



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

Your Communities - Your Commissioner

## Police and Crime Panel for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

*28<sup>th</sup> October 2024*

### *Police and Crime Commissioner's Update Report*

<b>Report Date</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
<b>Report Author</b>	Lizzie Starr, Director of Governance and Performance
<b>Security Classification</b>	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 August - September.

## **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 office's activity on engaging with the public and stakeholders and carrying out research to enable the formation of a new Police and Crime Plan.

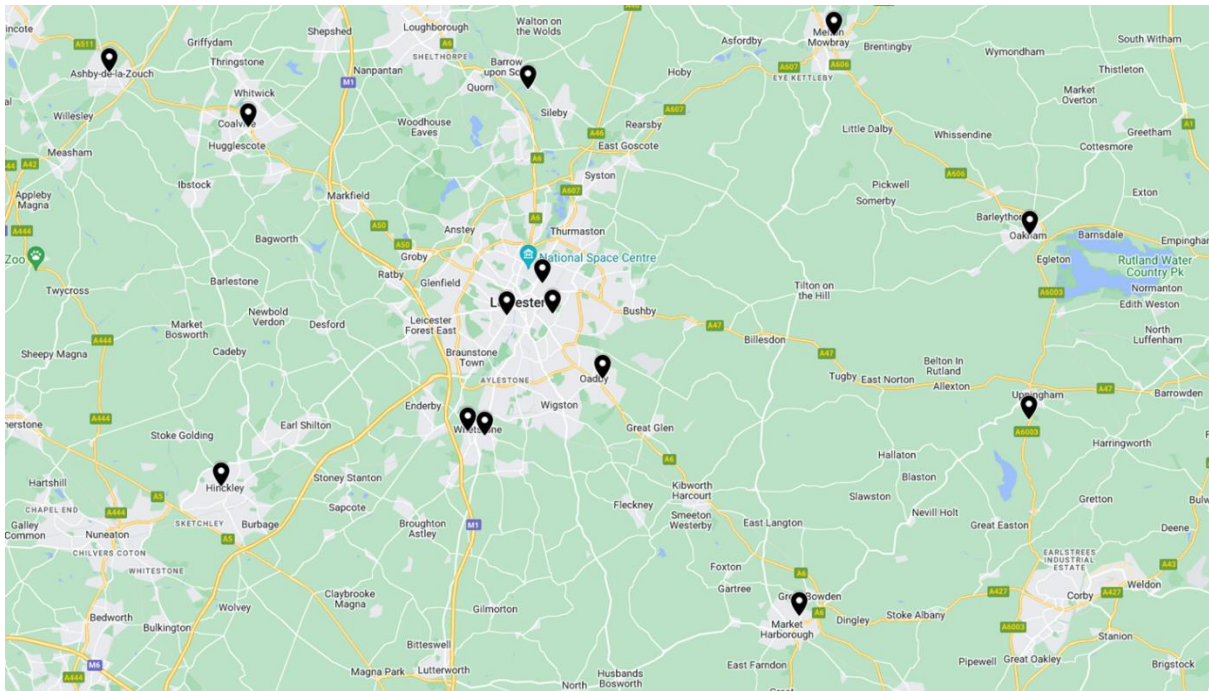
## **Background, Relevant Data and Trends**

### **Community consultation and engagement (PCC)**

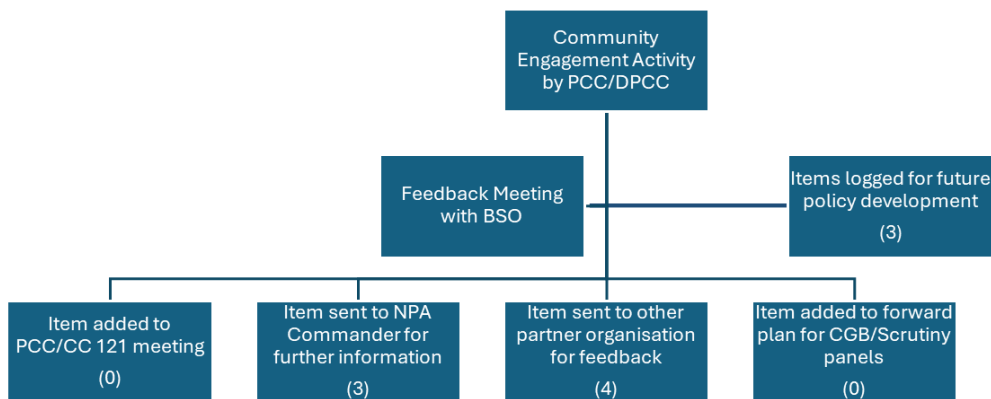
5. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRSRA) places a statutory duty on the Police and Crime Commissioner to regularly engage and consult with the public. This has been a key priority for the Commissioner, and to that end he has created dedicated 'Community Days', enabling him to listen to the views of local people.
6. This report covers consultation and engagement activities from 1<sup>st</sup> August – 30<sup>th</sup> September. The Commissioner undertook seven Community Days between these dates. These were in the following locations;
  - a. Hinckley and Bosworth;
  - b. Charnwood;
  - c. Melton;

- d. Leicester City;
- e. Blaby;
- f. North-West Leicester;
- g. Rutland.

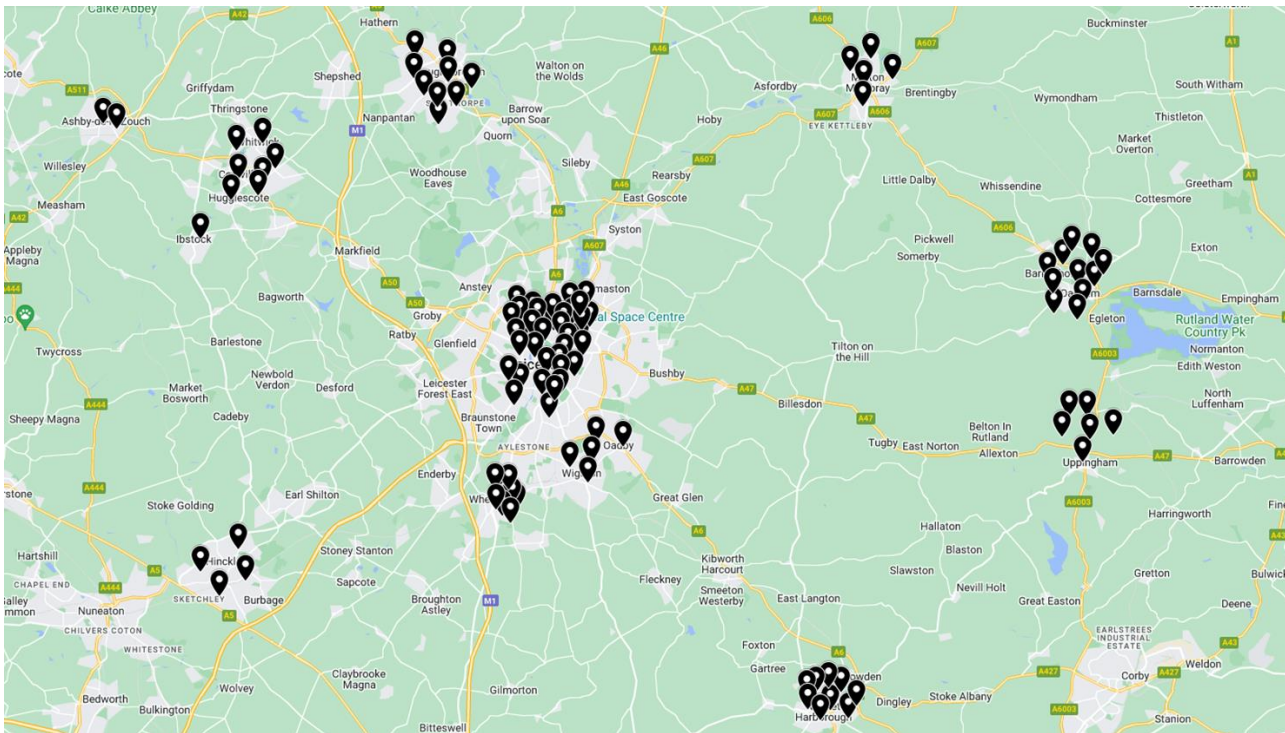
7. The map below shows the coverage of the community days over the visits this financial year.



8. As per the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (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.



9. The themes that have come out of the PCC’s engagements over the last period are road safety and anti-social behaviour.
10. The PCC has passed on any local intelligence to the local Neighbourhood Area Commanders and has provided information on the community grants process to a community organisation and the Neighbourhood Policing team.
11. The Commissioner also attends a number of community engagement events outside his community Thursday schedule. These are often invites received to community events, requests for meetings to discuss concerns and visits to commissioned services. The total number of additional community engagement visits or meetings attended by the Commissioner outside of the Thursday Schedule is 89. This includes a period of two months in which activity ceased due to the Pre-election period. These visits are shown on the map below:



Due Diligence Activity

12. The PCC continued to carry out visits to projects funded via the 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:

Table One

Organisation	Area and Work	Funding	Output
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The Grove Community Hub	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester City West	<b>£19,338</b>	Deputy PCC attended their Summer Holiday Scheme Fun day to celebrate the end of the project and engage in a final sports day for the nearly 80 young people who have participated throughout the summer.
We Will Rise Strive and Succeed, EAVA FM	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester City Centre	<b>£9,910</b>	The Deputy PCC was pleased to see their work upskilling and engaging young people through music. Approximately 28/30 people attended their 30 sessions, enabling young people to develop basic life and social skills.
Team Hub on the Streetz Team Hub CIC	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester City West	<b>£10,000</b>	The DPCC was pleased to see that the 36 projects had been completed, have already lead to a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 95% reduction in violence</li> <li>• 75% reduction issues at the nearby library</li> <li>• 50% reduction hotspot (no problems)</li> <li>• 35% reduction of ASB around flats</li> </ul>
Women Empowerment Network	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester City Centre	<b>£9,974.60</b>	The Deputy PCC was pleased to see the project was progressing well and its significant impact on 400+ vulnerable people. The team work to assist people in settling down and provide training enabling users to become self - sufficient
GNGFC ASB Prevention Through Personal Enrichment, Guru Nanak Gurdwara Football Club	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester City West	<b>£10,000</b>	The Deputy PCC was invited to a well-attended football session for young people of various ages. The team have engaged with 40+ participants during these sessions, with keen players referred to the GNG FC main football programmes.
Leicester Street Doctors, Street Doctors Ltd	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester and Leicestershire	<b>£7,500</b>	The Deputy PCC was delighted to have met with the Regional Development Coordinator and Chief Executive who provided an insight into the positive progression of the project. Street Doctors have joined hands with various partners such as Babington Academy and The Freedom Youth Club to support vulnerable people and signpost them to appropriate agencies.
YEP Youth Wing, Youth Education Project	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester City Centre	<b>£10,000</b>	As part of their activities, the Deputy PCC was invited to attend a session with 15 young people working towards their DofE awards, finalising their arrangements for their expedition and residential sustainability camping trip.

At the Kitchen Table, Platform 31	Commissioner's Safety Fund, Leicester and Leicestershire	£9941.25	An excellent initiative supporting women with an overall holistic approach for not only themselves, but also their children. To date, they have supported 17 women and 12 children in their communal refuge homes, engaging in various activities such as arts and crafts.
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### Commissioning and Partnership Activity

#### Contracts:

13. The OPCC supported the police force in the first and second rounds of interviews for a fixed term Crisis Worker to deliver the PCC funded Improving Rape Response pilot.
14. The OPCC hosted Leicester City Youth Justice Board at Force Headquarters, themes discussed included the number of young people on remand, getting young people in the criminal justice system into education and/or training and the grading of Leicester Youth Justice Service (YJS).

#### Community Based Commissioning:

15. The wider Commissioning Team has been working on evaluating and moderating the applications received in the first round of the Commissioners Safety Fund which opened on the 8<sup>th</sup> August and closed on the 5<sup>th</sup> September. This is a general round in which £200,000 is available for bids of up to £10,000.
16. Over 90 applications were received in this grant round and after screening for ineligibility 87 applications were put forward for evaluation, which is the highest amount ever received. The full results of the successful applications will be published at a later date.
17. 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 was involved in the moderation process of the bids.
18. He strongly regards 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 effect of 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.

#### Safer Streets:

19. 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.
20. In response to the findings from the co-design sessions, two key educational packages have been developed to address sexual violence prevention.
21. To ensure the sustainability of the two educational packages (The SHUSH and The SHARA as outlined in the previous panel report <https://democracy.leics.gov.uk/documents/s185423/Police%20and%20Crime%20Panel%20-%20OPCC%20Update%20Report%20-%20Lizzie%20-%20Cleared.pdf>), a VAWG community grant round has been launched. Up to 40 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.
22. Applications for community organisations to deliver the VAWG 10-15 and 16-19 education packages opened on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 and are due to close 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024. £75,000 funding is available to provide the package, resources and training to up to 40 community organisations across LLR.
23. The projects for the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Neighbourhood Crime bids are on track to complete by March 2025.
24. For Oadby and Wigston, the four main interventions that are being progressed are:
  - a. Target Hardening of up to 400 homes (300 homes approx. target hardened),
  - b. The conversion of lamp posts and installation of CCTV,
  - c. The installation of two fixed columns to allow for the installation of mobile CCTV when needed,
  - d. Cocooning of up to 1300 homes.
25. We have target hardened up to 300 homes currently with an event planned on 15th November that should see this intervention fully delivered above target. We anticipate we will have stock left having achieved this target with sufficient CCTV cameras and video doorbells remaining which the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Police will work together to distribute outside of Safer Street 5 delivery based on crime data and need. This should allow a robust enhanced response for victims of burglary.
26. The conversion of lamp posts has been mostly completed and we have instructed the Council to proceed with the installation of CCTV via their supplier having identified 20 locations. This is being handled by Mark Smith, Community Safety Officer, at Oadby and Wigston council and he has informed us that this can be installed in a matter of weeks. Following this, we will need County Highways involvement to connect and activate them but we are working to get the cameras up and ready for this prior to Christmas 2024.

27. Over 600 homes in Oadby and Wigston have been given cocooning items by Leicestershire Police to improve home security also and they have been instructed to expand their delivery further to work towards the target of 1300 homes delivered.
28. For Melton Mowbray, most of the project has completed with the only remaining elements being:
  - a. Target hardening of up to 130 homes (115 completed)
  - b. ASB Training for Staff (due before the end of this year)
29. In terms of Target Hardening, approximately 115 homes out of the intended 130 have been completed so we are well on course to achieve this in the coming weeks ahead of schedule. Melton Police has taken delivery of the year two stock which means that they have sufficient stock to meet this target and have enough left for their Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to then distribute outside of the Safer Street Five delivery, based on need.
30. The ASB training event is due this year which will see the upskilling of Police and council staff with ASB related qualifications to allow them to improve their work in the area. This is scheduled to occur before December so should be completed before the March 2025 deadline.
31. All other interventions have completed for Melton.
32. The impact of these interventions will be measured by refreshing police and survey data that was initially used to identify the hotspot areas. This data will be refreshed towards the end of the project to assess the full impact of the interventions. The data used initially varied per each bid, for example;
  - a. The Neighbourhood crime bid (Oadby and Wigston) focussed on Burglary offences but also considered all Neighbourhood crimes and Bicycle theft offences and ASB offences,
  - b. The ASB bid focussed on ASB volumes and took into account the following crime types; criminal damage, arson, public disorder and drugs offences,
  - c. The VAWG bid was based off the Violence Reduction Network (VRN) strategic needs assessment and focussed on VAWG-related crime issues.
33. Some of the already delivered interventions, fly tipping cameras for example, are already starting to produce results. This camera has already been used in progressing some current investigations which have resulted in actions against offenders.
34. Indicative data suggests the following impacts are already being realised;
  - a. Melton CSP area data packs suggests that for the whole district, for those crimes types targeted the area is reporting a –16% reduction when comparing the period April-Sept 2023 to April – Sept 2024, in offences (Criminal Damage, Public Disorder, Drug Offences and Arson),



- b. Oadby and Wigston is reporting a –34% reduction in residential burglary offences and a reduction of –11% in all Neighbourhood Crime offences.

35. The above data must be caveated as this does not exactly match the parameters of the bid areas however it gives an indicative idea on the direction of travel and impact of this work.

#### Community Safety Partnerships:

36. The quarterly performance packs for the CSP meetings has been produced and circulated by the OPCC. The first draft of the new problem profiles has also been developed. The team will soon be moving into consultation with the CSPs on the new detailed profiles.
37. 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.
38. As of October 2024, 62 projects across LLR have been funded. There is a remaining budget of £241,314.53 across the CSPs, with the exception of Charnwood whose budget is fully accounted for.
39. Projects funded include bonfire disruption work in the city, video doorbell provision in Blaby, CCTV upgrades across multiple districts and support for a Traveller Community Outreach Programme in Harborough.
40. The DISC Retail Business Crime Initiative is now funded in Hinkley and Bosworth, Melton and SNWLP. This is a crime prevention engagement platform which allows invited users to share news, alerts and events and share messages through a secure instant messenger.

#### People Zones:

41. In July, the People Zones team closed the first round of grant funding for the 2024/2025 financial year and awarded a total of over £36,000 over five separate projects. All projects had to thoroughly demonstrate elements of long term sustainability and explain how they fit with the key themes of the People Zones research report. The People Zones team have now launched Round 2 of the 2024/2025 financial year grant funding which closes at the end of October.
42. The full evaluation report from Mapping for Change (MfC) commissioned in March 2024 has been released and shared with the OPCC.

43. The evaluation enables the OPCC and partners to understand the progress against the desired impact of the project and highlights the key achievements and risks.
44. The report highlights that although each People Zone is at a different stage of their journey there is clear appreciation by the evaluators of the project and that the first 12 months since relaunching the zones has built strong foundations for the future.
45. The data used for the evaluation shows significant improvements in the perception of crime and anti-social behaviour across all areas by local residents, with improvements in feelings of safety in all areas also.
46. A reduction in the number of victims has been achieved in each of the three People Zone areas. This could be due to the perceptions and feelings of safety as mentioned above.
  - a. Thringstone and Whitwick – victim numbers fell by 31%
  - b. Bell Foundry – victim numbers fell by 26%
  - c. New Parks – victim numbers fell by 30%

#### Scrutiny and Governance Activity

47. In his role to hold the Chief Constable to account for service delivery across LLR the PCC has continued with regular 121s and bi-monthly Corporate Governance Meetings with the entire Chief Officer Team. A report on the Corporate Governance Boards (CGBs) that have taken place since the last Police and Crime Panel is later on today's agenda.
48. The OPCC continue to achieve 100% of scheduled Independent Custody Visitors (ICV) Visits equating to 16 visits undertaken over July and August. No serious issues have been observed within these visits.
49. 13 fantastic new ICV's have been recruited and joined the Leicestershire custody visiting scheme in August 2024. All of which have now received full training and the team is now at full strength.
50. The first Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel was held on the 10th July. The panel was successful in which two 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.
51. Two Out of Court Resolutions Scrutiny Panels have taken place on the 7th of March 2024 and the 12th of September 2024 respectively. A total of 45 cases have been reviewed by a panel made up of partners including police, OPCC, Magistrates' Bench, the Probation Service, Turning Point, Hampton Trust, CPS, Crime Registrar, among others. Of the 45 cases reviewed, 30 related to adults and 15 related to youths. 30% of all cases related to domestic incidents in line with national guidance.

52. Contextually, during 2024, the Force have experienced significant change regarding Out of Court Resolutions, and some key issues in terms of officer handling have been identified by the panel. These include the lack of authoritative footprints on investigations, lack of use of the gravity scoring matrix, and lack of referrals to victim services, particularly where an officer is the victim.
53. Changes are already being implemented by the Force as a result of the panel and positive changes are expected to be visible from 2025.
54. Where cases are reviewed commentary and specific learning for the case are fed back to the handling officer. This is tracked for follow up to ensure that the officer and their line manager have discussed them.
55. 27 complaint reviews were received by the OPCC in the period July - August, when compared to the previous year which represents a 17% 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.
56. Whilst the number of complaint reviews have been received have increased, the latest Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC) statistic show that between April 2024 to June 2024 it has taken 26 working days to complete a complaint review in comparison to the national average which sits at 55 working days and has shown improvement since this time last year where the time taken to complete a complaint review was 37 working days.
57. As part of the PCC's role to hold the Force to account there has been two recommendations provided to the Force for complaints to be returned to the Force for reasonable and proportionate handling, which will entail the complaints being re-investigated by the Force. None of the reviews in this period were upheld.
58. The team have been working with the Force to develop proposals for crime prevention items to support local independent business owners. The proposals are due to be signed off by the PCC in the coming weeks and rolled out soon after.

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

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