



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

Your Communities - Your Commissioner

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

*2nd December 2024*

### *Commissioner's Update Report*

<b>Report Date</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 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 October - November.

## **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.

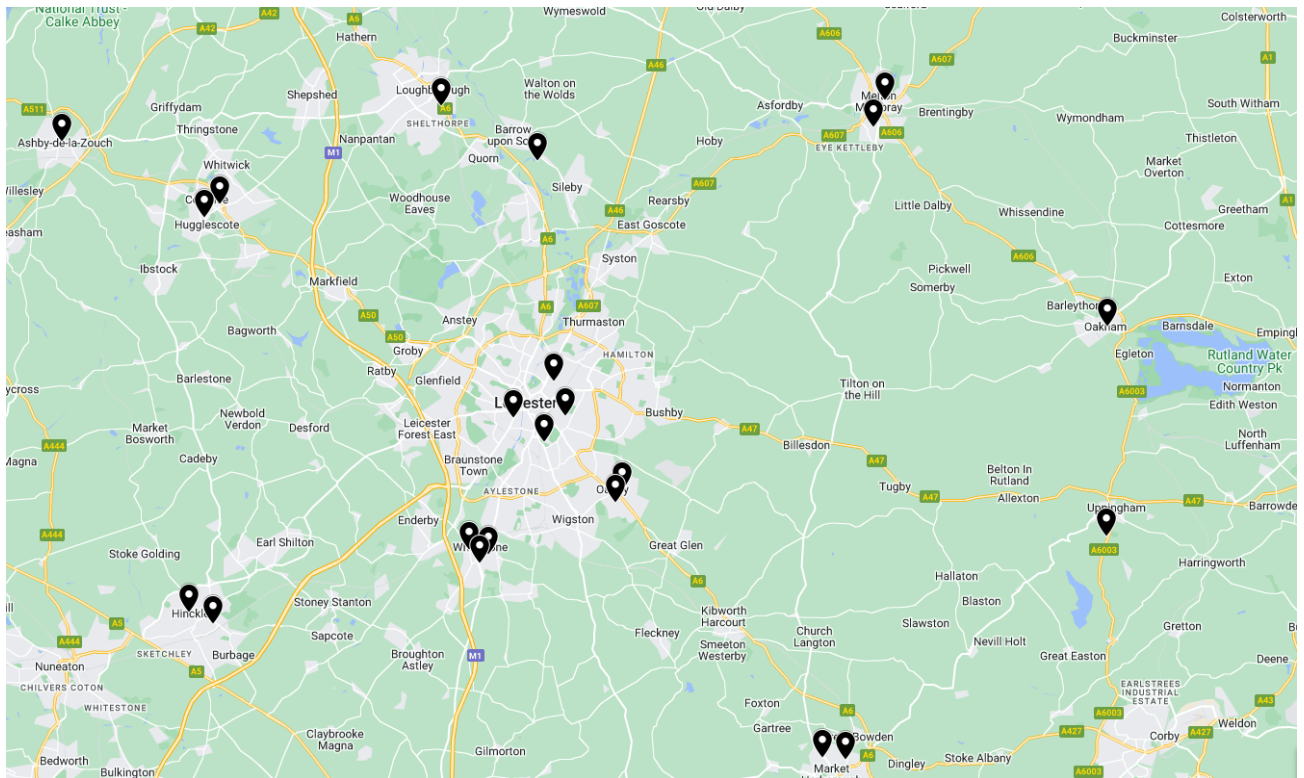
## **Background, Relevant Data and Trends**

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

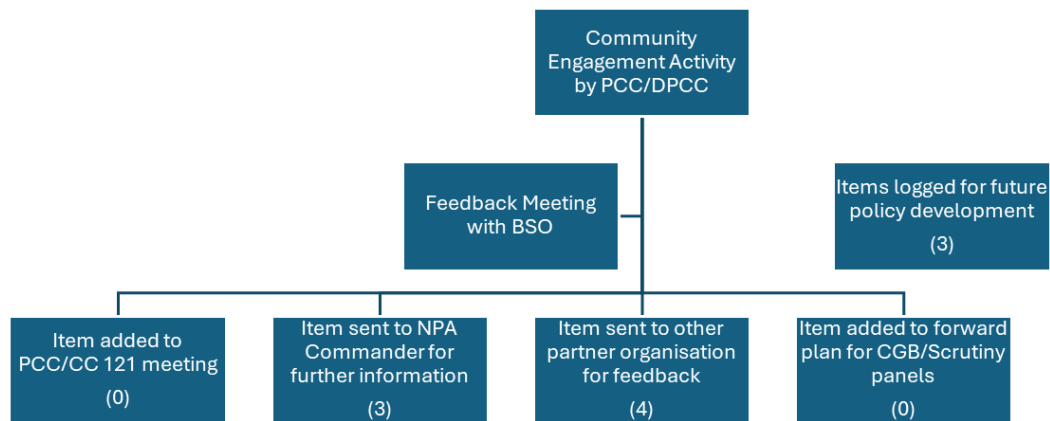
5. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRSRA) places a statutory duty on the Police and Crime Commissioner to regularly engage and consult with the public. This has been a key priority for the Commissioner, and to that end he has created dedicated 'Community Days', enabling him listening to the views of local people.
6. This report covers consultation and engagement activities from 1<sup>st</sup> September – 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### Community Days:

7. The Commissioner undertook 8 Community Days between these dates. These were in the following locations:
  - Charnwood (4<sup>th</sup> September);
  - North West Leicestershire (14<sup>th</sup> September);
  - Hinckley and Bosworth (19<sup>th</sup> September);
  - Blaby (28<sup>th</sup> September);
  - Leicester City (5<sup>th</sup> October);
  - Oadby and Wigston (10<sup>th</sup> October);
  - Harborough (19<sup>th</sup> October);
  - Melton (24<sup>th</sup> October).
  
8. The map below shows the coverage of the community days over the visits this financial year.



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.



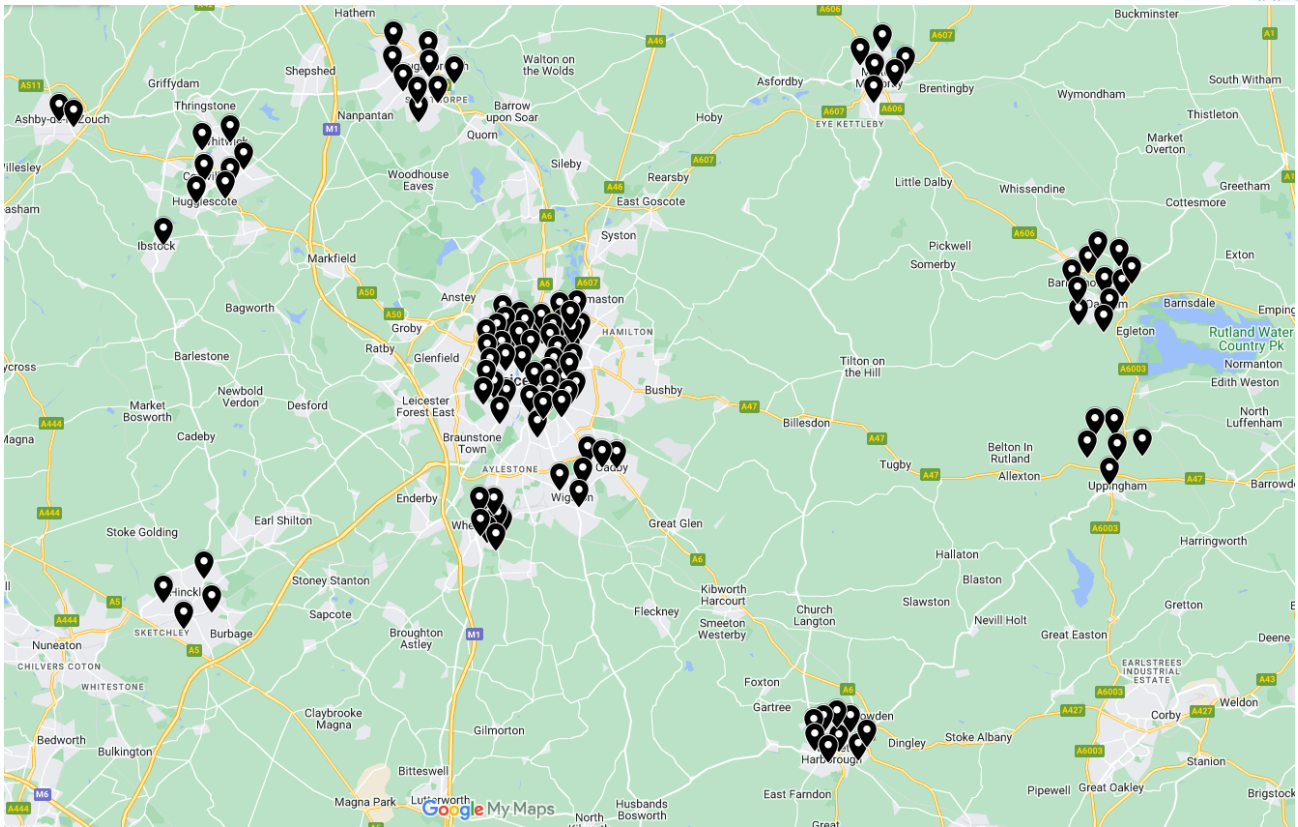
10. The themes that have come out of the PCC's Community Days during the time period of the report are:

- Speeding;
- HGV Road Safety issues;
- Burglaries;
- ASB;
- Business Crime;
- Substance abuse;
- Theft from Taxis;
- Serious Violence.

11. 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.

### Community Engagement

12. 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 100. 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

13. 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

Table One

Organisation	Area and Work	Funding	Output
The Grove Community Hub	Commissioner's Safety fund, Leicester City West	<b>£19,338</b> <b>80%</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> <b>100%</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> <b>100%</b>	The DPCC was pleased to see that the 36 projects had been completed, have already led 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> <b>100%</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> <b>95%</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> <b>100%</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> <b>100%</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	<b>£9941.25</b> <b>100%</b>	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.

## Campaigns

14. Safer Business Action Week took place in October. The PCC attended the indoor market at Harborough alongside Cllr Knight to mark the launch of the DISC system in Harborough District.
15. As part of National Hate Crime Awareness Week, the PCC attended an event with a local PCSO at the Anand Elders Group in Oadby.
16. The PCC brought together partners including Parish Councils, Leicestershire County Council, Rutland County Council and Leicestershire Police to discuss the potential installation of AutoSpeedWatch average speed cameras throughout Leicestershire and Rutland.
17. National Rural Crime Week of Action took place in October. The PCC met with members of the Country Landowners Association to discuss issues affecting rural residents and businesses in Leicestershire and Rutland.

## Commissioning and Partnership Activity

### Contracts:

18. The Victim First service commissioned by the OPCC through Catch 22 has been in place since April 2024 and has undergone a recent first six-month review. The service has received 8143 referrals for contact in the six-month period of which 513 were under 18 and 613 were between 18 and 25 years old.
19. The OPCC, in collaboration with NHS England (lead commissioner) and the four other police authorities of the East Midlands (Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire and Northamptonshire) are progressing the continued commissioning of the combined East Midlands Children and Young Peoples Sexual Assault Referral Centre (EM CYP SARC). The service is based in Nottingham and Northampton and in the last quarter supported 20 referrals of children and young people from LLR.

### Community Based Commissioning:

20. 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 was a general round in which £200k is available for bids of up to £10,000.
21. 88 applications were submitted during this time, with 1 application later being withdrawn, therefore leading to a total of 87 applications. The applications were assessed in line with the Commissioners Safety Fund criteria and moderated by a

panel 16/09/2024 – 18/09/2024. Of the 87, 21 applications scored 71% or above, 11 scored between 65% - 70% and 55 scored less than 64%.

22. Due to the exceptional volume of applications and the quality of bids received, the decision was made to recommend awarding those applications scoring 71% or higher. It is recommended that the PCC fund the following 21 projects. This equates to a funding commitment of £206,006.89.

23. The full list of projects is detailed below and available on the Commissioners website <https://www.leics.pcc.police.uk/Transparency/Decisions.aspx#Decisions2024>

Organisation	Project	Sum bid for
LMA Youth and Community Development LTD	Youth Club 2	£10,000.00
LMA Youth and Community Development LTD	Lives Not Knives 3	£10,000.00
GURU NANAK GURDWARA FOOTBALL CLUB	GNGFC Cricket Champions: changing young lives	£10,000.00
LMA Youth and Community Development LTD	Girls Empowerment	£9,137.99
St Matthews Big Local	St Matthews supporting a safer city through Sports Engagement Year	£9,990.90
Street Doctors Ltd	Leicestershire Street Doctors	£7,500.00
Leicester City Community Trust Ltd (Leicester City in the Community)	Respectful Relationships	£9,950.00
The Saffires Project	Street Outreach,	£10,000.00
,Antoin Akpom Achievements Foundation	AAA Foundation Anti-Social Initiative Project	£10,000.00
Rose Alchemy CIC	Wake up & Bloom	£10,000.00
The Saffires Project	Parlour Outreach,	£10,000.00
Team Hub CIC	Team Hub On the Streetz II	£9,963.00
Go-Getta CIC (in partnership with H.O.P.E. Training & Leadership CIC)	Adolescent Domestic Abuse (ADA) Project	£9,990.00



The Braunstone Foundation (t/a b-inspired)	The Grove CommunityHub – Girls Only Activities	£9,860.00
Safe Families for Children	Safe Families-Leicester Care Leavers	£10,000.00
Zinthyia Ganeshpanchan Trust	Domestic Abuse Surgeries	£10,000.00
SPINNEY HILL DRUGS, ALCOHOL & ADDICTION SUPPORT	The Recovery Gym	£9,940.00
National Space Centre	Alternative Space	£9,719.00
The Centre Project	The Freedom Youth Club CommunityHub	£10,000.00
Charnwood 20:20 operating as Love4Life	Safety and Empowerment for Girls	£10,000.00
Wesley Hall Community Centre	Wesley Hall Youth Club	£9,956.00
		<b>Total = £206,006.89</b>

### Safer Streets:

24. 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. There has been delays to this element of the project as capacity for the agreed provider has meant the tender process has to be re-run.
25. This tender will go out in December, with a successful provider identified in January. The ambition is to have the behaviour change campaign run through February and March with the intention to have ownership of the materials and for it to be used by the police force/OPCC and VRN at later points within 2025/26.
26. In response to the findings from the co-design sessions, two key educational packages have been developed to address sexual violence prevention:
27. To ensure the sustainability of the two educational packages (The SHUSH and The SHARA as outlined in the previous panel report), 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.

28. 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 closed on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024. £75,000 funding is available to provide the package, resources and training. We have 15 confirmed in this round, new round to go out in the new year for the remaining places
29. The decision was made to offer the training packages to 5 statutory partners also. This will be targeted at those partners we think would benefit from these educational packages like young people services; children's homes etc. These partners will not be funded but instead provided with training, materials and implementing the packages into their organisations.
30. Plans are in place to run another grants round in January, where we aim to have 25 successful applicants to reach our target of 40.
31. In late November we will begin our training provided for successful organisations and there will be a second set of training dates in late February.
32. The projects for the ASB and Neighbourhood Crime bids are on track to complete by March 2025, with most already being completed ahead of schedule.
33. 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 – these are packs provided to victims of burglaries, or neighbours in the direct vicinity which include crime prevention items and advice.
34. The team are on track to hit the target of 400 homes by November 2024 and plans are being made to exceed this by Q3/Q4 period.
35. The OPCC are holding a public event inviting qualifying postcodes to attend on 15<sup>th</sup> November and an estimated 200 people have pre-confirmed with all remaining qualifying members of the public being invited to attend for afternoon slot.
36. We anticipate high demand and to achieve/exceed the 400 homes target hardened following this event.

37. The conversion of lamp posts has been progressing over the course of the project, with 62 columns being tested for suitability for conversion. 25 identified as viable and the installation was scheduled for the end of October.
38. Over 650 homes in Oadby and Wigston have been given cocooning items (packs provided to victims of burglaries, or neighbours in the direct vicinity which include crime prevention items and advice) by Leicestershire Police to improve home security also and they have been instructed to expand their delivery further to work towards the ambitious target of 1300 homes delivered. The police are going out regularly with cocooning packs and residents have been receiving them positively. The Force are hoping to hold an event at x2 local schools later this year to target more residents and increase distribution in the district to work towards this goal of 1300 homes
39. For Melton Mowbray delivery, most of the project has completed with the only remaining elements being:
- a. ASB Training for Staff (due before the end of this year)
40. The target hardening element of the Melton Mowbray bid has now also completed, with 154 homes target hardened, above target of 130. They also have sufficient stock to do up to another 400 homes in addition to this (200 CCTV cameras and 200 video doorbells) which is surplus stock due to efficiencies realised in the project delivery and savings made - this will occur based on need as decided by the CSP outside of SS5 delivery window.
41. 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 training has been delivered for 10 staff already, with the remaining 7 awaiting dates to complete the training.
42. All other interventions have completed for Melton.
43. 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>Volume Of Offences - Melton</b>	<b>April-Sept 2023</b>	<b>April-Sept 2024</b>	<b>% Difference</b>
<i>Criminal Damage</i>	<b>210</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>-11.4%</b>
<i>Public Disorder</i>	<b>213</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>-16.9%</b>
<i>Drug Offences</i>	<b>53</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>-22.6%</b>
<i>Arson Offences</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-68.1%</b>

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

<b>Number of Neighbourhood Crime Reports (Burglary, Robbery of Personal Property, Theft From the Person &amp; Vehicle Crime) (Understanding Occurrences/Occurrences Processing app)</b>	<b>2022 Monthly Average (Jan-Dec 22)</b>	<b>2024 Monthly Average (Jan-Oct 24)</b>	<b>Average Monthly Volume Difference</b>
<i>Burglary - Residential</i>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>
<i>Theft From the Person</i>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-20.0%</b>
<i>Vehicle Crime</i>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>17.8%</b>
<i>Robbery of Personal Property</i>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-50.0%</b>

44. 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.

#### People Zones:

45. Round 2 of the People Zones Grant Fund for 2024 / 2025 closed on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October, receiving 12 applications with a total value of £88,370. Five came from Thringstone & Whitwick, three came from New Parks, and four came from the Bell Foundry. The team are in the process of moderation and will announce the allocation of the available budget of £40,000 per round in December 2024. The final round of this financial year will be open for four weeks from 9am on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – 5pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025
46. Grant funded projects from previous years are completing their grant agreements under a monthly monitoring requirement. This includes reporting on monthly and total expenditure, engagement to date, and any achievements or challenges encountered, ensuring a clear focus on tracking impact throughout the process
47. Following recommendations from the evaluation and input from a co-design session with community leaders, some procedural changes have been made to our grants process. These include a quarterly monitoring requirement, aimed at making the process more accessible to community organisations while enhancing the collection of cumulative data to better measure impact
48. Three Crimestoppers campaigns were delivered across all People Zones throughout 2024. Each wave involved bespoke social media and leaflet campaigns, Partnership Packs for each 'Crimestoppers Zone', and a 'Fearless' session aimed at those working with younger audiences. The three waves focused on:

- a. Raising awareness of Crimestoppers as a 100% anonymous tool for the community to report crime;
- b. Focused on issues raised via emerging data, community, and steering group engagement, that are impacting the individual communities, such as drugs, cuckooing, ASB, and illegal motorbiking. This part of the campaign also included an i-Van that toured around a co-produced route within each People Zone, raising awareness of the campaign via an LED screen.
- c. A final campaign across all three 'Crimestopper Zones' targeting domestic abuse, and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

49. A final impact report is due in January 2025. However, data from the i-Van campaigns shows that across all three People Zones:

- a. A total of 22,236 were reached;
- b. The average time people spent looking at the ads was 3.55 seconds;
- c. The average dwell time around the i-Van was 12.96 seconds.

## Scrutiny and Governance Activity

### Democratic Services:

50. 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 Teams. A report on the CGB that has taken place since the last Police and Crime Panel is later on today's agenda.

51. The latest Local Criminal Justice Board was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024, the key item for discussion is in relation to the prison capacity and the ongoing work by the Force and probation.

52. The OPCC currently provide performance data for the LCJB, some key positive performance exceptions from the board meeting are;

- a. The timeliness in court in which Leicestershire are above the national average.
- b. The percentage of guilty pleas at first hearing for crown court, where Leicestershire have had consistently good performance and are currently outperforming the national average by over 10%.

53. The areas of focus for performance improvements remain for the board:

- a. Legal decisions (CPS charge rate and the NFA rate);
- b. Guilty pleas at first hearing for magistrate's court in which there is large fluctuations.

### Independent Scrutiny

54. The PCC has set a locally agreed target of a minimum of one custody visit per week per operational custody suite. The Independent Custody Visitor's continue to achieve

this and have completed 100% of scheduled ICV Visits equating to twenty-seven visits undertaken during August, September and October 2024. No serious issues have been observed within these visits.

55. Thirty-four complaint reviews were received by the OPCC in the period September-October, when compared to the previous year this represents a 48% increase in requests for complaint reviews. This is a significant increase in demand and is believed to be 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. The trends identified by the team from complaint reviews are as follows;
- a. complaints following first contact with an officer after an incident was reported or following an officer's attendance at an incident.
  - b. complaints about the investigation, including not collecting evidence in a timely manner, not making contact, not returning calls, not providing updates<sup>1</sup>
  - c. seizure of property which was not returned or kept for prolonged periods of time.
57. As part of the PCC's role to hold the Force, one complaint review during this period was upheld and learning identified for the force centred around ensuring correspondence to members of the public is accurate. No trends in increasing number of upheld reviews are being observed by the OPCC.
58. Despite a large increase in demand for complaint reviews, the team have recorded positive improvements in relation to the turnaround times for these reviews. Most recently local data suggests that 83% of those reviews received have or are due to be completed within 28 days. The turnaround time as released in the latest IOPC (Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC)) suggests the national average is 55 working days.
59. In Sept we had 3 reviews related to contact with the force following death by suicide. The complaints ranged from the delay in the return of property, the force investigation, information which was shared with the bereaved, contact with the investigating officer.
60. Whilst the reviews were not upheld, it is unusual to receive these types of complaints in one month. This trend was discussed with IOPC/PSD during a quarterly meeting in October.
61. IOPC also identified that they had seen an increase in referrals made to them by PSD which included death and serious injury (49 referrals compared to 39 MSF).

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<sup>1</sup> Whilst the complaints may have been not providing an update there was no issues identified to suggest that officers were not compliant with VCOP (Victims Code of Practice).

62. The team have regular meetings with the Professional Standards Department in which further detail regarding complaints are explored and discussed.

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

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