



**POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSIONER**
for Leicester,
Leicestershire & Rutland
Your Communities - Your Commissioner

Police and Crime Panel for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

5th February 2025

Commissioner's Update Report

Report Date	5 th February 2025
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 and 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 December.

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)

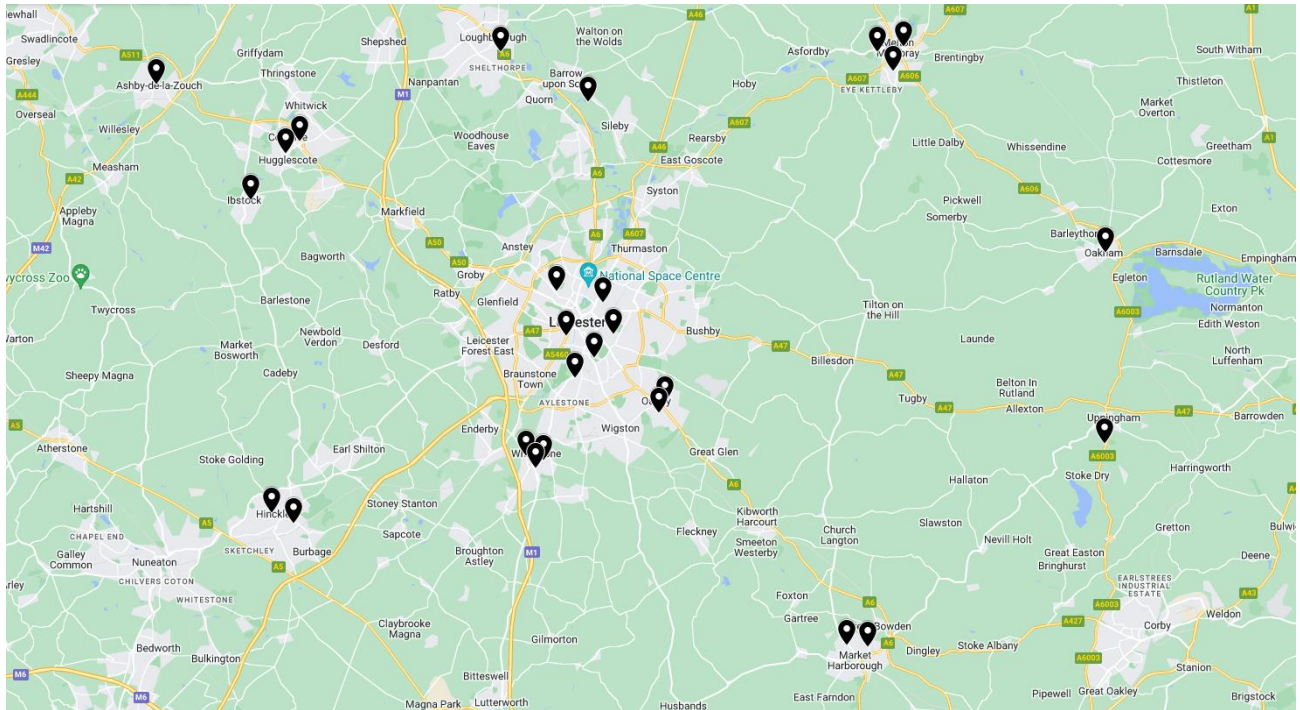
5. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (PRSRA) places a statutory duty on the Police and Crime Commissioner to regularly engage and consult with the public. This has been a key priority for the Commissioner, and to that end he has created dedicated 'Community Days', enabling him listening to the views of local people.
6. This report covers engagement activity from 1st December 2024-31st December 2024.

Community Engagements:

7. The Commissioner undertook 15 total engagements in December.
8. The total engagements since the start of the 2024-28 Term of Office to end of December 2024 is shown in the table below;

Local Authority	Total Engagements 2024	Community Day Engagements	Any Other Engagements
Blaby	11	7	4
Charnwood	7	2	5
Harborough	14	8	6
Hinckley and Bosworth	9	8	1
Leicester City	73	26	47
Melton	11	7	4
North West Leicestershire	15	13	2
Oadby and Wigston	13	8	5
Rutland	10	7	3
	163	86	77

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



10. The themes that have come out of the PCCs 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.

Commissioning and Partnership Activity

Contracts:

12. The Victim First service commissioned by the OPCC through Catch 22 has had its first 6-month review, the service is operating well and meeting expectations, 8390 eligible referrals were made in the period, with positive contact made increasing by 20.3% in Q2 over Q1 with a 95.1% victim satisfaction rate. The service introduced a self-referral QR Code which increased self-referrals from 95 in Q1 to 143 in Q2. One of the new elements in the new delivery model was to provide a community response deployment to serious incidents, the service provided a open community response following the unrest in the summer and two specialist community response to the murders in Franklin Park, Braunstone and New Parks. There is still work to be completed on the automation of data transfer.

Community Based Commissioning:

13. The Commissioning Team have been working with CSPs on in-year spend, this has been achieved by two districts.

CSP Area	Allocation	Spent (as of 16/01/25)	Remaining
Leicester	£313,421.48	£213,827.80	£99,593.68
Charnwood	£103,233.23	£103,233.23	£0
SNWLP	£62,006.76	£61,184.07	£822.69
Blaby	£60,726.49	£26,687.50	£34,038.99
Hinckley and Bosworth	£59,056.62	£45,219.38	£13,837.24
Harborough	£43,216.19	£34,257.25	£8,958.94
Oadby and Wigston	£37,537.20	£26,575.00	£10,962.20
Melton Mowbray	£36,131.82	£36,131.82	£0
Rutland	£22,250.25	£17,703.46	£4,546.79

14. The allocations outlined above for each CSP area includes the underspend top-up that was granted to their overall budget from savings made in the 23/24 financial year and is accurate as of 16/01/2025.
15. Preparation for the new data problem profiles to support the CSPs are underway with a view for pilot profiles to be released around the end of January with the final and update profiles launched from Autumn.
16. Commissioners Safety Fund second round live December, closing 6th Jan. This is an open round with revised funding terms to ensure recipients are smaller, grassroots organisations e.g. Cap on FTE posts to 30

Safer Streets:

17. Safer Streets 5 Oadby & Wigston and Melton on exit plan, all KPIS met or exceeded. Support from local councillors, the local authorities and the local force and PCSO Teams have made the projects deliverable.
18. For Melton Mowbray, the following interventions were delivered:

Proposed	Delivered
Buddhi By M Young Youth Intervention; a youth intervention run within schools to help young people with behavioural difficulties through improved self-control.	Completed and delivered during year 1 delivery in March 2024.
CCTV cameras x3 / x4 Fly tipping Cameras for environmental crime	Completed and installed during year 2 delivery in 2024.
Solar Vision Lighting x12: 12 solar lighting lamp posts to improve visibility within an area of concern (skate park)	Completed and installed during year 2 delivery in 2024.
WCCTV Help Point system x1 with dome camera	Completed and installed during year 2 delivery in 2024.
Target Hardening of x130 homes with CCTV equipment including video doorbells and CCTV cameras	Delivered during year 2 delivery in 2024 with 170 homes target hardened. Due to savings made with OPCC handling procurement and delivery, sufficient stock remains to potentially double this goal outside of the delivery window.
Streetvibe Youth Intervention: an outreach service that works in public spaces with young people to offer educational and diversionary activities	Delivery on schedule to complete by March 2024.
ASB Training for Practitioners x7 to upskill Council and Police staff to enable them to improve their	Completed October 2024 with 17 staff trained across Melton Mowbray Council and Police staff, above intended target of 7. 7 people completed ASB training.

ability and confidence in tackling
ASB within Melton Mowbray

10 people completed mediation training.

19. The majority of the 170 residents given work Target Hardening were asked for their feedback on feelings of safety and trust and confidence in policing and responded positively.

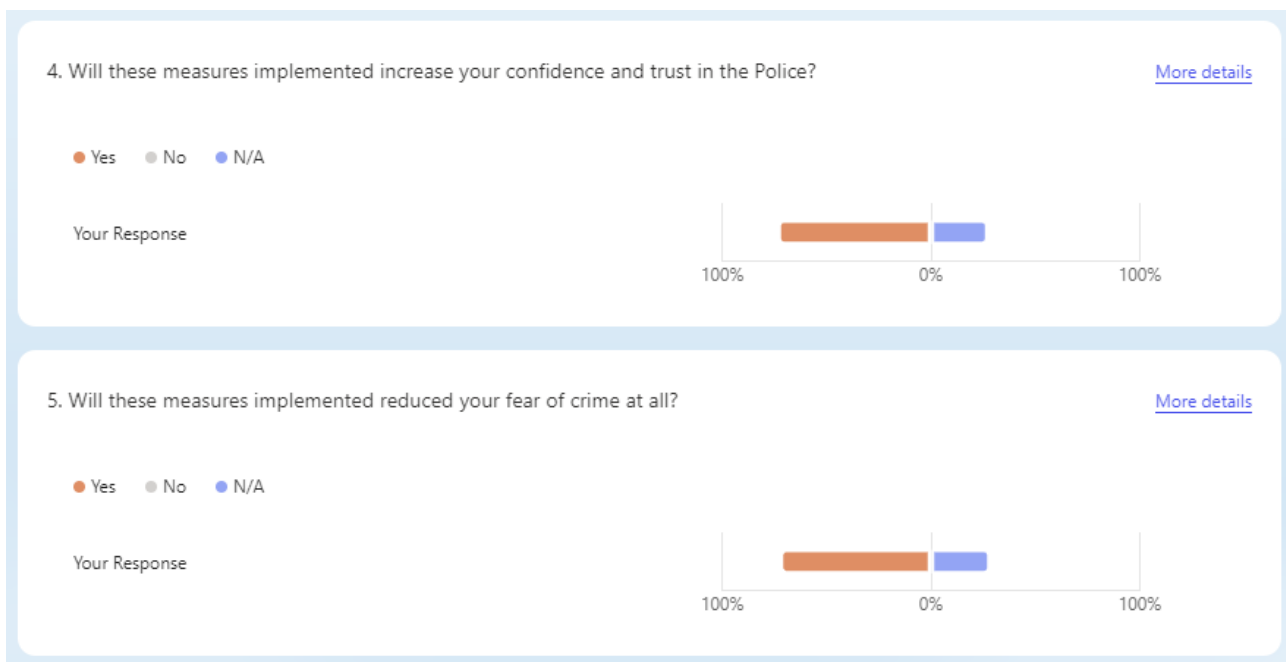
20. The two questions asked were:

- Will these measures implemented increase your confidence and trust in the Police?
- Will these measures implemented reduce your fear of crime at all?

21. 73% responded Yes to the first question on increased confidence and trust with the Police while 27% were logged as N/A.

22. For the second question on reduced fear of crime, 71.9% of respondents answered Yes while 28.1% were recorded as N/A.

23. The response of N/A is due to the delivery team not asking the question. What is positive to note is none of the responses were marked as No suggesting the intervention has been well received.



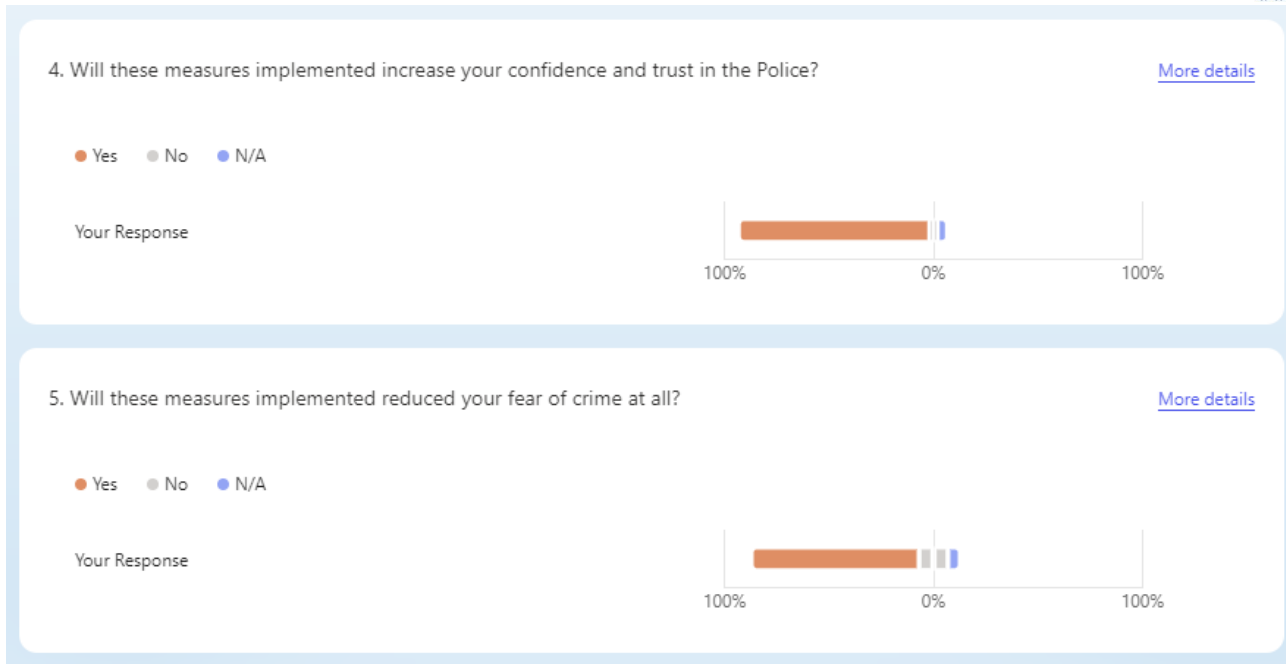
24. For Oadby and Wigston, the Safer Street 5 grant focused on Neighbourhood Crime and delivered the following:

Proposed	Delivered
Crimestoppers Neighbourhood Crime Campaign: to education and raise awareness of crime in the area	Completed during year 1 by March 2024. Attached report from provider Crimestoppers with metrics on reach (see appendix).
Target Hardening of 400 homes with CCTV cameras, video doorbells, window/door alarms and faraday pouches for keyless vehicles	Completed November 2024 with 746 homes target hardened with items including CCTV cameras, video doorbells, window/door alarms and more.
Re-deployable CCTV upgrades including up to 60 lamp post conversions for mobile CCTV movement, assessments and structural testing and x10 mobile CCTV camera installations.	Completed November 2024 with all cameras up and functional with up to 60 lamp posts now available for mobile camera movements across the district.
Fixed CCTV Columns x2; to allow for the use of mobile cameras within areas of concern that does not currently have coverage.	Completed October 2024.
Anti-burglary cocooning items x 1300 homes	Due to complete imminently with 1210 homes cocooned to date (16/01/25) with 90 homes remaining. Expected completion is February 2025 ahead of March 2025 deadline.

25. Residents in Oadby and Wigston receiving Target Hardening and cocooning items were asked two questions on feelings of safety and trust and confidence in the Police as follows:

- Will these measures implemented increase your confidence and trust in the Police?
- Will these measures implemented reduce your fear of crime at all?

26. The results were as follows:



27. For the first question on increased confidence and trust, 91.6% of respondents stated that the measures implemented increased their trust and confidence in the Police. 3.6% of respondents stated No and they did not, 4.8% of respondents were logged as N/A.

28. For the second question on whether the measures implemented reduced their fear of crime, 80.3% of respondents stated the measures did reduce their fear of crime, 13.8% responded No and 5.9% responded N/A.

29. As some of the interventions include infrastructure upgrades, exit strategies with the respective Councils have been agreed with them taking on maintenance responsibilities outside of the Home Office grant to ensure CSP funding is not utilised in this way over the long-term.

30. Cllr Kevin Loydall, CSP Chair for Oadby and Wigston Council has offered the following feedback in relation to the Safer Street 5 project delivery in his area:

“As Chair of the Community Safety Partnership for Oadby & Wigston BC, it’s been a privilege working with our partners ‘OPCC Office, Leicestershire Police & OWBC CSP.

The project was led by Sajan Devshi OPCC office, the first thing was to bring all our partners together. The idea was to share data to establish trends of crime within OWBC areas, it was very quickly identified that our burglary rates were high in an area of Oadby. The evidence provided was conclusive and we needed to establish a way forward. A working team was set up with partner participation, ideas came very quickly, several were debated with the outcome being ‘target Harding was the way forward. For example, CCTV, Door cameras, window locks etc. Flexible CCTV mounted on lamp post. Logistically we had to put a plan in place to enable this equipment to be distributed to the areas of priority.

This was done professionally, with great care, communication was key to ensure the recipients were kept informed. The team organised a day at the Local Council Office, an invitation via networking, media, leaflets went out to resident in the target area. The data gave details of the event with an invitation to attend and collect the equipment of their choice. The event went like clockwork, with partner involvement ensuring a smooth transaction. The outcome was very positive, residence feeling safe & confident within their communities. A job well done.

As chair of CSP OWBC I can only say "the input by our partners in achieving what they did in providing a service to our community is testament to their dedication & professional conduct throughout." - Cllr. Kevin Loydall, Oadby and Wigston Council CSP Chair.

31. David Walker, Strategic lead for Safer Communities at Melton District Council has offered the following feedback:

"We were also fortunate enough to have the opportunity to access the Safer Streets 5 fund through the OPCC nominating us as one of the LA. Throughout this process we have worked closely with the OPCC who have supported us with funding ideas and delivery of the project. Saj has also been attending our CSP's, providing regular updates to members and holding partners to account on project delivery. I can confidently say that the relationship between the OPCC and Melton Borough Council remains strong, and I look forward to the continued support." - David Walker, Melton District Council.

Number of Neighbourhood Crime Reports (Burglary, Robbery of Personal Property, Theft From the Person & Vehicle Crime)	2022 Monthly Average (Jan-Dec 22)	2024 Monthly Average (Jan-Dec 24)	Average Monthly Volume Difference
<i>Burglary - Residential</i>	8.4	7.9	-6.0%
<i>Theft From the Person</i>	0.75	0.6	-20.0%
<i>Vehicle Crime</i>	5.6	6	7.1%
<i>Robbery of Personal Property</i>	0.4	0.25	-37.5%

Volume Of Offences - Melton	Jan-Dec 2022	Jan-Dec 2024	% Difference
<i>Criminal Damage</i>	475	380	-20.0%
<i>Public Disorder</i>	466	355	-23.8%
<i>Drug Offences</i>	126	90	-28.5%
<i>Arson Offences</i>	36	12	-66.6%

32. VAWG Educational Packages first 15 cohort training delivered, second round of funding to go live January 2025. Behaviour Change campaign tender successful in procuring providers for campaign development and for campaign marketing.

People Zones:

33. Round Two of the PZ grant funding closed and just over £38k was awarded to six new projects across all three zones.
34. On top of the new projects within the PZs for round two, there is still 21 ongoing projects within the PZ areas that the team receive regular monitoring reports for.
35. For the First Phone – 360 Virtual Reality Project. The team has arranged for up to 120 members of staff from schools across LLR to attend training on how to use the equipment and to receive training for the programme curriculum over 8 events in the New Year. The First Phone project is being used as a mandatory requirement for schools to undertake and gain the ‘Online Safety Award’ - this has been implemented by the Safeguarding and Compliance Lead from Leicestershire Country Council.
36. The People Zones Team have implemented the problem-solving approach in line with Force processes to work in partnership with the Problem Management Team in the Prevention Directorate.
37. Phase Two evaluation for Crimestoppers campaigns implemented within the PZ areas received the end of campaign report and are also awaiting data from stage three which focussed on Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls.
38. The team are working in partnership with the Community Payback team in Probation to undertake two projects in Thringstone & Whitwick: Community Orchard and Forest Rock Wood - these projects have potential to deliver education and training to local people, volunteers and people on Probation on topics such as coppicing and woodland management.
39. The Community Orchard project has the potential for a new allotment expansion and creating a community group allotment association, upgrading existing composting areas and installation of community planters. Community Payback will also look to install community footpaths to divert people through existing woodland, whilst also managing the existing trees and woodland area.
40. The project at Forest Rock Wood is aimed at reclaiming a natural beauty spot, with views out across NWL & the Charnwood Forest, increasing accessibility & community usage by uncovering & maintaining forgotten paths, and managing woodland.

Violence Reduction Network:

41. The Home Office have confirmed that there will be funding for VRUs for 2025/26. The value of the grant and the requirements will be shared early in the New Year but they have already indicated that VRUs will be expected to support the mobilisation of the new Prevention Partnerships.
42. The annual Strategic Needs Assessment has been completed and is currently with core members for sign-off.

43. The independent evaluation of the Violence Intervention Project (VIP) is underway. The final report will be available by end January 2025.
44. The VRN's annual Community Partnership Event has been scheduled for Thursday 27th February.
45. Following attendance at the first national Joined Up Summit for youth work, Grace has been asked to join the Advisory Board. This will be important in the forthcoming year in relation to the development of the Young Futures Programme and Prevention Partnerships and Youth Hubs.
46. The Phoenix Programme was highlighted as an example of good practice in the recent PEEL Inspection Report on Leicestershire Police.

Scrutiny and Governance Activity

Democratic Services:

Independent Scrutiny

47. 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 (ICV's) continue to achieve this and have completed 100% of scheduled ICV Visits, equating to twenty-six visits between October and December 2024. The ICV's spoke to 98 detainees. No serious issues have been observed within these visits.
48. The team also held an end of year celebration for all volunteers to thank them for their commitment throughout the year, 27 of the Independent Custody Visitors and Hate Crime Volunteers turned up to the event on the 11th December 2024. The PCC opened the event and presented long service awards to volunteers with over ten years service.
49. The Ethics and Transparency Panel was held on 12th December 2024. Topics of discussion included the EDI Training Feedback, and the ETP Annual Report. The main focus of the meeting was the Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel - Insp Will Prince who leads the hate crime team was in attendance to take questions and provide further info to the panel which was well received by panel members. The ethical dilemma for discussion was around non-crime hate incidents (NCHIs) and subsequently some follow up questions were presented to the Force which have been since resolved. The session ended with BWV review.
50. Fifteen complaint reviews were received by the OPCC in December with 11 being closed within the same period, all of which were not upheld. 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.

51. The team have been preparing for commencement of a new area of work that the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) will be undertaking from the New Year. In January 2024, the Minister for State for Crime, Policing and Fire wrote to all Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) to emphasise the government's intention to improve standards in Policing.
52. As part of this drive to improve public confidence the government introduced a series of reforms to the police disciplinary system to remove officer who were unfit to serve. Where those officers and staff were convicted of a serious criminal offence committed in connection with their service, it was deemed damaging to public confidence that they still retained their full public pension.
53. The Home Office identified that nationally the number of applications for pension forfeiture did not reflect the number of police personnel who had been convicted with a criminal offence linked to their service. As such the government took steps to raise awareness of the pension forfeiture process with a call to both the PCC and the Chief Constables to increase the number of applications submitted to the Home Office. The team have been preparing all the necessary documentation and systems to enable these processes to take place from January 2025.

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