol related crashes accidents – victims and witnesses of accidents can also come under portfolio.

5. The aim of this work is to give victims of crime a voice, to ensure they are represented and that the OPCC engage with victims with lived experience to gain appropriate insight into their experiences and use this to shape the services that are in place.
6. It is important this this is the case throughout all the various strands of work undertaken at OPCC. The PCC has tasked me with this project therefore I am leading to ensure victims are given an opportunity to share their experiences and be heard.
7. In June the Commissioning team and I started meeting on a weekly basis to establish the way forward to embed Victim Liaison and Lived Experience within the OPCC's commissioning cycles.
8. We began by populating a Project Initiation Document (PID) to scope out what this project looks like and decide who the relevant stakeholders should be. An initial proposal was presented to the PCC for his consideration.
9. At the time of drafting this report I await his feedback for the project to go ahead.
10. Our working group's role is to ensure it dovetails the VCOP (Victims Code of Practice) and the Force's Victim's Strategy. A visit to a neighbouring OPCC to look at best practice is being planned. By implementing new ways of commissioning services, to that what we already know, we can co-design services that best meet the needs of those who need support and allow those who have previously experienced trauma to engage in processes that provide impact and change.
11. The next steps beginning from October 2024, will culminate in an event April 2025. From the beginning of the project to April next year there will follow a series of forums, roundtables, meetings, and consultations with the relevant stakeholders who my team and I have identified as essential to the project.
12. The project will ensure it is not duplicating existing services currently being delivered in the community and to advocate for those whose 'voices' who are yet unheard.
13. The long-term plan is for Victims with Lived Experience Group to work with the group and utilise their experiences, knowledge, and skills as an OPCC asset for all that we do and allow them to become a 'critical friend' to us. Membership

of the Victims and Lived Experience group will be made up of those who live and or work in Leicester, Leicestershire, or Rutland. They must have experience in either being a victim of crime themselves or work closely with those who have been a victim of a crime.

14. Members from voluntary or statutory sector groups will be considered but must be able to speak on behalf of and represent from the point of view of someone who has experienced being a victim of crime. They will also be asked to provide an up-to-date Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate (expenses can be claimed back) following selection to confirm suitability and any disclosures made.
15. The opportunity to become a member of the Victims and Lived Experience group will be advertised openly on the OPCC's and People Zones website, social media channels and via Neighbourhood Link. The duration of the membership on the group is 18 months before a new recruitment window opens and membership is refreshed. The OPCC will recruit up to ten members onto the Victims and Lived Experience Group following an interview or by submitting a video.

Hyperlocal Engagement Activity Programme (HEAP)

16. The purpose of the Hyperlocal Engagement Activity Programme (HEAP) is to ensure Parish Councils and other locally active groups are aware of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC's) role.
17. It is also to provide those groups the opportunity to directly communicate with the PCC. The HEAP programme will establish where there is high-level crime data across the force area. The programme will ensure groups are receiving the appropriate levels of service in relation to the Neighbourhood Policing Plan.
18. The benefit of this engagement programme is to feed into office commissioning plans and outcomes. The project will consider the Police and Crime Plan in relation to the data obtained. It will allow groups to feel heard and involved. The aim of this work is to consult with groups, establish ways in which they can help prevent crime in their own localities through working with stakeholders such as Neighbourhood Watch. These groups are closer to the local community and therefore more in touch with and knowledgeable about the needs within their parishes and what they consider a deterrent to prevent crime.

Due Diligence Activity Completed

19. Part of my responsibility is to oversee the OPCC commissioning contracts to ensure they are tracked; that due diligence is undertaken, and services are being delivered as per the contract. I do this by visiting the commissioned services, some of which are listed below in Table One below:

Table One

Organisation	Area and Work	Output
Residents in Oadby	Residents who live in Oadby	Safety kits supplied to households that meet the criteria of the funding provided. I saw the impact of and the increased confidence of the residents who have since been provided with the kits. Feedback from one resident to me was that like other major organisations, such as the NHS, the Police are given a bad name but credit where its due Leicester Police are doing an excellent job.
Community Leaders Showcase	Community Leaders in People Zones areas	Presentations were given by the community leaders in various areas, and they shared their learning from the 12-week programme. Public speaking, teamwork and how to lead programmes were just some of the skills learnt as well as how to bid for contracts. The cohort, much like previous cohorts, will have formed long lasting friendships and through this will continue to share best practice, learn from each other as well as support each other and their various projects and Community Interest Companies (CIC's). Conversations about collaboration was very much the theme of the night. I got a sense of the incredibly hard work that had gone on in the community which, had it not been for this showcase, I would not have been aware of. These are leaders who have gone through their own challenges in life but despite that have begun to help others through the process as well as being supported by others in their projects which brings about increased wellbeing for all.
The Grove Community Hub		Sports facilities for youngsters
YEP Youth Education Project		Entrepreneurial and leadership skills to youngsters

Ethics and Transparency Panel

20. I attended an Ethics and Transparency Panel (ETP) on 26th June 2024. A Chair was elected and several members from the local community were appointed to the role. There is a Sub-committee that reports into the ETP where members from this panel take on the lead, depending on their own interests and specialisms and these include Out of Court Resolutions (OOCR's), Hate Crime, Custody and Complaints.
21. There is a national requirement for OPCCs, to review the Police use of OOCR's. The PCC has welcomed scrutiny into investigations of Hate Crimes. The Ethics and Transparency Panel discuss emerging issues and dilemmas that are of concerns to the wider public and scrutinise them in detail.
22. At the recent meeting, panel members of the Ethics and Transparency panel had the opportunity to discuss the Ethical Dilemma of the Pride Parade and Stonewall of 2023.
23. The impact and benefit of the ETP meetings is that as an advisory body to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) the panel provides assurance to the Commissioner that ethics and integrity is embedded within Leicestershire Police and ensures the highest level of professional standards and delivery of policing services to the public are being provided. This is to give confidence to the wider public that any ethical issues that matter to them are being discussed in an open and transparent forum.

Association of Police and Crime Commissioners

24. I attended a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner network meeting where I represented the interests of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) by contributing and sharing best practice and the work going on at OPCC in LLR.
25. I represented LLR at the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners Annual General meeting where I was joined by re-elected and newly elected Police and Crime Commissioners from across all the other forces.
26. Each PCC spoke on different topics. Sessions at this conference included car manufacturers and police and what is being done to cut car crime which then drives up car insurance premiums. Then sessions focussed on the important issue surrounding Road Safety and the role of Police and Police and Crime Commissioners in reducing the high death toll on our road networks as well as the importance of working with partners. National Rural crime highlighted the usual issues that affect those PCC's who are commissioners in large rural areas. In the event of an international cyber catastrophe a question was posed on cybersecurity in policing and how resilient forces are in this field.

27. There were also discussions around trust and confidence in policing, shoplifting, criminal justice system, prison crisis, shared challenges, policing by consent, drink and drug dependency which drives acquisitive crime (especially shoplifting) as well as violence. The knowledge that I bring back from his conference has all been discussed with the PCC and fed into the new Police and Crime Plan where appropriate.

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