



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

Your Communities - Your Commissioner

Police and Crime Panel for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

23rd September 2024

Commissioners Update Report

Report Date	23 rd September 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 is fulfilling his duty through his work or the work of his deputy and office throughout January 2024 to the 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

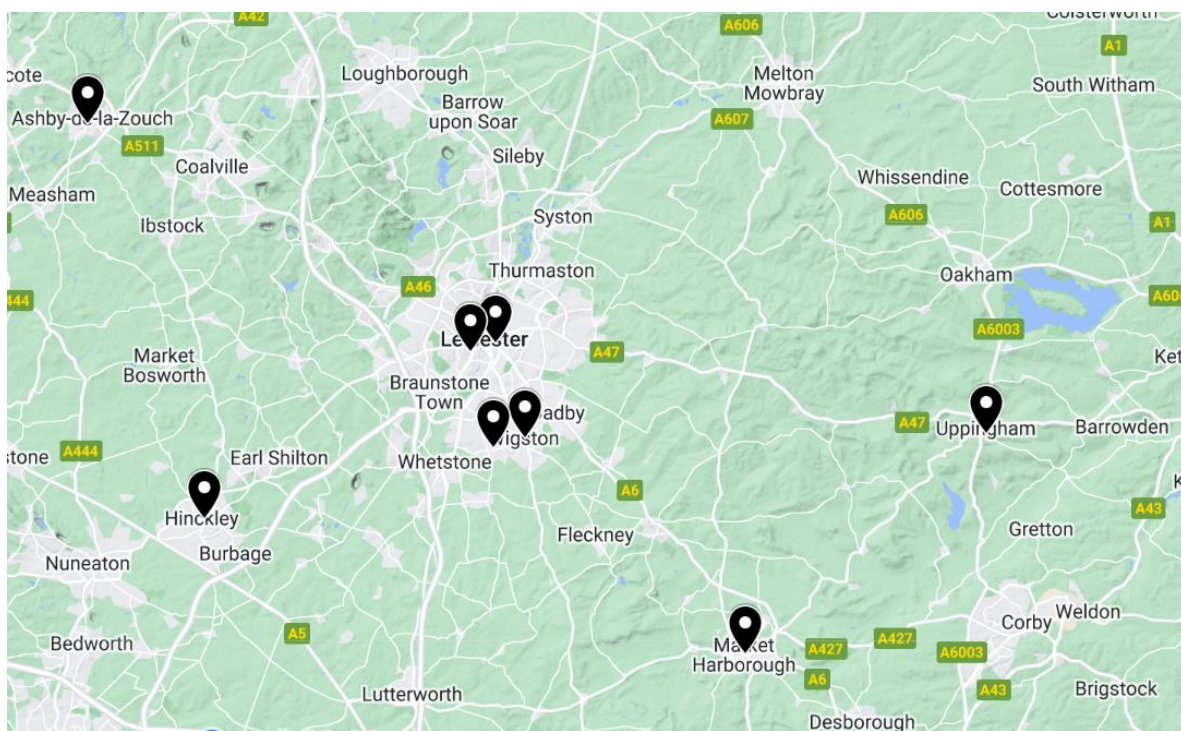
4. It is the continued opinion of the PCC that there is good progress being made against a key number of workstreams within the office. The PCC receives regular oversight of the workload through weekly meetings with the Chief Executive Officer, Bi-monthly briefings with the Senior Management Team and other briefings as appropriate. During this period the PCC has been concentrating his offices activity on engaging with the public and stakeholders and carrying out research to enable the formation of a new Police and Crime Plan.

Background, Relevant Data and Trends

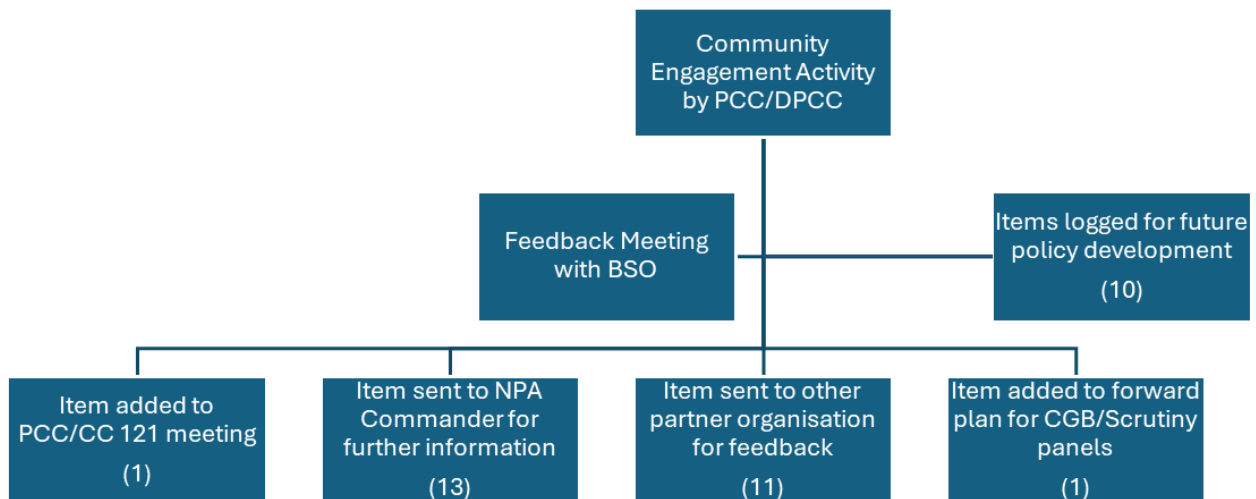
Community consultation and engagement (PCC)

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. It should be noted that the Office, and the Commissioner's activities, were subject to pre-election conventions from 24th March until the election on 2nd May.

7. This report covers consultation and engagement activities from 7th May 2024 (post-election) to 1st August 2024. As such a limited number of visits have taken place.
8. The Police and Crime Commissioner, having been re-elected, recommenced his weekly community days on 13th June 2024, giving enough lead time to organise meaningful meetings in each area.
9. The Commissioner undertook eight Community Days between 13th June and 1st August.
10. The map below shows the coverage of the community days in the relevant period.



11. 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.



12. The themes in which that has come out of the PCCs engagements over the last period are; Business Crime and Shoplifting, Anti-social behaviour, speeding in villages and drug dealing.

13. The PCC has passed on any local intelligence to the local Neighbourhood Area Commanders and has noted two items to raise at a future Corporate Governance Board (CGB) meeting to hold the Force to account; shoplifting performance and performance in relation to victim compliance and satisfaction.

14. As a direct result of these conversations the PCC has recently commissioned a project regarding supporting local retailers in relation to business crime which is often brought up on his community days and is looking forward to updating the panel on the progress and actions to support a reduction in shoplifting and retail crime in a future report.

15. In addition, 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 was delighted when the Local Authority supported a new Public Space Protection order (PSPO) aimed at tackling this issue in Castle Donnington.

Due Diligence Activity

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

Table One

Organisation	Area and Work	Funding	Output
Northwest Leics CSP	Community Safety	£4152	The CSP explained various CSP Projects including the DISC System to tackle shoplifting and hotspot funding for Patrol staff.
The Wellbeing Sanctuary (People Zones)	Community Safety	£9,970	The project will place all wellbeing support and workshops in a new area within the grounds of St Joseph's Rural Centre in Whitwick. This will enable the delivery of two different types of workshop groups, one for families and individuals and one for businesses, schools and groups.
Trade Sexual Health	CSF (Commissioner's Safety Fund)	£9,678	Launch of an online hate crime tool to monitor and map homophobic and transphobic incidents across the county and city. A second initiative sees a series of community safety courses introduced to improve safety for members of this community in public places.
Turning Point – Street Outreach	Joint fund between the City Council, OPCC and Force	N/A	The PCC met outreach workers from Turning Point who were working to tackle some of the root causes of anti-social behaviour on our streets. Very impressed with the results he saw.

Pathfinder Driving Course	OPCC Road Safety	£29,290	<p>The first Pathfinder Driving Course was launched (15/7 – 19/7) with 25 young (15-17yr olds) drivers attending with their parent/guardian. Feedback from all participants was extremely positive and the young drivers who started with little driving experience, left with advanced driving skills.</p> <p>In addition to driving practice, the Leicestershire Road Safety Team (speed enforcement vehicle) and Leicestershire Police Roads Policing unit also provided an insight into road safety and the consequences of driving actions.</p> <p>BBC Radio Leicester and 103 The Eye attended the final day of the course to interview the PCC and young drivers.</p>
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Commissioning and Partnership Activity

17. The OPCC is working with the Force campaigns team to develop a VAWG (Violence against Women and Girls) behaviour change campaign aimed at 11-15- and 16–19-year-olds utilising learning from the recent young people’s co-production events.
18. In response to the findings from the co-design sessions, two key educational packages have been developed to address sexual violence prevention:
 - a. The SHUSH (Speaking Honestly to Understand Sexual Harm) Project (for ages 10-15): This project covers topics such as healthy and unhealthy relationships, consent, personal space and boundaries, sexual harassment and assault, bystander awareness, sexting, and grooming. These topics are presented in a creative, comfortable manner, allowing young people to learn in an engaging way. The programme also emphasises the importance of recognising harmful behaviours early and addressing them before they escalate.
 - b. The SHARA (Sexual Harm and Recognising Abuse) Project (for ages 16-19): This project addresses more complex issues, including the continuum of abuse, gender-based violence, misogyny, the impact of pornography, and healthy responses to rejection. It is designed to equip older teenagers with the knowledge and skills to navigate and challenge harmful societal norms.

19. To ensure the sustainability of these programs, a VAWG community grant round will be launched. Up to 45 community organisations can apply for funding to implement these educational packages, which will include comprehensive training for facilitators. This approach ensures that the programs can be integrated into the organisations' long-term strategies, creating a lasting impact.
20. The wider Commissioning Team is working on preparing for the next round of the Commissioners Safety Fund which opened on the 8th August and closes on the 5th September, this is a general round in which £200k is available for bids of up to £10,000.
21. The PCC is dedicated to ensuring that small, community focussed organisations have the opportunity to access funds that will prevent crime in their local area. He will continue to champion communities and looks forward to reviewing the bids made by organisations in September.
22. The PCC strongly sees the OPCC as an enabler. The role of the OPCC is to enable other organisations to keep our communities safe. He feels that by working with partners the impact can be amplified. His aim is to use this fund to give other organisations the skills, incentives and self-confidence to solve problems in their communities.
23. In People Zone's (PZs) a network meeting was held in May with stakeholders, residents and partners from all three People Zone areas. This event was aimed to bring partners together from all areas to network and discuss best practice. The main focus of this event was to hold a 'grants process workshop' where the process for organisations within PZs to apply for funding could be codesigned.
24. Communities across all three zones are now utilising the Crimestoppers service and we are seeing an increase in reporting. Over the period 80 reports were made to Crimestoppers, an increase of 371% when compared to the previous period (17 reports). The crime reports for the People Zones areas now account for 11.5% of all anonymous reports to Crime Stoppers across the Force area, indicating that the communities are taking proactive action in reporting to crime stoppers.
25. The themes in the reports received across this period focussed on; drink and drug driving, disqualified and uninsured drivers, drug trafficking and supply and vulnerability and safeguarding issues. These reports have been passed to the Neighbourhood Policing Commanders to provide additional intelligence around the local community issues and concerns.
26. From the 16th - 18th of August, all three People Zone communities saw visits from a digital 'Advan' within their areas which was promoting anonymous

reporting via Crimestoppers. The Advan runs through a selection of advertisement slides and evaluates the audience that engage with the content on the Advan via a camera. (images below)



27. This is the second phase to the Crimestoppers project which was originally funded in 2023. We have collaborated with steering group members and local beat teams to co-design the route that the Advan took through each community to target areas that they felt would benefit from knowing about how to report crime anonymously.
28. The content of the slides on the Advan was designed by Crimestoppers and was targeted/tailored themes for each People Zone. Bell Foundry focussed on reporting drugs and county lines, whilst New Parks and Thringstone & Whitwick focussed on reporting Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) and in particular nuisance bikes.
29. This is a partnership approach with the Police who engaged with people on the day that the Advan was present. Crimestoppers will also be holding 'Fearless' sessions with young people to promote reporting crime anonymously.
30. The People Zones team work very closely with the Community Payback team within Leicestershire Probation. Following the last update, there are now more projects in the pipeline and the team is working with the Regional Manager of the Community Payback team to implement a monitoring and evaluation framework for any future projects, to allow the People Zones team to monitor and measure the success and outcomes of the Community Payback projects. Results will be shared with the Police and Crime Panel when this has been implemented.
31. The People Zones team have just closed the first round of grant funding for the 2024/2025 financial year and over the next few weeks will be undertaking

the grading and moderating process to award successful applicants grant funding for sustainable projects. More information on the successful bids will be included in the next update report.

32. The People Zones team have just finished co-ordinating the fourth cohort of the Community Leadership Programme (CLP), in partnership with the VRN (Violence Reduction Network). This bring the total number of CLP participants overall from cohort 1-4 is 66.
33. The team are working on updating and refreshing the data packs which are provided to the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to support with the funding provided, with a view to a deep problem profile of the top crime concerns in their areas in time for the new financial year of funding. This work is progressing alongside the production of the current quarterly data packs.
34. For the 2024/25 financial year, CSPs were granted their highest level of funding to date due to efficiency savings made from the previous 2023-23 financial year and implementation of improved monitoring processes.
35. As of the end of August, 50 projects across LLR are in progress with a total expenditure of approximately £463,973.01. There is a remaining budget of approximately £273,607.03 yet to be drawn with 6 months of the financial year remaining.
36. The projects funded so far vary from support for night time economy first aid provision in the City to sports programmes in Charnwood and increased CCTV provision in Rutland.

Scrutiny and Governance Activity

37. In his role to hold the Chief Constable to account for service delivery across LLR the PCC has continued with regular 1to1s and bi-monthly Corporate Governance Meetings with the entire Chief Officer Teams. A report on the CGBs that have taken place since the last Police and Crime Panel is later on today's agenda.
38. The OPCC continue to achieve 100% of scheduled Independent Custody Visits equating to thirty-four visits undertaken over April and the end of July. No serious issues have been observed within these visits.
39. 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.
40. The first Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel was held on the 10th July. The panel was successful in that 2 cases were reviewed, and both had positive outcomes

(deemed appropriately handled). The team also received positive feedback from panel members including the Ethics and Transparency Panel representative who said they were pleased with Force engagement and felt it was a really engaging panel.

41. Where cases are reviewed, commentary and specific learning for these are fed back to the handling officer. This is tracked for follow up to ensure that the officer and their line manager have discussed the issues.
42. Recruitment for new Ethics and Transparency Panel members has just concluded and 4 successful candidates are now being progressed, it is hoped that these members will be able to join the next meeting of the panel in September.
43. The Joint Audit and Risk Assurance Panel (JARAP) meeting was held on the 1st August, the meeting included discussion around the internal audit processes and JARAP members attending internal meetings for triangulation. A meeting is being set for the PCC to hear directly from the chair in the Autumn.
44. Fifty-three complaint reviews were received by the OPCC in the period April-July. When compared to the previous year this represents a 32.5% increase in requests for complaint reviews. It is believed that this increase is driven by an increase in complaints recorded by the Force rather than an increase in the proportion of complainants requesting a review. This increasing trend has also been observed by other OPCCs in the country.

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